

CABINET

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 11th January, 2021.

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.

C432 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 21st December, 2020 be approved as a correct record.

C433 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C434 STATEMENT –

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources reminded residents of the Vale of Glamorgan that the pandemic was still present, another lockdown was in place, that the NHS was in a critical condition and people needed to adhere to the current rules and restrictions. The advice to the public remained staying at home where possible, working from home where possible, only going out if absolutely necessary, and shopping or exercising locally. This also included not making unnecessary car journeys, as there had been examples of people driving to Barry Island, the esplanade in Penarth and Ogmore.

The Leader asked people again to stay at home, look after yourselves, look after the community and take heed of the restrictions in place to stop the spread of COVID-19. The vaccine was now being made available and a programme to administer it was being drawn up. The Minister for Health and Social Services had explained the way this would be carried out and individuals would be contacted from the various groups to be vaccinated. The public were asked not to contact their GP surgeries as individuals would be contacted in turn to attend for a vaccination. The Leader also reminded those who were receiving the first vaccination that although this offered an additional level of protection, people should still follow recommended guidelines.

C435 CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE –

The minutes of Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee meeting held on 2nd November, 2020 as contained within the agenda were submitted.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration had attended the meeting and was pleased that the new Ecologist had attended and explained his role and that he was going to be working on developing a Local Nature Partnership. Natural Resources Wales had also provided an update concerning a higher than usual number of 'Salmonids' (fish 55cm or longer, such as Atlantic Salmon and Sea Trout) which were likely to be 143 salmon and 4 sea trout in total, with a further 3,148 fish shorter than 55cm also passing through the barrage so far this year, which was a reflection on the water quality.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee held on 2nd December, 2020 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C436 REVENUE MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2020 (L/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the progress relating to revenue expenditure for the period 1st April to 30th November 2020.

The revenue position for 2020/21 was challenging with additional pressure for the Council both operationally and financially as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This had impacted both as a result of incurring additional expenditure but also from a loss of income. Funding had been provided by Welsh Government to cover some of the issues.

An efficiency target of £247k had been set for the year and while it was anticipated that this would be achieved, some issues remained relating to unachieved savings targets from previous years.

Adverse variances were being projected for a number of services this year and the use of reserves would be required to resolve these issues in the short term.

The Leader noted that with regards to lost income, £2.02m had been received for the first two quarters and a claim for lost income relating to Quarter 3 would be submitted on the 22nd January, 2021.

The report detailed the position Service by Service based on current projections and were subject to change as the year continued and information received from Welsh Government concerning grant funding.

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 position with regard to the Authority's 2020/21 Revenue Budget be noted.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To inform Cabinet of the projected revenue outturn for 2020/21.

(2) To advise Members of financial position.

C437 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2020 TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2020 (L/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the progress on the 2020/21 Capital Programme for the period 1st April 2020 to 30th November 2020 and to request changes to the Capital Programme.

The report provided an update on the progress of the Capital programme for the period 1st April 2020 to 30th November 2020. Details by scheme were shown in Appendix 1 to the report.

The report set out requested changes to the 2020/21 and future years Capital Programme.

The Leader noted that the report outlined the position regarding the programme and also the impact of the pandemic and the ability to deliver the full programme which had been hindered under challenging circumstances. In April 2020 it had been decided that the Council would not tender for capital schemes due to concern over the availability of contractors. That decision had been subsequently reviewed and tenders were being assessed for work to be continued and completed.

The report detailed the current position with regards the Capital Programme and included changes to the programme for:-

- Additions to the programme following receipt of a number of Welsh Government grants;
- Additions to the programme through the use of Section 106 monies; and
- As a result of some slippage from 2020/21 to 2021/22.

The Deputy Leader referred to the amount of work that had still been carried out from the time of the first lockdown, e.g. the amount of work undertaken as part of the Asset Renewal Programme as listed in Appendix 1, with very little slippage.

Staff within the Buildings and Properties Team were thanked for their efforts and work delivered into schools.

