

## CABINET

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

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

### **C350            MINUTES –**

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 be approved as a correct record.

### **C351            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

Name of Councillor	Nature of Interest
Councillor N. Moore	The interest related to Agenda Item 10 – ‘Bowls Clubs – New Leases’. Councillor Moore had been asked prior to the COVID-19 pandemic to be the Honorary President of Cadoxton Bowls Club but to date had not carried out any actions. Councillor Moore had submitted a form of dispensation to the Standards Committee which had not yet met to consider the request. Councillor Moore therefore left the meeting during consideration of this item.

### **C352            STATEMENT**

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources referred to the announcement from the First Minister which set out the aspects of the new national measures that would be in place from 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 at the conclusion of the ‘firebreak’ lockdown. The following would apply:-

- People should continue to work from home unless not possible to do so.
- Non-essential retail and hospitality would re-open.
- All schools would re-open for pupils of all ages.
- Two households would be able to join together to form an extended household / ‘bubble’.
- Travel within Wales was permitted but journeys should only be made if essential.
- Travel outside of Wales would be permitted only with a reasonable excuse.

Welsh Government had sought the views of Council Leaders throughout this planning and the new measures would be effective to help prevent transmission of the virus, assisted by proper enforcement.

Residents of the Vale deserved praise for the way everyone had pulled together to support each other. Entering the 14 day 'firebreak' was not a prospect anyone welcomed, but the decision of the UK Government to introduce a 4-week lockdown in England had shown that Wales was correct to take early action.

Although too early to be sure of the impact the 'firebreak' had achieved, it was hoped to have maximum impact and benefits for everyone until 9<sup>th</sup> November. Although difficult to avoid social contact it was necessary to continue to work together. Evidence of the first ten days of the 'firebreak' showed that compliance in the Vale had generally been very good, but the virus had not reduced and had slightly gone up. The final result would not be known for a further ten to fourteen days after 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Sadly, there were still some who did not recognise their social responsibilities and flouted the rules. The Council's Regulatory Services team had and would continue to work with South Wales Police for the next 7 days to ensure that wherever rule breaches occurred, enforcement action followed. Until 9<sup>th</sup> November, people should refrain from mixing with people from outside their own household, either indoors or outdoors, and continue to work from home wherever possible. While people were able to take limited local exercise, all but essential journeys were prohibited.

Shops selling non-essential goods would remain closed in line with many Council facilities such as libraries and household waste and recycling centres. Schools had re-opened to all primary pupils and those in Years 7 and 8 in secondary schools. Older pupils would be taught from home, only attending school for examinations, until 9 November. Visits to care homes in the care sector in the Vale remained restricted to essential visits only.

Should anyone display any Coronavirus symptoms, such as a new continuous cough, high temperature and / or loss of taste or smell, they should isolate immediately, book a test and remain in isolation until receiving the results of that test and advice as to what to do next. Coronavirus was highly contagious, and everyone had a responsibility to ensure it was not spread to others. More information and details as to how to book a test was available on the Welsh Government website.

Living with restrictions was not easy. The Council's Vale Heroes support team remained available to support residents who found themselves in need of additional support and could be contacted by telephone on 01446 729592. Details of the many support services available including supermarket deliveries to community groups could also be found on the Vale Heroes section of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website.

More details were due on the new national measures over the coming week. Several meetings had taken place with Ministers and local Council Leaders over

the last few weekends with more to follow during the course of this week, also including Chief Executives / Managing Director. As any new information emerged, Council services would be reviewed to ensure effective delivery. All residents would be kept informed of any changes as and when decisions were taken.

In the meantime, the message remained stay at home, only go out for essential reasons, work from home where possible and help the community to stay safe. There was a week to go for the 'firebreak' where a huge difference could still be made if everyone were to follow the guidance.

### **C353 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 1 UPDATE (REF) –**

The Leader referred to the reference from the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 Audit Committee, noting that that there were 16 corporate risks on the Register, a new risk for the inclusion of COVID-19 and that Audit Wales were consulted in order to gain their input and opinion. Feedback from Audit Wales had therefore been considered and incorporated.

Having considered the report, Audit Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Quarter 1 position of Corporate Risks for the period April to June 2020 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet for its consideration and endorsement.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To identify the Quarter 1 position of Corporate Risks across the Council and to highlight any emerging issues and actions to be taken as outlined in Annex A.
- (2) To ensure Cabinet receive the Quarter 1 position on the Corporate Risk Register and endorses the recommendations contained within the report.

