

CABINET

Minutes of a Cabinet meeting held on 13th September, 2021.

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

The Meeting recording 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.

Also Present: Councillors A.C. Parker and L.O. Rowlands.

C652 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July, 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C653 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Name of Councillor

Councillor B.T. Gray

Nature of Interest

The interest related to Agenda Item 12 - Reconfiguring Nursery Provision in Penarth. He is an LEA Governor at Evenlode Primary School and had dispensation to remain and vote at the meeting.

Councillor K.F. McCaffer

The interest related to Agenda Item 12 - Reconfiguring Nursery Provision in Penarth. She is an LEA Governor at Evenlode Primary School and had dispensation to remain and vote at the meeting.

C654 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 4 UPDATE (REF) –

The reference from the Governance and Audit Committee of 20th July, 2021 was presented to Cabinet as contained within the agenda and considered alongside Agenda Item No. 7.

Cabinet, having considered the reference

RESOLVED – T H A T the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be consider in conjunction with Agenda Item No. 7 on the agenda.

Reason for decision

In order that the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be considered together with the report on the same matter.

C655 CORPORATE COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21 (REF) –

The reference from the Governance and Audit Committee of 20th July, 2021 was presented to Cabinet as contained within the agenda.

The Leader referred to the new recording system which provided an opportunity to review the way that information was captured and would also ascertain the causes of future complaints. Councillor McCaffer said that the new system would improve how information was annotated and retained.

Cabinet, having considered the reference

RESOLVED – T H A T the Governance and Audit Committee be thanked for the reference and the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meetings.

C656 SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE –

The minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee meeting held on 22nd June, 2021 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

The Leader said that the Covid Compliance and Enforcement teams had been working with the Police Joint Enforcement Teams as well as carrying out their normal investigatory and regulatory roles.

RESOLVED – T H A T the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee be thanked for the reference and that the minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee meeting held on 22nd June, 2021 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C657 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 4 UPDATE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report provided Cabinet with an overview of the Corporate Risk Register for Quarter 4 (April 2020-March 2021) and was considered in conjunction with the reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 20th July, 2021. A risk analysis

was incorporated within the Corporate Risk Summary Report (Annex A). This enabled officers and Members to identify and assess trends and the cross-cutting nature of risk with the ability to drill down to the detail of risks as and when required.

The Leader, in referring to COVID-19 implications, asked that residents of the Vale of Glamorgan who had not yet had a vaccination to do so to protect themselves and others.

He also said that during the pandemic, the Senior Leadership Team had met on a regular basis to deal with COVID-specific matters. Those meetings would now continue and would assess and manage all the associated Corporate Risks within the Risk Register across all Service Areas.

The Leader referred to the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee of 20th July, 2021 which had presented to Cabinet as contained within the agenda as Agenda Item No. 4.

It had been agreed at the Committee meeting that there would be an update provided regarding the new waste transfer station. The Leader requested that the update be provided to all Members, when available.

He also said that in relation to the discussion concerning staff recruitment and retention and workforce planning, work was being carried out by the Management Team as well as Audit Wales to include aspects such as agile working and assessing current policies in the aftermath of COVID-19.

With regards the discussion concerning flooding, the Leader said that the Section 19 report was due shortly.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Quarter 4 position of corporate risks for the period April 2020-March 2021 as outlined in Annex A to the report and the reference received from Governance and Audit Committee be noted.

(2) T H A T the Corporate Risk Register for Quarter 4 and the associated Corporate Risk Summary Report be endorsed.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report, the reference and discussions at the meeting.

(2) To ensure effective oversight of the corporate risks and enable Cabinet to examine key emerging issues and actions to be taken as outlined in Annex A.

C658 VALE OF GLAMORGAN ANNUAL REPORT (IMPROVEMENT PLAN PART II) 2020/21 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The report presented the draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Report (Improvement Plan Part II) 2020/21, which outlined the Council's progress towards achieving its Well-being (Improvement) Objectives agreed in April 2020. The report also incorporated an end of year position statement on the Council's corporate risks, an annual review of progress against its regulatory proposals and the Head of Internal Audit's opinion on the Council's governance arrangements.

As this was the last annual review of performance under the Local Government Measure, the report also provided a summary of the performance provisions in the new Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act and proposed a timetable for producing and publishing the Council's self-assessment in 2022 under the new Act. The Council's self-assessment report in 2022 would replace the current annual review of performance (Appendix A to the report).

