

CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 17th November, 2022.

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

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor L. Burnett (Chair); Councillors R.M. Birch, B.E. Brooks, G. John, S. Sivagnanam, E. Williams, M.R Wilkinson and M.R. Wilson.

Also Present: Councillor H.C. Hamilton.

C126 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the Cabinet meeting and reminded everyone present that the meeting was being Live Streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing.

She asked if all participants please ‘mute’ themselves when not speaking in order to avoid any background noise or feedback when other participants were speaking, and if a participant wished to speak if they could put their hand up (to be seen on screen) or use the ‘raise hand’ function.

Members were asked to ensure that all debate was raised verbally and not via the ‘chat’ function for the sake of the recording. The ‘chat’ function could be used to highlight any technical issues and/or to get the attention of the Chair or Democratic Services Officer.

C127 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd November, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

C128 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C129 USE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S EMERGENCY POWERS (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to notify Cabinet of the exercising of Emergency Powers by the Chief Executive since the last report on 8th September, 2022.

The Council's Constitution at page 315 (delegated powers) stated:

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

(a) requires immediate action; and

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

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Chief Executive's Emergency Powers be noted.

Reasons for decisions

To inform Cabinet.

C130 Q2 SICKNESS ABSENCE REPORT 2022/2023 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to update Cabinet on the sickness absence statistics for the 6-month period from 1st April, 2022 to 30th September, 2022

The report set out the sickness absence figures for the 6-month period 1st April, 2022 to 30th September, 2022 as part of the agreed performance management arrangements.

The previous year (2021/2022) saw low levels of absence, this was due to the Covid pandemic. Absence rates now seemed to be increasing year on year.

The absence rates were set out in paragraph 4.1 and showed an increase from 3.40 days lost per FTE (April 2020 to September 2020) to 4.95 days lost per FTE (April 2021 to September 2021) and 5.87 days lost per FTE (April 2022 to September 2022). The annual target figure (April 2022 to September 2022) was set as 4.15 days lost per FTE.

The Leader referred to two amendments to the report due to formatting errors. On page 3 of the report, paragraph 4.6 contained duplicated figures for both 2020 and 2021 columns which should have read as below:-

	2020 *		2021 *		2022	
Month	Number of Absences	Days Lost	Number of Absences	Days Lost	Number of Absences	Days Lost
April	197	2063	432	2983	504	3317
May	182	1947	470	3241	555	3635
June	205	1942	465	3146	495	3631
July	197	1933	388	3006	709	4389
August	184	1791	233	2703	303	3254
September	368	2311	390	2860	480	3792
* Reported at Q2						
Number of Absences = Number of Absent Employees in each individual month (i.e. an absence 15th April to 2nd June will be reported in April / May / June respectively)						
Days Lost = this is the total days lost in each individual month						

Also, on page 4, paragraph 4.10 of the report there were erroneous number ones at the end of the reported figures for Musculoskeletal and Stress Work for 2021, which should have read 2677 and 2047 respectively.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and including the typographical amendments to paragraphs 4.6 and 4.10 to the report

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the report and the six-month (April 2022 to September 2022) sickness absence figures provided in Appendix A be noted.

(2) T H A T the amended report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration, with any comments referred back to Cabinet for further consideration.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To bring matters to the attention of Members of the Cabinet in line with corporate objectives.

(2) To enable the Scrutiny Committee to maintain a continued focus on the

management of sickness absence throughout all services of the Council and to make recommendations to Cabinet, as appropriate

C131 DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which sought Cabinet endorsement of the draft Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24 for the purpose of consultation.

The report set out how the draft Annual Delivery Plan had been developed, the proposed consultation and the timetable for the Plan.

The Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24 was aligned to the Council's four Well-being Objectives and detailed the activities that would be undertaken in 2023-24 to deliver those objectives.

The Plan also detailed three critical challenges (associated with the four Well-being Objectives) which would be a key focus for the organisation in 2023-24, those being cost of living, Project Zero and organisational resilience.

The commitments within the Annual Delivery Plan would be reflected in Annual Service Plans together with a suite of performance measures which would detail how different Council services would contribute to the delivery of the Council's four Well-being Objectives.

Publishing the Well-being Objectives at the start of the financial year would enable the Council to meet its statutory obligations under the performance duties of the Local Government and Election (Wales) Act 2021 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFGA), both of which placed specific duties on the Council in relation to objective setting and reporting. Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, the Council was required to publish its Wellbeing Objectives by 31st March each year and to keep those under review.

The Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives and associated commitments for 2023/2024 as outlined in the draft Annual Delivery Plan would be reflected in Service Plans for 2023 -2024. Work had commenced to develop the Service Plans which would be presented to the relevant Scrutiny Committees in the new year together with proposed service improvement targets for 2023-24. A workshop open to all Elected Members would be held to inform the approach to be taken to presenting this information for scrutiny.

The Leader said that it was not just a financially challenging time for the Council, but also for residents, communities and partner organisations. As a result, the final draft of the Annual Delivery Plan may have to change to address the latest challenges and would be amended in response to consultation feedback. Cabinet Members were looking forward to hearing the consultation responses and comments from Scrutiny.

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 draft Annual Delivery Plan, (attached at Appendix A to the report) as the basis for consultation as described in the report, be approved.
- (2) T H A T the consultation approach and timetable as set out in the report be approved.
- (3) T H A T the approach taken this year to draft the Annual Delivery Plan and the relationship with Annual Service Plans be noted.
- (4) T H A T the report be referred to all Scrutiny Committees as part of the programme of consultation requesting any comments to be shared with the Director of Corporate Resources to inform revisions to the Annual Delivery Plan.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that consultation could be undertaken on the draft Annual Delivery Plan.
- (2) To ensure that effective consultation was undertaken within the necessary timeframes for publishing the Annual Delivery Plan.
- (3) To ensure that Cabinet were aware of how the Annual Delivery Plan had been developed and how it would provide the framework for Annual Service Plans.
- (4) To ensure that all Scrutiny Committees had the opportunity to consider the draft Annual Delivery Plan and provide feedback as part of the programme of consultation.

**C132 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-TERM REPORT (EL/PR)
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to provide a mid-year report on the Authority's Treasury Management operations for the period 1st April, 2022 to 30th September, 2022

The interim report provided an update on the Authority's Treasury Management operations for the period 1st April to 30th September, 2022. All activities were in accordance with the Authority's approved strategy on Treasury Management.

Total external borrowing as of 30th September, 2022 was £154.238m at an average rate of 4.48%. New external borrowing undertaken during the first 6 months of 2022/23 totalled £3m at an average rate of 3.07%.

The Council invested with the Debt Management Deposit Facility, Local Authorities, Treasury Bills, Money Market Funds together with Lloyds and Santander Bank Call Accounts. Total investments as of 30th September, 2022 stood at £96.345m at an average rate of 0.97%.

As the world emerged from the pandemic, the effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the cost of living crisis, the report contained a review of the UK economy together with forecasts for interest rates.

The Authority had to ensure compliance with the Prudential Code, which had been developed and written by CIPFA as a professional code of practice. To demonstrate the Authority had met the necessary requirements, the Code set out prudential indicators that should be implemented and the factors that must be considered. The Council fully complied with those prudential indicators during the first six months of 2022/23.

External borrowing of £3.451m had been included in the estimates to cover loan maturities during 2022/23 and supported borrowing. However, the decision on whether to proceed would consider reserve levels and capital spend projections, PWLB rate forward projections and cost of carry. Advice would be sought from the Council's Treasury Management advisers.

The 2021 revised CIPFA Code of Practice required Local Authorities to adopt a new prudential indicator called the Liability Benchmark from 2023/24, a consideration of this over 20 years had been included in the report.

The Leader noted a comment made at a recent Scrutiny Committee meeting about financial management being difficult, she concurred but added that it is absolutely essential. She hoped to be able to make a statement next week concerning the medium-term fiscal event that took place that morning once the information had been analysed to see what bearing that had on the Vale of Glamorgan Council. In the current environment, the Council had to be completely on the top of financial management and thanked the Officers for the depth of detail available in the report.

Councillor Wilson said he felt the Council's strategy was right given the uncertainty in the economy currently, with priority given to security and liquidity over speculative investments was a prudent approach and one of the reasons that the Vale of Glamorgan Council was one of the strongest Councils in Wales in terms of its financial position.

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 Treasury Management mid-year report for the period 1st April, 2022 to 30th September, 2022 be approved and referred to Council, in December 2022, for consideration.