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Cabinet noted that the Audit Committee had raised some issues as contained in the report, including Brexit and COVID-19. Members had also asked for further information concerning waste collection, information security and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools programme. Assurances had been given that information would be fed back to the Committee, with the Leader highlighting the following:

- information security – the Leader noted that steps had been taken to move to the use of Office 365;
- waste collection – the blueprint had been entered and was being carried out successfully in Barry;

- Brexit and COVID-19 – assurances had been given that further information would go back to Committee in January concerning personal protective equipment, welfare reform and the impact of the Additional Learning Needs Bill.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Audit Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the risks be noted and the register itself endorsed.
- (2) T H A T quarterly reports highlighting any urgent matters for consideration be received, in order for Cabinet to remain up to date in terms of any risk associated with any matters that affect the Council.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) In noting the contents of the report and to endorse the register.
- (2) For Cabinet to be kept up to date and to consider matters concerning risk on a quarterly basis.

**C354 CORPORATE COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20 (REF) –**

The Leader, referred to the reference from the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 Audit Committee, noting Corporate Complaints received from customers and the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter.

All Corporate Complaints and Compliments were recorded and fed in to the Complaints and Compliments Dashboards. These excluded Social Services complaints which were resolved via a different procedure and were reported separately.

During the year the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) had received 30 complaints relating to the Council, significantly fewer than the 37 which was the expected average based on population size and unchanged from those received in 2018/19. Only one complaint had been taken into consideration by the PSOW during the year, although this had yet to be resolved at the date of the report.

Subsequently, Audit Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report, Appendix A (Annual Complaints and Compliments Report) and Appendix B (Annual Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales) be noted.
- (2) T H A T Audit Committee continues to receive an annual update in relation to Corporate Complaints and Compliments.

(3) T H A T the report and comments of the Audit Committee be referred to Cabinet for consideration and Cabinet endorses the report as the basis for response to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter (Appendix B).

Reasons for decisions

(1&2) To ensure effective monitoring of Corporate Complaints as an indicator of citizen satisfaction with services provided.

(3) In order that Cabinet can be apprised of the report and comments made by Audit Committee and reply to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter.

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Audit Committee

RESOLVED – That the report and comments of the Audit Committee as the basis for a response to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter (Appendix B) be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To enable a reply to be sent to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter.

**C355 CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION – REGIONAL CABINET:  
14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020 –**

The minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 were submitted.

The Leader noted that the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet had requested to meet with regional Councils and give an overview of the work they had undertaken to date by means of a presentation to full Council from the Management Team. This had been agreed with a date to be confirmed at the earliest opportunity.

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RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 be noted.

(2) T H A T representatives from the Cardiff Capital Region Management Team present to Full Council on a date to be agreed concerning an overview of the work they had undertaken to date.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the minutes.
- (2) To update Members of the Council on the work of the Cardiff Capital Region.

**C356 REVIEW OF STATUES, MONUMENTS, STREET NAMES AND BUILDING NAMES (L/PR) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval to instigate the next phase of work to review statues, monuments, street names and building names to ensure they were representative of local people's values and those of a modern, inclusive Council.

The report set out proposals for reviewing statues, monuments, street names and building names in the Vale of Glamorgan, in light of the current concerns on the interpretation of some of the names associated some statutes, monuments, street names and buildings. It was proposed that all Town and Community Councils, as well as the public, be invited to make representations for commemorations that should be reviewed to ensure they were appropriate.

It was also proposed that representations would be sought from those in under-represented groups who may have an opinion on the review and may also wish to make commemoration proposals.

In addition, it was also proposed that a Panel be established to review the representations received, to be made up of Elected Members, an officer from the Council's Strategic Leadership Group and external representatives appointed by the Cabinet. The recommendations of the Panel would be reported to Cabinet for consideration in due course.

The Leader referred to representations made by Councillor Dr. Ian Johnson which would be addressed as part of some amendments to the recommendations to the report, including representation regarding Welsh language, Welsh history and Welsh culture, which had always been intended but not implicitly stated in the report.