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Report (Improvement Plan Part II) 2020/21 (Appendix A to the report) be endorsed and referred to Full Council on 20th September, 2021 for approval.

(2) T H A T the proposed timetable for producing and publishing the Council's first self-assessment under the new performance provisions outlined in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (paragraph 2.22 - 2.38 of the report) be approved and referred to Full Council on 20th September for approval.

(3) T H A T following consideration by Cabinet and Members at Full Council, the proposed timetable for producing the Council's 2022 self-assessment (paragraph 2.22 -2.38 of the report) and the Vale of Glamorgan Annual Report (Improvement Plan Part II) 2020/21 (Appendix A to the report) be referred to the Governance and Audit Committee for final oversight of the Council's performance review for 2020/21, including progress against its regulatory recommendations/ proposals for improvement (section 7 of the appended Annual Report – Appendix A).

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure the Council fully discharges its duties under both the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to publish an annual review of Council performance against its Well-being (Improvement) Objectives by 31st October as per the statutory timetable.

(2) To ensure the Council meets its duty to produce and publish an annual self-assessment report relating to the previous financial year in line with the requirements of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

(3) To ensure the Governance and Audit Committee has final oversight of the Council's progress in meeting the Annual Delivery Plan commitments contributing to its Well-being Objectives and addressing recommendations / regulatory proposals for improvement; and the timetable for producing and publishing the Council's 2022 self-assessment.

**C659 USE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR'S EMERGENCY POWERS (EL/PR)
(SCRUTINY – ALL) –**

The report advised Cabinet of the exercising of Emergency Powers by the Managing Director since the last report of 5th July, 2021.

The Leader said that many of the decisions taken were related to the Capital Programme in order to continue work over the recess period.

The Deputy Leader clarified that often the agreement for capital expenditure was not in place until mid-March, prior to any tender exercise being undertaken and work able to start by the summer. The report listed work for schools that had to be undertaken during the summer holidays whilst children were not in school. The spend had already been agreed but had to be authorised via Emergency Powers to be undertaken.

Councillor McCaffer said it was positive to see how much investment there had been in leisure provision across the Vale of Glamorgan over the summer period, e.g., at Barry Leisure Centre.

The Leader referred to the scheme to retain LGV drivers that had to be undertaken quickly in order to ensure continuity of service.

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 as contained within the report be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

C660 REVIEW OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM STRUCTURE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

This item was taken at the end of the meeting. Officers were asked to leave the meeting during the discussion of this item.

The report set out the findings of the recent analysis of the Council's senior management structure, in response to Cabinet's decision of 12th May, 2021 to commission an external consultancy review of the structure.

The report proposed the high-level organisational structure that would be required to deliver the ambitious agenda set out in the Corporate Plan 2020-25 and set out the broad direction of travel for how the organisation would work in the future.

In particular, the report proposed the immediate structural changes required to:

- Build the senior level capacity and capability to drive the transformational changes to service delivery required in the Corporate Plan;
- Ensure appropriate operational leadership and management to maximise opportunities from the emerging national and regional agenda; and
- Develop a leadership direction that provided the basis for an organisation structure for 2022/23 and beyond that would embed the capacity and capability needed to fully implement the new operating model and deliver services as envisaged in the Corporate Plan.

The Leader requested to amend the title of the report from 'Senior Executive Leadership Team' to 'Strategic Leadership Team', as well as in the body of the report, to avoid any confusion with the Cabinet Executive body, which was agreed.

The report had been prepared by Steve James, external HR consultant from Solace, who would be presenting the report at both Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee and Full Council meetings.

The report had some budgetary implications, but changes would be necessary in order to carry out the functions of the Authority to the best standards to remain the best performing Authority in Wales.

COVID-19 had also taken a toll on everyone in society, including Authority Officers who had worked over and above normal expectations during the pandemic in order to maintain services.

The report looked to establish a more consistent hierarchy at leadership level. Interviews would take place for the posts of Director of Corporate Resources; and Director of Place, but not for the Chief Executive as that post remained the Head of Paid Service.

