

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022

REFERENCE FROM CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022

“ VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL DRAFT ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN  
2022/23 (CX) –

The Head of Policy & Business Transformation made the Committee aware of an error on the title of the report on the agenda, which should read as the Vale of Glamorgan Council Draft Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) and not Vale of Glamorgan Council Draft Annual Development Plan 2022/23.

The purpose of the report was to enable the Committee to consider the draft Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) 2022-23 post consultation.

The report set out how the draft Annual Delivery Plan (Appendix A to the report) had been developed, the outcome of the consultation and the subsequent changes to the Plan. The Annual Delivery Plan for 2022-23 was aligned to the Council's four Well-being Objectives. The Plan detailed the activities that would be undertaken in 2022-23 to deliver these objectives. This tied into the Council's five-year Corporate Plan which set out the Council's vision, values as well as the wellbeing objectives and the Annual Delivery Plan (also reflected in Annual Service Plans together with service improvement targets) would detail how different Council services would contribute to the delivery of the four Well-being Objectives, etc on an annual basis.

The actions in the ADP would also contribute to six new cross-cutting themes reflecting the current socio economic and other circumstances the Council and the Vale of Glamorgan found itself in:

- Project Zero, which included the Council's commitment to decarbonisation;
- Community Capacity which also included empowerment, and which had a strong set of actions identified within that theme;
- Hardship, including how the Council provides advice and support around money matters, education, skills, training and other support to residents suffering hardship at this time;
- Care and Support, with a series of actions set within the draft ADP around care and support for the most vulnerable residents;
- Transformation, which looked at how the Council could change as an organisation in order to ensure that it remained able to provide services effectively into the future; and
- Infrastructure, such as the implementation of the 21st Century Schools' program and the Council's response to the UK Government's 'Levelling Up' program.

The Head of Policy & Business Transformation also referred to Appendix B, detailing the consultation report, outlining the methods employed, the findings and the responses, including the consideration that scrutiny committees provided, the 88 responses to the public survey across the six themes, through to the Twitter polls and the comments on both Twitter and Facebook, as well as obtaining responses from younger people within the Vale of Glamorgan and to ensure an accessible 'reader friendly' version of the Plan was available to a younger and wider audience once the ADP had been finalised and approved. The feedback was also shared with the Strategic Leadership Team and the relevant officers so they could use that insight and intelligence when they were looking at future policy decisions they intended to take.

Finally, the Head of Policy & Business Transformation outlined to the Committee some of the changes and updates to the ADP, including a change to the tone of the foreword and the introduction to the ADP in order to reflect the current circumstances around COVID-19 and the Council's budgetary position. Also, some of the commitments around engagement and consultation had been strengthened and incorporated, with further references to leisure activities and in order that the actions within objective three in particular accurately reflected leisure within the context of culture and wellbeing, and within Objective Four there was substantial feedback around the Council's commitment to tree planting and a specific reference within that particular section had been added as a result.

Following the presentation of the report, the subsequent comments and questions were raised by the Committee to the Head of Policy & Business Transformation:

- Councillor Dr Johnson felt that, despite the ADP and report reading much clearer than previous versions, it would still be helpful, due to the size of the documents involved, that the changes mentioned that had been made to the ADP be highlighted in some way. In terms of feedback and responses on the ADP it was important that these were 'representative' of the public rather than being potentially hijacked by certain individuals and groups with specific agendas and the need to 'weight' responses and feedback against specialist or expert opinion, as well as what the Council knew already in the areas in question. It was subsequently explained that the specific changes made to the ADP were referred to within the covering report. Also, the Councillor's comments on the size of the Plan and other documents would be looked at in order to present future ADPs and findings more effectively, but due to the statutory nature of the ADP, there was a limit to how much the ADP and related documents could be condensed and the need to be transparent by providing comprehensive details on feedback, etc. It was appreciated that the number of respondents within the consultation process were potentially limited and not wholly representative, but these had been mitigated by the use of a wide range of data insight and consultation findings from other exercises earlier on in the process for which the subsequent consultation process could be 'weighted' against.
- Councillor John, felt that the Plan was very good but queried Objective Four of the ADP on review and implement options for community organisations to operate facilities such as sports grounds, parks, open spaces, allotments and public conveniences as part of the Council's Transformation Programme. He

asked specifically about those public spaces that came over as a result of Section 106 agreements with contractors building developments and if the Council or other community organisations had responsibility for these, stressing the importance of keeping them as public open spaces and the difficulties in doing so if they were handed over to private or community groups such as Cricket, Football and Rugby clubs. This query would be referred back for advice from the Council's legal officers, but it was also important to point out that the objective was broader than just public open spaces. It was also about how the Council worked with a range of community organizations and community groups in order to be able to operate services that were more focused at a local level, that were responsive to local needs, and formed part of the community capacity and community empowerment theme that was running strongly through this year's ADP.

Scrutiny Committee, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

**RECOMMENDED – T H A T** the Committee endorses the consultation report (Appendix B) on the draft Plan and the updated draft Annual Delivery Plan (Appendix A) following consultation and to recommend it wholeheartedly to Cabinet for their consideration.

Reason for recommendation.

To endorse the consultation feedback and the subsequent changes to the Plan as well as recommending the Plan to Cabinet for their consideration.”