The report proposed that the representations from various partners be invited by the end of December 2020 to make submissions, however the Leader suggested this could be extended to 31 January, 2021 to capture comments, given current issues arising from COVID-19.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration added this was a complex topic and that it was right to be addressed at this time but felt there was a broader aspect as people in the Vale needed to feel that they belonged and were valued within their community. People had stated that the lights in the shelters at Barry Island and on Hood Road were important as they were used to mark special days and reassured people that they were part of the

community. It would not be possible to meet this year for Remembrance Day, but the lights could be turned red in support and would take a place among the Sense of Place work that went on across the Vale. It would also be important to address people who possibly had not been commemorated but who were important and had made a difference to their community, nationally or internationally. Thought would clearly need to be given to place or street names that had possible cause for consideration or needed clarification as to why no changes would be required or justified and could only be done in consultation with the affected communities.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report, the issues and implications contained therein and with amendments to Recommendations (3), (4) and (5) of the report subsequently

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the approach to establishing a review as described in the report, through the establishment of a Panel comprising of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Member Equality Champion, the Member LGBT Champion, an officer from the Council's Strategic Leadership Team and one representative from local history societies and one representative from the Vale of Glamorgan Stand Up to Racism organisation be endorsed.
- (3) T H A T, in pursuance of Recommendation (2), the Terms of Reference for the Proposed Panel be drafted, and reported to Cabinet for approval, prior to the first meeting of the Panel, with the Terms of Reference setting out membership of the same as well as the intention to receive evidence and input from residents of the Vale of Glamorgan, various representatives and organisations with an interest in the history, culture and language of the Vale of Glamorgan and its communities.
- (4) T H A T the report be sent to all Town and Community Councils and to the next Community Liaison Committee for their consideration and involvement as described in the report.
- (5) T H A T this report and the future report on the Terms of Reference be referred to Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Following consideration of the overview of the work being undertaken in this arena.
- (2) To enable a review to be established and conducted
- (3) To allow the Panel to commence work with appropriate Terms of Reference in place.

- (4) To enable Town and Community Councils and Community Liaison Committee consider their involvement in the review.
- (5) To allow Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee to consider the report.

**C357 DEVELOPING A CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN (L/PR)  
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to update Cabinet on the work being undertaken in response to the climate emergency which was declared by the Council in July 2019.

The report detailed the activities undertaken to date and work planned to ensure that the Council had a well-informed and considered response involving partners, the public, staff and Members.

The report detailed how the Climate Change Action Plan would be developed, including arrangements for engagement and consultation.

The Deputy Leader referred to three primary schools that were currently under development, two being low carbon sites and one zero carbon. Steps were being taken to assess how the construction side of such works could also be zero carbon. There were also targets for the amount of waste to be recycled within those building projects. People would have seen the proposals for the green project around Gladstone School in Barry as well as targets for wild flower and tree planting within the Biodiversity Action Plan. Work was also ongoing with local stakeholders and tree-planting activities with local voluntary groups who had planted hundreds of trees in local communities. A local Biodiversity Partnership was also being established but had its first meeting interrupted as a result of the pandemic.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Building Services added that work over the last few years had continued to improve housing stock but would ensure that the new builds would meet the correct standards.

The Leader referred to Page 10 of the report which detailed an outline timetable which showed the response to the emergency had continued to evolve.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health advised that a number of residents had contacted local Members after the climate emergency had been declared, asking what the Council intended to do. Education and engagement were both important factors as there were things everyone could do to effect change, as well as the Council looking as to how procurement was carried out and buildings were built, etc.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

## RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made since the climate emergency was declared in July 2019 and the progress report in March 2020 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the proposed way forward for developing the Council's Climate Change Action Plan to be published in April 2021 in tandem with the Annual Delivery Plan be endorsed.
- (3) T H A T the Public Services Board's commitment to work together to tackle climate change and to agree a Climate Emergency Charter which would be supported by individual action plans for organisations be noted.
- (4) T H A T the proposals for engagement and consultation on climate change as described in the body of the report be endorsed.
- (5) T H A T the report be referred to the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for their views on how this work was being progressed and distribute to all Members and Town and Community Councils and the Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee for their information.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To approve the proposed way forward for the development of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan.
- (3) Having regard to the commitment from the Public Services Board to continue to work in partnership to tackle climate change.
- (4) Having regard to the proposals for the engagement and consultation which would form a Community Conversation on Climate Change.
- (5) To advise Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee of the work being undertaken and to seek their input into this important area of work and make Members and Town and Community Councils and the voluntary sector aware of this work

**C358 PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF YSGOL Y DERI TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN (DL/ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

The Deputy Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to inform Members of the proposal to increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Deri to meet future demand for special education in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The report sought Cabinet approval to undertake a statutory consultation, as outlined in the School Organisation Code 2018, on a proposal to meet future demand for special education in the Vale of Glamorgan by:

- Increasing the capacity of Ysgol Y Deri to accommodate an additional 150 pupils; and
- Constructing a new school building on the preferred site located in Cosmeston, Penarth for September 2023 which would operate as an additional site under the management of Ysgol Y Deri.