The Deputy Leader looked forward to the discussions that would take place at both Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee and Full Council. She referred to the Key Issues for Consideration within the report that discussed how the Council was productive, effective, efficient, well run and well led, but also how

austerity had cut deeply since 2010. The Strategic Leadership Team had worked together and proactively throughout the pandemic, but it was recognised that this Council was ambitious for the Vale of Glamorgan as illustrated in the Corporate Plan. Commitments such as the Climate and Nature Emergency agendas needed to be managed, as well as being part of setting the regional agenda, needed to have the correct leadership structures in place.

Councillor Gray said the Coalition Administration was supportive of the proposals and looked forward to Scrutiny fully exploring the detail within the report before the full debate at Full Council. Group Leaders had already been briefed directly and there had been constructive dialogue to date.

Councillor Wilkinson was supportive of the report and said that staff had to be supported effectively after the pressures of the last eighteen months and thanked all staff for their work during the pandemic. The right structures needed to be put in place to be able to move forward and for the Council to keep improving.

Councillor King also looked forward to the rigorous debate that would take place at Scrutiny Committee. The Authority had to be able move forward to maintain performance and there was a risk of complacency as a lead performing Authority were no action to be taken to strengthen the leadership structure.

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the proposed reorganisation of the first and second tier structure, including new and changed roles, as detailed in the report be approved and recommended to a Special Full Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 28th September, 2021.
- (2) T H A T the deletion and creation of the following posts in line with the detail contained in the report and as part of the proposed structure be approved and recommends these proposals to Full Council:
 - (a) Deletion of the post of Managing Director;
 - (b) Creation of the post of Chief Executive;
 - (c) Creation of the post of Director of Corporate Resources; and
 - (d) Creation of the post of Director of Place.
- (3) T H A T the proposed consultation process and implementation timetable be noted.
- (4) T H A T the report and Cabinet's proposals be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and that any recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee be considered at a Special Full

Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 28th September, 2021, along with the recommendations and proposals from this Cabinet meeting.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable Cabinet and Council to fully consider the findings of the review and the underlying business case for the recommended structural changes.
- (2) To provide Cabinet and Council with the analysis to agree formal proposals for organisational change to be recommended to Council in order to deliver the Corporate Plan.
- (3) To enable the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development to begin preparations for formal staff consultation on the proposed changes, subject to Council approval.
- (4) To enable the report to be considered by the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee to allow any comments made at that Committee to be reported to a Special meeting of Council, along with the report from Cabinet as the recommendations require a decision by Council

C661 RENAMING LLANCARFAN PRIMARY SCHOOL (DL/ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The 21st Century Schools and Education Programme was a unique collaboration between the Welsh Government and Local Authorities. It was a major long term strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st Century Schools in Wales. A new 210 place primary school building in Rhoose had been included as part of the Council's Band B Programme.

On 18th March, 2019, Cabinet determined the proposal to reconfigure primary provision in the Western Vale by transferring Llancarfan Primary School to a new school site in Rhoose on land north-west of the railway line, extend the age range and increase the school capacity (minute C627). In determining the proposal, Cabinet was satisfied that the proposal would:

- Enable the school to further improve while catering for a greater pupil population;
- Enable further improvements to educational outcomes and standards in the area;
- Maintain access and parental preference for English medium provision in the area; and
- Manage the supply and demand for school places in the area.

The new school building was currently under construction and was due to be complete for January 2022. All staff and pupils would transfer to the new building following its completion.

The headteacher and governing body of Llancarfan Primary School had written to the Council to request that the name of the school be changed to reflect the new location and extended catchment area. Renaming the school was also supported by the Llancarfan Community Council.

Following engagement with staff, governors, parents/carers and pupils, South Point Primary School / Ysgol Gynradd Trwyn y De had been identified as the preferred name.

The name of the school could be changed through an amendment to the Instrument of Government. (Appendix B to the report).

The headteacher and governing body would continue to work with parents/carers and pupils to develop a new logo which would reflect the heritage of the school whilst also marking new beginnings.

The Deputy Leader had visited the site over recess and said that the new school building was progressing at pace as Wales' first zero carbon in-use school.

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 Instrument of Government to change the name of Llancarfan Primary School to South Point Primary School / Ysgol Gynradd Trwyn y De from January 2022 be approved.

Reason for decision

To ensure the renaming of the school complies with the relevant legal framework.

**C662 RECONFIGURING NURSERY PROVISION IN PENARTH (DL/ER)
(SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

Councillors Gray and McCaffer had declared an interest in the item at the start of the meeting but had dispensations as LEA Governors to remain and vote at the meeting.