(2) T H A T the latest Treasury Management indicators be approved and referred to Council in December 2022, for consideration.

(3) T H A T, notwithstanding Resolutions (1) and (2) above, the report also be forwarded to the next Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and discussion.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To present the Treasury Management mid-year report as required by the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice.

(2) To present an update of the Treasury Management indicators which were included in the Treasury Management Strategy.

(3) To present the report to the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the remit of the Committee.

C133 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COMMUNITY REVIEW (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES –

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to update Members on the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Community Review and the process to be adopted.

Cabinet on 30th April, 2018 considered a report relating to the Council's duty to conduct a Community Review and resolved that a full Community Review ("the review") in line with the requirements of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 ("the Act") for the Vale of Glamorgan be commenced in June 2023 having regard, at that time, to the timing of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales's ("the Commission") principal area review for the Vale of Glamorgan and the need to avoid the risk of voter confusion during election years in 2021 and 2022; minute number C285 referred.

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales and all other mandatory consultees, including Town and Community Councils, were formally notified of the agreed timescale for the next Vale of Glamorgan community review.

Following the Local Government Elections in May 2022, discussions had been taking place with the Commission around the timing of the review, which would last 12-18 months, with a commencement date of January 2023, this taking account of the Commission's capacity to undertake no more than three reviews during this period.

Accordingly, it was proposed that the review be undertaken by the Commission on behalf of the Council in line with the Commission's powers under section 26(2)(a) of the Act, and in line with the Commission's Guidance for Principal Councils, July 2022, on the Review of Communities.

There were prescribed rules which were set out in the Act for the conduct of a community review which included consultation with mandatory consultees on all elements of the 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 a full Community Review for the Vale of Glamorgan Council be commenced in January 2023.
- (2) T H A T the process and relevant timescales for the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Community Review, as included in the appended Terms of Reference be noted.
- (3) T H A T the Local Democracy Boundary Commission for Wales and all other mandatory consultees be formally notified of the revised commencement date of the next Vale of Glamorgan Community Review.
- (4) T H A T a copy of the report be referred to the Community Liaison Committee and, in the interim to all Town and Community Councils in the Vale of Glamorgan Council for information.
- (5) T H A T the report be referred to Full Council in December 2022.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To determine a further revised timescale for the commencement date of the community review having regard to the Commission's available capacity, to ensure a timely completion of the review, to take effect in respect of the Local Government Elections in May 2027.
- (2) To ensure that Cabinet were sighted on the process and relevant timescales for the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Community Review.
- (3) To advise parties in line with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.
- (4) To apprise the Committee and Town and Community Councils.
- (5) To apprise Full Council, given that the final recommendations relating to the review would be a matter for Council.

C134 INITIAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET REVISED BUDGET 2022/23 AND PROPOSALS 2023/24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to gain Cabinet's approval for the Housing Revenue Account revised budget for 2022/23 and the initial budget proposals for 2023/24 and to take the proposals forward for consultation with Homes and Safe Communities and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committees.

The report provided an update on the revised Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2022/23, which had increased from a deficit of £11.077m to £16.516m which would be funded from Housing Revenue Account reserves.

The Housing Revenue Account reserve level as at 31st March, 2022 was £17.439m, which was higher than expected due to lower capital expenditure being incurred in 2021/22. This drawdown would bring the Housing Revenue Account reserve balance back into line with the Housing Business Plan for 31st March, 2023.

The report set out initial Housing Revenue Account budget proposals for 2023/24. The initial budget for 2023/24 had moved from an original deficit budget £11.077m to a surplus of £26k.

The 2023/24 budget had assumed a reduction in Capital Expenditure Revenue Account (CERA) of £12.745m, bringing the budget contribution to £5.707m. This would leave an anticipated balance on the Housing Revenue Account reserve of £949k as at March 2024.

Other significant cost increases in 2023/24 were capital financing due to additional borrowing, increase in interest rates and higher repair costs due to an increase in supply costs and schedule of rates.

The Leader said that the Rent Policy notification had now been received from Welsh Government. Modelling had been undertaken using a rental increase of 2.75%, but a further report would be brought forward for Cabinet consideration once the information now received from Welsh Government had been analysed and Recommendation 5 amended to reflect that.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and with the amendment to Recommendation 5

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the revised Housing Revenue Account budget for 2022/23 as set out in paragraph 2.2 be approved.