The proposal would result in an additional 150 places at Ysgol Y Deri to meet increased demand for special education in the Vale of Glamorgan.

As part of the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme, a new building would be constructed on a new school site in Cosmeston, Penarth to accommodate the increased capacity as part of a £11m investment.

The report also outlined the temporary measures which would be required to ensure Ysgol Y Deri was able to meet projected demand prior to the opening of the new school building, planned for September 2023.

The Deputy Leader referred to the recent BBC documentary about Ysgol Y Deri that showed the innovative and creative learning environments which were adaptable to change and met the needs of the Vale's most vulnerable learners in the Vale.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health added that the BBC documentary showed the dedication and commitment shown by the staff at Ysgol Y Deri, how engaged the learners were and how equally they were treated. Expanding the provision under the leadership of those staff at Ysgol Y Deri was an option to explore. The consultation would bring forward a discussion over the location of the site, but that the pupils being educated within the Vale of Glamorgan had to remain the number one priority.

The Leader agreed the provision had been extremely successful. Paragraph 2.31 of the report referred to there being 88 pupils who required placements at Ysgol Y Deri across the September 2021 and September 2022 intakes with only 44 pupils due to leave the school during that period. Creating further provision had to be close to Ysgol Y Deri for management purposes.

The Cabinet congratulated all those who work and support Ysgol Y Deri and its provision.

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 Director of Learning and Skills be authorised to undertake a consultation on the proposal to meet future demand for special education in the Vale of Glamorgan by:

- Increasing the capacity of Ysgol Y Deri to accommodate an additional 150 pupils; and
- Constructing a new school building on the preferred site located in Cosmeston, Penarth for September 2023 which would operate as an additional site under the management of Ysgol Y Deri.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration as part of the proposed consultation exercise.

(3) T H A T the identification of the preferred site to deliver the new school building, subject to a separate report to consider the acquisition of the site, be approved.

(4) T H A T implementation of the proposal would be subject to the approval of the relevant revenue and capital funding, which had been submitted as a cost pressure as well as a future capital bid be noted.

(5) T H A T temporary measures to meet projected demand prior to the completion of the new school building were being developed which would be subject to a capital bid be noted.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To authorise a statutory consultation in compliance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2018 on the proposal to meet future demand for special education in the Vale of Glamorgan by:

- Increasing the capacity of Ysgol Y Deri to accommodate an additional 150 pupils; and
- Constructing a new school building on the proposed school site located in Cosmeston, Penarth for September 2023 which would operate as an additional site under the management of Ysgol Y Deri.

(2) To ensure that the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee is consulted on the proposal.

(3) To ensure the Council is able to progress the purchase of the preferred site, including the application for outline planning permission to develop the site.

(4) To note that the proposal would be dependent on the approval of the relevant revenue funding associated with an increase in the number of pupils requiring placements at Ysgol Y Deri and capital funding.

(5) To note that additional temporary measures would be required to meet interim demand for special education prior to the new school building being completed for September 2023.

**C359 BOWLS CLUBS – NEW LEASES (LAC) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Leader declared an interest in this item at the start of the meeting and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek approval to grant new leases to the various Bowling Clubs to allow completion on the transfer of these premises.

The report sought Cabinet approval to advertise the loss of Public Open Space to complete the transfer of the eight formerly directly managed bowling greens from the Council's direct management to a self-managing model. This would then allow individual leases to be completed for each Club.

Significant progress had been made with the Bowling Clubs over the past year and all became self-managed from October 2020 with the final stage of the process that was required to complete the transfer being the signing of leases.

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 authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the disposal of the land on which the Murchfield, Millwood, Romilly, Belle Vue, Cadoxton, Central, Cowbridge and Rhoose Bowling Clubs (as detailed in Appendix A to be report) be located by way of 25-year leases in accordance with s123 Local Government Act 1972.

(2) T H A T, if objections are received as a result of the advertisement process outlined in Resolution (1), these objections be reported back to Cabinet.

(3) T H A T authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Head of Finance, to negotiate terms and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to execute the Leases.