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 on the 2020/21 Capital Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (3) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority in relation to the following be noted:
 - Education Asset Renewal Contingency Budget - Vire £5k from this scheme to the Ysgol Pen Y Garth Roof Renewal scheme.
 - Cardiff Road, Barry Speeding and Gateway Enhancements - Vire £25k from the Traffic Signal Upgrades budget to a new scheme called 'Cardiff Road, Barry Gateway Enhancements.
 - Dinas Powys Sustainable Transport - Include this new scheme on the Capital Programme with a budget of £563k, split £380k in 2020/21 and £183k in 2021/22, to be funded from s106 monies.
 - Ogmoredy by Sea/St Brides Major Sustainable Transport Improvements - Increase this scheme budget by £62k in the 2020/21 Capital Programme using S106 sustainable transport monies.
 - New Build - Vire £1 million from the Acquisitions budget (within new builds) and create a separate budget called Homelessness Phase 2 Project.
 - TRI Thematic Grants Programme - Allocate £92k of this grant budget to install hospitality infrastructure in Penarth Town Centre and increase this scheme budget in the 2020/21 Capital Programme by £23k to be funded from the Capital Economic Regeneration reserve.
- (4) T H A T the use of Emergency Powers in relation to the following be noted:
 - St Cyres Hygiene Room - Include a new scheme in the 2020/21 Capital Programme with a budget of £18k, to be funded by a contribution of £4k from the ALN Resources Pupil Support revenue budget and £14k from the School Organisation repairs and maintenance revenue budget.
 - Pendoylan C/W Primary School Render - Include this new scheme in the 2020/21 Capital Programme with a budget of £19.5k, to be funded £16.5k grant and £3k revenue contribution from the School.
 - Childcare Offer Capital grant - Small Grant Scheme COVID 19 - Include this scheme in the 2020/21 Capital Programme with a budget of £40k, to be funded by a grant from Welsh Government.

- Safe Routes in Communities - Porthkerry Road/Romilly Road/Windsor Road Active Travel scheme - Include the additional £20k in the 2020/21 Capital Programme to be funded by a grant from Welsh Government.
- Circular Economy Grants - Include three new grants totalling £1.108m in the 2020/21 Capital Programme, to be funded by grants from Welsh Government.
- Building Stronger Communities Fund (CASH Grants) - Vire the £3K underspend on the playground refurbishment scheme to this scheme. Increase this scheme in the 2020/21 Capital Programme by £6k to be funded by a £4.5k contribution from Llandough Community Council and a contribution of £1.5k from the Playground Maintenance revenue budget.
- Local Nature Partnership Cymru Grant - Increase the 2020/21 Capital Programme by £62k to be funded from the Local Nature Partnership grant.
- Toilet Refurbishment Civic Offices - Increase this budget in the 2020/21 Capital Programme by £21k to be funded by a contribution from the facilities revenue budget.

(5) T H A T the following changes to the 2020/21 and future years Capital Programme be approved:

- Childcare Offer Capital Grant - Carry forward £441k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Llanfair Primary Playground Repairs - Carry forward £10k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Albert Primary External Repairs - Carry forward £28k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Albert Primary School, new classroom block - Carry forward £54k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- WeITAG 1 Study Transport Link from the Five Mile Lane to Cardiff Airport - Carry forward £15k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Rhoose Sustainable Transport - Carry forward £470k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Dimming of Street Lighting/Fitting of LED lanterns - Carry forward £397k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Cowbridge Leisure Centre Roofing - Carry forward £349k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Llantwit Major Leisure Centre - Rebuild brickwork - Carry forward £75k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- New Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) - Carry forward £530k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Resource Recovery Facility - Carry forward £1,498k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Waste grant WG 1920 - Carry forward £2,117k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Green Flag Parks - Carry forward £12k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme and rename this scheme Gladstone Park Interpretation Scheme. Also, to increase the 2021/22 Capital Programme budget by £11k s106 monies.

- Barry Regeneration Partnership - Carry forward £600k of this budget into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Penarth Heights Public Art - Carry forward £54k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- North Penarth Open Space Improvements - Carry forward £45k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Ogmore Community Facility and Associated Play Area - Increase this budget by £6k to be funded by a revenue contribution from the Building Strong Communities revenue budget.
- Ventilation & Lighting Upgrade to Contact One Vale - Carry forward £145k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- BSC2 - Carry forward £293k into the 2021/22 Capital Programme.
- Building Strong Communities Fund (CASH Grants) - Increase this budget in the 2020/21 Capital Programme by £8k to be funded by a revenue contribution from the Building Strong Communities revenue budget

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To advise Cabinet of the progress on the Capital Programme.
- (2) To advise Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of the progress on the Capital Programme.
- (3) To advise Cabinet of the use of Delegated Authority.
- (4) To advise Cabinet of the use of Emergency Powers.
- (5) To allow schemes to proceed in the current and future financial years.

C438 ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE 2020/21 (L/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The purpose of the report was to present Quarter 2 performance results for the period 1st April 2020 to 30th September 2020 in delivering the Annual Delivery Plan commitments as aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives. The report also presented the Certificate of Compliance notice issued by Audit Wales following its audit of the Council's published assessment of 2019/20 performance.

The performance report presented progress at Quarter 2 (1st April to 30th September 2020) towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan (2020/21) commitments as aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives.

Despite the ongoing challenges of responding to the global COVID-19 pandemic, positive progress had been made in delivering in-year commitments in relation to the Annual Delivery Plan (2020/21). The performance had contributed to an overall AMBER status for the Plan at Quarter 2 (Q2).