(2) T H A T the initial Housing Revenue Account budget proposal for 2023/24 as set out in paragraph 2.11 be approved

- (3) T H A T the revised 2022/23 budget and initial proposals for 2023/24 be referred to Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (4) T H A T Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee be requested to refer comments to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee as the lead Scrutiny Committee in order for their views to be forwarded to Cabinet.
- (5) T H A T the increase for rent and other services were subject to a future report to Cabinet following receipt of guidance from Welsh Government

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To facilitate monitoring of the amended Housing Revenue Account Budget.
- (2) To gain approval for the initial 2023/24 budget proposals.
- (3) In order to gain the views of Scrutiny Committee regarding the revised 2022/23 and initial 2023/24 Housing Revenue Account Budget proposals.
- (4) In order that Cabinet be informed of the comments of Scrutiny Committee before making a final proposal on the budget.
- (5) In order to meet the statutory deadline to notify tenants of the new charges as required by Statute.

**C135 CIVICO HYBRID MEETING PLATFORM UPDATE (EL/PR)
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Leader presented the report the purpose of which was to apprise Cabinet of the work that had been carried out to date on the implementation of the Civico Hybrid Meeting platform, detailing the issues that had been encountered, and the subsequent fixes that had been applied to mitigate issues. The report also informed Cabinet of the approach that had been devised for ‘regression testing’ to inform a decision on whether to go live with Civico Hybrid Meeting platform for public meetings from January 2023.

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 update as set out in the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the approach proposed to ‘regression testing’ to inform a decision on whether to go live with Civico Hybrid Meeting platform for public meetings from January 2023 be endorsed.

- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration with regards the approach outlined in this report.
- (4) T H A T the proposal for the report to be sent via email to all Elected Members for their information be approved.
- (5) T H A T a further report be brought to Cabinet in due course to provide a further update on related matters.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that Cabinet was aware of the work that has been carried out to date on the implementation of a Hybrid Meeting platform.
- (2) To ensure that Cabinet considered the approach being taken to regression testing and decision for go live.
- (3) To provide Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to consider the issues and approach described in the report.
- (4) To provide an update to all Elected Members.
- (5) To provide Cabinet with a further update in due course.

C136 LEARNING AND SKILLS INVESTMENT STRATEGY (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report the purpose of which was to obtain approval for the adoption of the Learning and Skills Investment Strategy 2022 – 2027.

The Learning and Investment Strategy document consolidated the relevant legislative and policy considerations at a national and local level which direct how the department made investment decisions.

The Strategy identified a series of priority actions aligned against the Council's Corporate Plan to ensure investment decisions delivered upon the Corporate Objectives.

The Strategy set out the key considerations which informed investment decisions. These were summarised into three main areas which were:

- School organisation and demand for school places.
- Condition, suitability, and sufficiency of school buildings; and tackle decarbonisation of school assets and improving ecological value.
- The scale of education investments represented an opportunity to deliver upon multiple Council and Welsh Government objectives, not least the need to have the

Wellbeing of Future Generations and the Sustainable Development principle at the heart of the Council's approach.

The Strategy document set out how this would be achieved and the relevant considerations which would inform investment decisions.

The Leader referred to the paragraphs 1.3 to 1.5 of the report which detailed the amount of development that had taken place since 2010 and the impact that had delivered in terms of the local economy. It was important to not focus solely on new builds but also ensure that all schools were of the right standard and capacity. She looked forward to the discussion at Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee and thanked the Sustainable Communities for Learning team for the amount of work that had gone into the report.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Learning and Skills Investment Strategy 2022 – 2027 (attached at Appendix A to the report) be endorsed.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure investments made into education meet the Council's Corporate Plan Objectives and deliver upon the 7 Well-being Goals for Wales.

(2) To ensure the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee were made aware of the proposed decision considerations for education investments in the Learning and Skills Investment Strategy.

C137 HOUSING FIRE DOOR SERVICING, MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, INSTALLATIONS AND INSPECTIONS FRAMEWORK 2022-25 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report which sought approval to accept the most advantageous tender and execute the contract for the Housing Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections Framework 2022-25.

The report updated Cabinet on the outcome of the tender process for the delivery of the Housing Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections Framework 2022-25.

Cabinet were asked to agree a contract award for Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections Framework for the period 2022-25, via a Part II report later on the agenda.