**Reasons for decisions**

(1) The 25-year leases of the bowling greens were classed as a disposal for the purposes of the Playing Field Regulations (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Regulations 2015. However there was an exemption for the need to give notice and consult on the proposal to dispose if the decision to

dispose would not have an adverse impact on the use of the playing field as a sports or recreational facility by the public and the playing field was to be retained as a sports or recreational facility for use by the public, whether or not such use was subject to payment and the disposal is being made to a body whose aims or objectives included the promotion of sporting or recreational activities. The Bowling Club leases would all contain clauses to continue to allow members of the public to use the bowling greens at a charge decided by the Club and therefore this exemption had been relied upon.

(2) However, even if the disposal was exempt from the Playing Field Regulations the land was currently legally designated as Public Open Space (POS) and as such the Council was obliged to advertise the potential loss of POS pursuant to Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972. In order that Cabinet may consider any objections and to comply with the provisions of the Act.

(3) To complete the process of the transfer of the Bowling greens to a self-management model.

**C360 LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS (LAC) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek approval to provide continued support to the Council's Leisure Management Contractor to mitigate against the effects of COVID-19 on the Leisure Centre services.

The report sought Cabinet approval to make interim payments to the Council's Leisure Management contractor whilst the service was experiencing reduced attendances and income as a result of the restrictions placed on the service due to COVID-19.

Payments were approved to the contractor during the lockdown period but with facilities reopening the costs of operating the service had actually increased as staff were released from furlough, while income took time to reach pre lockdown levels.

The report also sought to put in place measures as the Leisure Centres had gone into a further lockdown / closure.

The report also acknowledged that the Leisure Management contract had less than two years remaining. Action would be required at a future date in relation to this situation as the 5 year contract extension, that was agreed in principle, may no longer be financially viable to the contractor given the current restrictions and uncertainty about full recovery.

The report was for noting with a further report on the Agenda at Part II seeking a decision based on relevant financial information which was deemed commercially sensitive.

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 information be noted and considered so that a decision on this matter could be taken under Part II of the agenda.
- (2) T H A T a further report on the financial position for the Leisure Contract be provided in January 2021.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To explain the background to current situation with regards to the Council's Leisure Centre in the reopening phase to allow for a decision to be taken on this matter under Part II.
- (2) To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on the financial position as it developed.

**C361 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health presented the report, the purpose of which was to ensure that Cabinet agreed the future priorities for the Directorate of Social Services.

An earlier, "Challenge Version" of the Director's report had been shared with the Council's Strategic Leadership Team, Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee and external stakeholders. This was to ensure that the final version had been open to consultation with colleagues, scrutinised appropriately and incorporated the perspectives of partners. This final version included a number of small changes and updates as a result of that process.

The Director's report was a requirement from Welsh Government and was used by Care Inspectorate Wales to inform their assessment of the effectiveness of Social Services.

It was important that the improvement priorities set out in the report aligned to the priorities of the Council to ensure that the service provided was efficient and effective.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health added that the report highlighted the timeframes that had been altered as a result of COVID-19 but also captured work that took place prior to the pandemic as part of that annual report as well as the beginning of the repose to the pandemic.

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 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Director's Annual Report for 2019-2020 – attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- (3) T H A T the improvement priorities for Social Services as set out in the Director's Annual Report for 2019-2020 be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the Director's Annual Report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To ensure that the Director's Annual Report for 2019-2020 has the approval and agreement of Cabinet.
- (3) To ensure that the priorities as set out by the Director of Social Services be approved by Cabinet.

**C362 SOCIAL SERVICES TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS (SCH)  
(SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health presented the report, the purpose of which was for Cabinet to consider not extending the social services regional training arrangements.

In November 2017 Cabinet approved a proposal to establish a regional Social Care Workforce Development Training Unit and provided delegated authority to enter into a partnership agreement to provide governance for this proposal.

The partnership agreement term was from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021 with an option to extend.

The report proposed that no extension was sought to this arrangement and that alternative local arrangements were put in place by Social Services together with the Organisation Development and Learning Department of Human Resources.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health advised that during the pandemic there had been opportunities to work with local providers and identified certain training needs as a result. There were great communication links with local providers which would help ongoing training provision to improve, be developed locally and tailored within the Council and partners who help to deliver services.

Going forward it was an example of the Council's Recovery Strategy and was a practical example of identifying ways of working more closely with local partners.

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 current regional training arrangement should not be extended be agreed.

(2) T H A T subject to Resolution (3), delegated authority be granted to the Director of Social Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health, and the Head of Human Resources to create a locally provided training service for Social Services to be effective from April 2021.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee for their consideration.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To cease the current arrangement at the end of the partnership agreement from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021.