The report sought Cabinet approval to consult on a proposal to reconfigure nursery provision in Penarth by:

- amalgamating Bute Cottage Nursery School and Evenlode Primary School; and
- amalgamating Cogan Nursery School and Cogan Primary School.

Nursery provision would continue to be provided within the existing buildings with the overall management arrangements being changed.

Over the past 10 years the Council had sought to move towards a primary school model for 3 to 11 years education. This had included merging infant and junior schools, such as at Dinas Powys Primary School and St. Helens Primary School, as well as amalgamating separate nursery and primary provision, such as at Cadoxton Primary School.

Bute Cottage Nursery School and Cogan Nursery School were the only two stand-alone nursery schools within the Vale (i.e. separate entities with their own governing bodies and a delegated budget).

At the same time, Evenlode Primary School and Cogan Primary School were the only two remaining primary schools in the Vale which did not provide, or had approved plans to provide, nursery provision.

The headteacher post at Bute Cottage Nursery School became vacant at the end of August 2019 and was currently being covered through a temporary acting-up arrangement. The headteacher post at Cogan Nursery School became vacant at the end of August 2021 and would be covered for one year through a temporary acting-up arrangement with St. Andrews Major CIW Primary School. This provided the opportunity for the Council to reconfigure nursery provision in a way that benefitted pupils and staff whilst also avoiding compulsory redundancies.

It was proposed that Evenlode Primary School and Bute Cottage Nursery School be merged. This would result in 96 part time nursery places being provided at Evenlode Primary School (on the existing Bute Cottage Nursery School site). It was also proposed that Cogan Primary School and Cogan Nursery School be merged, resulting in 96 part time nursery places being provided at Cogan Primary School (on the existing Cogan Nursery School site).

The main benefits of the proposal were:

- A smoother transition from nursery to primary education for pupils;
- Streamlined communication between parents/carers and staff with a single point of contact throughout all phases of primary education;
- A single governance and accountability regime with a single headteacher and governing body with responsibility for all phases of education at each primary school;
- Opportunities for greater professional development opportunities by being part of a primary school teaching across all phases of primary education;
- A single set of policies across all year groups, incorporating areas of best practice from the individual schools;
- A single vision, strategy and ethos across all phases;
- Generated revenue savings associated with increased running costs for standalone nursery schools which would release additional funding into the overall schools' funding formula;
- Opportunities to make efficiency savings through economies of scale and joined up procurement.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council was committed to ensuring that consultations were meaningful, relevant and appropriate for the communities that were involved, and the

Council had a duty of care to ensure that proposals were clear, transparent, and reflective of those affected. This was a vision that could only be realised by working in partnership with schools, governors, parents and the wider communities the Council served.

Consultation would be undertaken with prescribed consultees in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2018. The Council would publish a Consultation Document, which would provide a comprehensive overview of the proposal, outlining any potential implications. Any person could respond to the consultation during the consultation period, either in writing or through completion of an online form hosted on the Council's website. Following the consultation, the Council would publish a consultation report, which would provide an overview of the feedback received, as well as outlining the Council's response to any issues raised. This would be presented to Cabinet for consideration.

The Deputy Leader said that communication had been received from individuals and groups in order to make their views known which would have responses produced assuring them that no decisions had been taken and there would be a full consultation process in which they could submit their views.

Councillor Gray said he had also received communication about the matter and that the report today was not an outcome and that there would be a full consultation. The Cabinet report, if agreed, would offer anyone with an interest in the matter the opportunity to take part in the consultation and he looked forward to seeing the responses.

Councillor King said he had also been approached on the matter, assured residents that no decisions had yet been made and said that the report was simply the start of a process to start a consultation. He asked the Deputy Leader to reply fully to a technical letter that had been received on the matter. The Deputy Leader said a full response would be prepared, but that all the issues raised could also be discussed as a part of the formal consultation process and documented in the final report that would come back to Cabinet for consideration.

The Leader referred to the detail contained in the report which was available online for those with an interest in the matter which could answer some questions, but that people would be able to express any further concerns through the formal consultation process.