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 contents of the report be noted, with a view to taking a decision on the award of the contract detailed within the Part II report later on the agenda.

Reason for decision

To advise of the current position with the particular procurement process.

C138 LONGMEADOW COURT SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEME EXTERNAL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT 2022-23 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report which sought approval for delegated authority to accept the most advantageous tender and execute the contract for the Longmeadow Court Sheltered Housing Scheme External Refurbishment Project 2022-23.

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 contents of the report be noted, with a view to taking decisions on the award of the contract detailed within the Part II report later on the agenda.

Reasons for decisions

To advise of the current position with the particular contract

C139 SEVERN AVENUE EXTERNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REFURBISHMENT SCHEME 2022 – 2023 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report the purpose of which sought delegated authority to accept the most advantageous tender and execute the contract for the Severn Avenue External and Environmental Refurbishment Scheme 2022-23

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 contents of the report be noted, with a view to taking decisions on the award of the contract detailed within the Part II report later on the agenda.

Reasons for decisions

To advise of the current position with the particular contract

C140 DRAFT OLDER PERSONS HOUSING STRATEGY (PSHTE) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report the purpose of which was to consider the draft Older Persons Housing Strategy 2022 - 2036.

The proposed Older Persons Housing Strategy 2022-36 (attached at Appendix 1 to the report) set out the vision in the Vale of Glamorgan Council which was: ‘to secure the best quality of life for older people to live as independently as possible in later life. This meant delivering a range of accommodation that enabled older people to live fulfilling lives and enjoy good health in attractive homes that met their needs and allowed them to retain their independence as they age’.

The Older Persons Housing Strategy 2022-36 supported the Local Housing Strategy for the Vale of Glamorgan and set out how the Council would work in partnership with residents and key stakeholders to meet the housing requirements for older people, develop solutions and maximise opportunities to improve the quality of life for older residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

As a stock retaining Local Authority, the Council could access grant funding through the Welsh Government Social Housing Grant to build affordable housing in its own right or in partnership with other agencies. The Council had its own delivery programme which complimented housing developments provided by partner organisations.

During 2022 the Council hosted a series of workshops with internal staff across different departments. Those events, along with the views of partner organisations, feedback from older people, analysis of local demographics / emerging housing need, and recognised best practise, were used to inform the development of the Strategy.

The draft Strategy set out the long-term vision for Older Persons housing in the Vale of Glamorgan; it provided a statement of local strategic housing-related objectives and target outcomes. The strategy covered a period of fourteen years; however, the vision was viewed within the context of the Corporate Plan. The aims, objectives and intentions were to contribute to the Council’s vision for the future of the Vale of Glamorgan:” Strong communities with a bright future”.

The Strategy did not detail all the activities being undertaken to improve services and the quality of life for Older People in the Vale. It did however provide a high-level vision and a framework, which highlighted the key issues the Strategy sought to address.

There were several housing budgets relevant to the implementation of the Strategy; those include the Housing Support Grant; Rural Housing Enabler Grant; Social Housing Grant; Regeneration funding and Adaptation budgets.

The Council's Housing Department was aware of the resource implications of implementing the Strategy and understood the relevant funding sources necessary to meet the strategic aim.

Many of the resource implications in the strategy would affect partner organisations that provide housing and housing related services. All relevant partners had been involved with the development of the Strategy.

The Leader looked forward to the detailed and comprehensive discussions that would take place at the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the draft Older Persons Housing Strategy 2022 – 2036 be agreed, subject to its consideration by the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee.

(2) T H A T the draft Older Persons Housing Strategy be referred to the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.

(3) T H A T the Strategy and the views of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee be considered by Cabinet prior to the final Strategy being agreed.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To note the proposed strategic direction for the Council in responding to key housing challenges faced by older people in the Vale of Glamorgan, including meeting housing need, enabling older people to continue living in their homes and integrating housing, health and social care needs.

(2) To ensure the appropriate level of scrutiny of this key strategic document.

(3) To allow Cabinet to make a fully informed decision on the final Strategy.

**C141 CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING MID YEAR REPORT (SCH)
(SCRUTINY – ALL) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report which provided a summary on the activity that had been undertaken in relation to Corporate arrangements for Safeguarding and to provide assurance around safeguarding activity taking place across the Council.