(2) To ensure that local training for Social Services and Social care providers is in place when the agreement expires.

(3) To ensure wider Member oversight of this important development.

**C363 NATIONAL ADOPTION SERVICE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek agreement for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the National Adoption Service.

The report sought agreement for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the National Adoption Service (NAS).

NAS was established in 2014. It comprised of five Regional Adoption Collaboratives (covering the 22 local authorities) and two voluntary adoption agencies. The Regional Adoption Collaborative for our region includes the South Wales Valleys and Cardiff, with the Vale as the Host Authority.

In 2015 the governance structure at a national and regional level was prescribed in regulation by implementation of The Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Joint Adoption Arrangements) (Wales) Directions 2015).

The Partnership Agreement was a non-legal agreement which set out the terms, roles, responsibilities and conditions of the relationship between partners. It determined the powers and duties of each partner, enabling compliance with the Directions.

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 Council entering into the Partnership Agreement with the National Adoption Service be agreed.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Social Services to sign the agreement.
- (3) T H A T update reports on the working of the Partnership be presented to both Cabinet and the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To approve the Agreement and governance structure for Vale, Valleys and Cardiff and provide greater consistency in working relationships with regional partners.
- (2) To ensure that the Vale of Glamorgan is part of the Partnership Agreement.
- (3) To provide Cabinet and the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee with regular updates on the work of the Partnership.

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The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration noted there was one item for discussion under Part II of the agenda which was a report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture concerning the 'Leisure Management Contract – COVID-19 Implications', following on from the discussion under Item 11 of the agenda.

As there were matters that were considered commercially sensitive, it was necessary to move into private session where confidential matters could be discussed under Part II. Therefore, the Cabinet Officer would ensure that the recording was closed at this point and would ensure that only relevant parties remained to hear the detail of the item being discussed.

Following the meeting, the outcome of the Part II discussion would be formally captured as part of the minutes of the meeting, advising all parties of the final decision of the Cabinet for this item.

**C364 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –**

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

**C365 LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS (LAC) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek approval to provide continued support to the Councils Leisure Management Contractor to mitigate against the effects of COVID-19 on the Leisure Centre services.

The report sought approval to make interim payments to the Council's Leisure Management contractor whilst the service was experiencing reduced attendances and income as a result of the restrictions placed on the service due to COVID-19.

Payments were approved to the contractor during the lockdown period but with facilities reopening the costs of operating the service had actually increased as staff were released from furlough, while income would take some time to reach pre lockdown levels.

The report also sought to put measures in place as the Leisure Centres had gone into a further lockdown / closure covering the 'firebreak' period of 23 October to 8 November, 2020.

The report acknowledged that the Leisure Management contract had less than two years remaining. Action would be required at a future date in relation to this situation as the 5 year contract extension, that was agreed in principle, was no longer financially viable to the contractor given the current restrictions and uncertainty about full recovery.

The report recommended the provision of a further update report to Cabinet on this matter in January 2021 due to the uncertainty around 'lockdown' controls and the limitations on continuing the level of financial support proposed.

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 Director of Environmental and Housing in consultation with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer be authorised to approve monthly payments

to the Leisure Management Contractor of no more than £75,000 subject to the Contractor providing evidence of a shortfall in their monthly income as a result of COVID-19 related economic conditions and the temporary suspension of the monthly income received from the Contractor to the Council for operating the Council's facilities.

(2) T H A T should, following the current 'firebreak', a further closure of Leisure Facilities be instructed as part of any future measures introduced by the Welsh Government the Director of Environment and Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture and the Leader together with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer, be granted delegated powers to negotiate service and financial issues with the Council's Leisure Contractor subject to the cap set above.

(3) T H A T the current situation in relation to the proposed extension of the Leisure Management Contract that was presently due to end on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2022 be noted and that a further update report be provided to Cabinet on this matter in January 2021.

(4) T H A T the urgency procedure set out at Section 14.14 of the Council's Constitution be used in respect of Resolutions (1) – (3) above.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To allow the Leisure centre service to continue to operate in the current difficult economic conditions.

(2) To have a contingency plan available should further restrictions be applied to the operation of the Leisure Centre in the future.

(3) In view of the fact that the Leisure Management Contract has only approximately 21 months left to operate and that negotiations to extend the contract by a further 5 years are currently on hold and to ensure it is kept updated on the financial position.

(4) To ensure prompt payments to Legacy to ensure the best possibility for them to remain financially viable.