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 amalgamate Bute Cottage Nursery School and Evenlode Primary School from September 2022 by:

- Changing the lowest age range of pupils at Evenlode Primary School from 4 to 3, to include 96 part time nursery places;
- Increasing the capacity of Evenlode Primary School to accommodate the 96 part-time nursery places; and
- Discontinuing Bute Cottage Nursery School and transferring all staff and pupils of the nursery phase under the governance of Evenlode Primary School from September 2022.

(2) T H A T the Director of Learning and Skills be authorised to undertake a consultation on the proposal to amalgamate Cogan Nursery School and Cogan Primary School from September 2022 by:

- Changing the lowest age range of pupils at Cogan Primary School from 4 to 3, to include 96 part time nursery places;
- Increasing the capacity of Cogan Primary School to accommodate the 96 part-time nursery places; and
- Discontinuing Cogan Nursery School and transferring all staff and pupils of the nursery phase under the governance of Cogan Primary School from September 2022.

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

Reasons for decisions

(1) To authorise the carrying out of 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 amalgamate Bute Cottage Nursery School and Evenlode Primary School from September 2022.

(2) To authorise the carrying out of 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 amalgamate Cogan Nursery School and Cogan Primary School from September 2022.

(3) To ensure that the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee is consulted on the proposals.

C663 VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2011-2026: ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2020/2021 (LRPS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The report related to the third Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) which assessed the performance of the policies in achieving the integrated Plan objectives which incorporate sustainable development and Strategic Environmental Assessment having regard to the Monitoring Framework set out in the LDP and agreed by the Inspector as part of the LDP Examination and consequently adopted by the Council on 28th June, 2017.

The format of the AMR followed the suggested format set out in the latest Development Plans Manual. It included both core and local monitoring indicators and a 'traffic light' rating system was used as a visual aid to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan's policies and to provide a quick overview of policy performance. The report set out the key policy achievements to date and confirmed that the majority of relevant monitoring targets had been met. It highlighted the indicators where further research / investigation was required and noted that COVID-19 had delayed the progression of some Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and Member training in relation to Policy MD1 as recommended in the previous AMR.

Overall, the AMR showed that good progress was being made in implementing the majority of the Plan's policies and that the LDP strategy remained sound. Accordingly, it was recommended that the third AMR be submitted to the Welsh Government by 31st October, 2021 and published on the Council's website in accordance with LDP Regulation 37. In addition, it noted that the Council had commenced a review of the LDP in line with LDP Regulation 41 and recommended that work commence on a replacement LDP following approval of a new Delivery Agreement by the Welsh Government in due course.

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 third Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) be endorsed (subject to consideration of any recommended changes by the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee) for submission to the Welsh Government by 31st October, 2021 and for publication on the Council's website.

(2) T H A T it be noted that work would commence on a Replacement LDP following Welsh Government approval of a new Delivery Agreement.

(3) T H A T the Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) be referred to the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for its consideration. Should Scrutiny Committee resolve to accept the LDP AMR, Cabinet would consider the LDP AMR as agreed and submit it to the Welsh Government by 31st October, 2021. Should Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee have any issues for consideration, the matter would be brought back to Cabinet before being submitted to the Welsh Government by 31st October, 2021.

(4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services, to make typographical or other minor changes as necessary prior to publication.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To comply with Regulation 37 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005.
- (2) To comply with Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005.
- (3) To ensure appropriate scrutiny of the report.
- (4) To make typographical or other minor changes as necessary without the need to seek Cabinet approval.

**C664 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES
2020-2021 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

A Challenge Version of the Director's report was considered by Scrutiny Committee in July. Committee Members provided positive feedback and welcomed the new presentation of the report.

A finalised version following feedback from partners was presented to Cabinet for approval.

The report contained a number of priorities which the Director of Social Services had determined. These had been set in the context of the pandemic and significant changes in demand. Cabinet were asked to agree these improvement priorities.

Councillor Gray said the report highlighted the amount of work that had been done under challenging circumstances which had been noted by Scrutiny in July. The Council had adapted, supported staff and worked with partners across the domiciliary and residential care sectors to support vulnerable people in society. The report was an excellent reflection on what had been achieved by working in partnership.

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.
- (2) T H A T the Director's Annual Report for 2020-2021 be approved.
- (3) T H A T the improvement priorities for Social Services as set out in the Director's Annual Report for 2020-2021 be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To ensure that the Director's Annual Report for 2020-2021 has the approval and agreement of Cabinet.
- (3) To ensure that the priorities as set out by the Director of Social Services are approved by Cabinet.