There was Corporate responsibility to ensure that there were effective arrangements in place for safeguarding children and adults at risk. The report provided a mid year update on the effectiveness of those arrangements and the developments to date.

A Corporate Safeguarding Group (CSG) ensured that there was scrutiny and assurance of corporate safeguarding arrangements.

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 work that had been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults be noted.
- (2) That Cabinet continues to receive six monthly reports on work carried out to monitor Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and its effectiveness.
- (3) That the report be referred to all Scrutiny Committees for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that Cabinet was aware of recent developments in corporate arrangements for safeguarding.
- (2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of this key area of corporate working.
- (3) To ensure that there was a wide-reaching level of Member oversight regarding this important area and scrutiny of developments relevant to committee portfolios.

**C142 LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL PROGRESS
REPORT 2022 (CEERS) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report the purpose of which sought approval for the 2022 Local Air Quality Management Annual Progress Report (APR) on air quality monitoring conducted in 2021 to enable submission to Welsh Government no later than 31st December, 2022.

Under Section 82 of the Environment Act 1995 every Local Authority has an obligation to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. In pursuance of this, the Council produces an Annual Progress Report on Local Air Quality Management.

The 2022 report satisfied the relevant legal requirements examining results of air quality monitoring undertaken across the Vale of Glamorgan during 2021.

The Annual Progress Report needed to be approved and issued to Welsh Government no later than 31st December, 2022. The report confirmed that air quality within the Vale of Glamorgan continued to meet all the relevant air quality objectives.

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 monitored results gathered in 2021 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the 2022 Annual Progress Report, attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved, for submission to Welsh Government for approval.

Reasons for decisions

(1-2) To fulfil the requirements of the statutory Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) process under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995.

C143 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.

C144 HOUSING FIRE DOOR SERVICING, MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, INSTALLATIONS AND INSPECTIONS FRAMEWORK 2022-25 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The purpose of the report was to accept the most advantageous tender and for delegated authority to execute the contract for the Housing Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections Framework 2022-25

The report brought to the attention of Cabinet the requirement to award a contract for Housing Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections for 2022-25.

The report sought delegated authority for the Director of Environment and Housing Services and the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services to accept the most advantageous tender bid and execute the framework work contract with Advanced Fire Technologies Group (Wales) Ltd.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H AT the award of the Housing Fire Door Servicing, Maintenance, Repairs, Installations and Inspections Framework 2022-25 contract to Advanced Fire Technologies Group (Wales) Ltd be approved.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services to accept the most advantageous tender and to prepare and execute a framework contract with Advanced Fire Technologies Group (Wales) Ltd.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To comply with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, which required contracts with a value in excess of £300k to be agreed by Cabinet.

(2) To enable the contract documentation to be finalised with the successful contractor.

**C145 LONGMEADOW COURT SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEME
EXTERNAL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT 2022-23 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES
AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –**

The report brought to the attention of Cabinet the proposed award of the Longmeadow Court Sheltered Housing Scheme External Refurbishment Project 2022-23.

The report sought delegated authority for the Director of Environment and Housing and the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, to accept the most advantageous tender bid and execute the JCT Intermediate contract with SMK Building & Maintenance Ltd.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H AT the award of the Longmeadow Court Sheltered Housing Scheme External Refurbishment Project 2022-23 contract to SMK Building & Maintenance Ltd be approved.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing and Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services to prepare and execute a JCT Intermediate contract with SMK Building & Maintenance Ltd.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To comply with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, which required contracts with a value in excess of £300k to be agreed by Cabinet.

(2) To enable the contract documentation to be finalised with the successful contractor.

C146 SEVERN AVENUE EXTERNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REFURBISHMENT SCHEME 2022 – 2023 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The report brought to the attention of Cabinet the proposed award of the Severn Avenue External and Environmental Refurbishment Scheme 2022-23.

The report sought delegated authority for the Director of Environment and Housing and the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, to accept the most advantageous tender bid and execute the JCT Intermediate contract with ASW Property Services Ltd.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H AT the award of the Severn Avenue External and Environmental Refurbishment Scheme 2022-23 contract to ASW Property Services Ltd be approved.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing and Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services to prepare and execute a JCT Intermediate contract with ASW Property Services Ltd.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To comply with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, which required contracts with a value in excess of £300k to be agreed by Cabinet.

(2) To enable the contract documentation to be finalised with the successful contractor.