All four Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives were attributed an Amber performance status at Q2 to reflect the progress made to date. This was positive given the unprecedented challenges we continued to face.

66% (152 out of 231) of planned activities outlined in our Annual Delivery Plan had been attributed a Green performance reflecting the positive progress made during the quarter, under challenging circumstances. 25% (58) of planned activities were attributed a Red status.

Of the 58 actions attributed a Red performance status during the quarter, 90% (52) were directly as a result of service reprioritisation measures undertaken in response to the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In relation to these areas, where appropriate, work was now recommencing as part of recovery plans and strategy going forward. Progress in relation to Coronavirus recovery had been reported to members in the presentations accompanying the Q2 performance reports at Scrutiny Committees and focussed on highlighting issues pertinent to the Committee's remit. The Coronavirus Recovery Update would form part of quarterly performance reporting going forward to ensure members maintained an oversight of the recovery issues impacting on the work of their respective Committees and across the Council in general.

Of the 64 quarterly performance measures aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives, data was reported for 33 measures where a performance status was applicable. 64% (21) measures were attributed a Green performance Status, 15% (5) an Amber status and 21% (7) a Red status. Data was unavailable for 9 quarterly measures due to reprioritisation measures undertaken in response to the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A performance status was not applicable for 121 measures including a number of annual indicators (104) and those establishing baseline performance for the year (8).

In relation to the 6 measures attributed a Red performance status during the quarter, the impact of COVID-19 had contributed to missing target.

All 5 Scrutiny Committees had reviewed Quarter 2 performance reports between 8th and 16th December 2020 and upon consideration, had noted the performance results and progress to date in relation to the Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21 and Coronavirus recovery.

The report sought Cabinet's consideration of the views and recommendations of Scrutiny Committees in relation to Q2 performance and approval of identified remedial actions as the basis to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified.

In addition, Cabinet was requested to note overall service performance results to date and progress made towards achieving the priorities in the Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21 and in relation to Coronavirus recovery.

Cabinet was also requested to note the Certificate of Compliance issued by Audit Wales following its audit to determine whether the Council had discharged its duty

to publish an assessment of performance for 2019/20 in line with statutory guidance.

The Leader noted receipt of a reference from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee that took place on the 16th December, 2020 that would be attached as supplementary information to the meeting papers for information.

Each of the Scrutiny Committees had been asked for comments and each of the other Scrutiny Committees had noted the proposals. Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee had raised some issues:

- A request that future reports indicate and provide details of the actions and measures that had slipped for COVID and non-COVID related reasons, as well as actions taken to mitigate those. The Head of Service agreed to incorporate the information in the Quarter Three Performance Reports to all Committees.
- A request referring to the GP triage project in Penarth and a request made for an update report on the project for Members.

The Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee recommended:

- (1) T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives within the remit of the Committee be noted
- (2) T H A T the remedial actions to be taken to address areas of under-performance and to tackle the key challenges identified within the remit of the Committee be noted and that Cabinet be informed of Member's requests for future reports and information, to be contained in future reports, as outlined above.
- (3) T H A T the progress being made through the Council's Recovery Strategy and Directorate Recovery Plans in response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic be noted.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein, and the reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21 commitments as aligned to our Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives as presented in this report and appendices be noted and endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the views and recommendations of all Scrutiny Committees in relation to Q2 performance results be considered and identified remedial actions

as a basis to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified be noted.

(3) T H A T the progress being made through our recovery strategy and Directorate Recovery plans in response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic be noted and endorsed.

(4) T H A T the Certificate of Compliance issued by Audit Wales following its audit to determine whether the Council has discharged its duty to publish an assessment of performance for 2019/20 in line with statutory guidance be noted.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure the Council clearly demonstrates the progress being made towards achieving its commitments in the Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21 aimed at making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

(2) To ensure the Council is effectively assessing its performance in line with the requirement to secure continuous improvement outlined in the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 and reflecting the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that it maximises its contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.

(3) To ensure Cabinet maintain an oversight of the recovery issues impacting on the work of the Council and their respective Scrutiny Committees.

(4) To ensure that Cabinet is aware of the outcome of the performance audit, which certifies that the Council has discharged its duty to publish an assessment of performance for 2019/20 in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in section 15 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and statutory guidance.

C439 GLADSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL - CARETAKER'S HOUSE (ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) -

The report sought Cabinet approval to formally declare the Caretaker's House at Gladstone Primary School as a surplus asset and to dispose of the asset via informal tender.

The Caretaker's House at Gladstone Primary School had been vacant since September 2018 and was no longer required to provide caretaker accommodation. No alternative Council uses had been identified and it was recommended that the asset be declared surplus to requirements and disposed of on the open market by the Estates Team as a residential property.

The capital receipt would contribute to the delivery of the Council's 21st Century Schools Band B Programme.

The Deputy Leader noted that extensive evaluation had taken place to ascertain whether the property could be used for other uses or purposes and had been considered by the Education Department, Housing Department and the Council's Insight Board; none were identified.

The Deputy Leader noted receipt of an email from local Member Councillor Dr. Johnson who had raised concerns that the property was not being retained as housing stock but advised that the matter had been fully explored. Consideration had also been made towards necessary security and safeguarding issues at the property with it being adjacent to a school. Steps had been taken to block off access from the property to the school and other measures would be put in place for security, e.g. the use of obscured glass where there were windows that overlooked the school.

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 Caretaker's House at Gladstone Primary School be declared surplus to the Council's requirements.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance to market and dispose of the Caretaker's House as shown edged red on the plan attached at Appendix A to the report, in consultation with the Director of Learning and Skills and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services on terms and conditions to be agreed.
- (3) T H A T the capital receipt be used for the 21st Century Schools programme.
- (4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer/ Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to dispose of the site.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To declare the site surplus to requirements as the building was no longer in use for caretaker accommodation.
- (2-4) To enable the marketing and disposal of the site to obtain a capital receipt which would be used to contribute towards funding Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme.

C440 APPROVAL TO CONSENT TO A COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION (HBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The purpose of the report was to request consent to a Community Sponsorship Application.

In July 2016, the Community Sponsorship Scheme was launched, as a strand of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), to enable local communities to become directly involved in providing accommodation and support to refugees of the Syrian civil war. This scheme worked in parallel to Local Authority resettlement work.

Costs associated with accommodation and support were met entirely by the sponsor, however, Local Authorities could claim a per-child tariff in the first year of arrival to support the cost of providing education.

Croeso Cowbridge had requested formal consent from the Vale of Glamorgan Council to its application to become a Sponsor, which would enable it to accommodate and support one refugee family in the town, and Cabinet consent was therefore being sought.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council had consented to two previous community sponsorship applications, from Croeso Penarth and Croeso Llantwit, which had both subsequently received full Home Office approval.

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 “Croeso Cowbridge’s” application to the Home Office to become a Community Sponsor be approved.

Reason for decision

Under Home Office guidance the Community Sponsor ("the Sponsor") was required to obtain written consent from the Local Authority before it was permitted to apply to the Home Office for approval. Croeso Cowbridge had met the standard required by the Local Authority to sponsor a refugee family, therefore it was appropriate to provide the necessary consent.

C441 HOUSING SUPPORT GRANT DELIVERY PLAN 2021 – 2022 (HBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The purpose of the report was to adopt the draft Housing Support Grant Delivery Plan 2021 - 2022 and seek authorisation for its submission to Welsh Government.

The Housing Support Grant (HSG) Programme was the policy and funding framework for delivering housing related support to vulnerable people in different

types of accommodation and across all tenures. At a local level the programme took forward a number of strategic aims, reflecting community safety and health and social care and wellbeing objectives. It aimed to deliver high quality and strategically planned housing-related support services that were cost effective, complemented existing services and provided service users with the best possible outcomes.

The HSG was an amalgamation of three existing grants; the Supporting People Programme Grant, the Homelessness Prevention Grant and Rent Smart Wales Enforcement Grant.

In accordance with the Welsh Government Guidance for the Housing Support Grant, all local authorities were required to develop a one year Local Delivery Plan, which must be submitted to Welsh Government.

The programme contributed to meeting the aims of 'Improving Lives and Communities - Homes in Wales' the National Housing Strategy and the ten year Homelessness Plan, with a strong emphasis on the prevention of homelessness. It was also essential in assisting the local authority to fulfil its duties under the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, and the Vale of Glamorgan's Homelessness Prevention Strategy.

Welsh Government had not yet announced indicative grant allocations for 2021-2022.

The budgets for the programmes delivered by the HSG each remained static for 2020-2021 from the previous year's allocation, giving a combined total of £3,586,847.52

There were no direct resource implications associated with the report. All funding requirements identified for resourcing under the Housing Support Grant Programme were financed through grant funding from Welsh Government.

The development and publication of the Housing Support Grant Delivery Plan was a requirement of Welsh Government to comply with the Housing Support Grant Guidance (Wales).

It was therefore recommended that the Housing Support Grant Delivery Plan 2021 - 2022 be approved and Cabinet agree to its submission to Welsh Government in order to ensure that the Council complied with the requirements of the Housing Support Grant (HSG) Guidance (Wales) February 2020.

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 That the Housing Support Grant Delivery Plan 2021 - 2022 be approved and its submission to Welsh Government be agreed.

Reason for decision

To ensure that the Council complied with the requirements of the Housing Support Grant (HSG) Guidance (Wales) July 2018.