

## CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 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 Dr, I.J. Johnson

### **C163 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.

The Leader commented regarding the news that as part of an extra £227m funding package for Local Authorities across Wales that the Vale of Glamorgan Council would receive a rise in its annual settlement from Welsh Government of 8.9%. It recognised the significant financial pressures Local Authorities in Wales were facing, but also the vital roles that Councils played in supporting their communities. While applauding its commitment to local services, it had to be recognised that Welsh Government had finite resources and unfortunately it would not resolve the whole £38m of pressures in the Council’s budget, which remained in a very challenging position. Some difficult decisions lay ahead, and as ever, the priority would be to protect the essential services relied upon by the most vulnerable residents. The Council would be working over Christmas and New Year to understand what the news meant in terms of financial planning as the Council's budget setting process continued. As proposals became clearer, the Council would launch a public consultation through January and February before any plans are finalised in March. The Leader hoped that as many Vale residents as possible would take part in that consultation so that all views and contributions were heard.

As it was the last Cabinet meeting of 2022, the Leader wished everyone in the Vale of Glamorgan an enjoyable Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Although many would be spending the festive period with family and friends, there were many others across the Vale of Glamorgan it would be business as usual, for example, domiciliary carers and those working within our local care homes would be juggling time off with looking after our most vulnerable residents. The Council's Waste and Recycling Team would still be collecting whatever the weather, and other essential services would be available. Local shops, pubs and restaurants would still be providing services and needed support over the festive period. The role of the farming community was not to be overlooked, as was the essential service provided by the RNLI, Coast Guards, AA and RAC, Police, Fire and Ambulance Services. On behalf of the Cabinet and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the Leader thanked anyone helping to support others over the festive period.

**C164 MINUTES –**

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**C165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

No declarations of interest were received.

**C166 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –**

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

Councillor Williams, who Chaired the Corporate Parenting Panel, said that this had been the first meeting of the Panel since the election and a second meeting had taken place, the minutes of which would be reported to a future Cabinet meeting.

The discussion centred on the work programme for the coming year, the numbers of Children Looked After in the Vale of Glamorgan, wellbeing and mental health, kinship and fostering. The Leader thanked all those who were able to provide stability for young people.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 be noted.

Reason for decisions

In noting the minutes.

**C167 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND - (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to update Cabinet on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, and to delegate specified powers to named Officers in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder relating to the local delivery of the emerging Investment Plan.

As the definitive details of the programme were yet to be received, the report sought to approve the various delegations that would be required in preparation for receipt of the final details.

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 delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place (in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services) to approve the use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Allocation for internal and externally commissioned projects.
- (3) T H A T the Director of Place (in consultation with the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services) be authorised to negotiate terms and conditions for the appointment of third party suppliers/providers for internal and externally commissioned projects.
- (4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services (in consultation with the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer) be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation to enable third party suppliers/providers to be appointed for internal and externally commissioned projects.
- (5) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place (in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services) to approve governance and resources structures to assess and determine applications from third parties to use the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Allocation.
- (6) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party grant applicants.

(7) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer (in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Chief Executive, and Director of Place) to approve additions, deletions or transfers to or from the Capital Programme for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2022/23 - 2024/25 where required.

(8) T H A T the report be referred to the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.

(9) T H A T Cabinet receive a further report in due course setting out the decisions for 2022-23.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To note the current position.

(2) To obtain authority to approve the use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Allocation for internal and externally commissioned projects.

(3) To obtain authority to appoint third party suppliers/providers for internal and externally commissioned projects.

(4) To obtain authority to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation to enable third party suppliers/providers to be appointed for internal and externally commissioned projects.

(5) To obtain authority to approve governance and resources structures to assess and determine applications from third parties to use the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Allocation.

(6) To obtain authority to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party grant applicants.

(7) To obtain authority for the funding to be included within the Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25 and maximise the Council's ability to utilise the sum allocated in the best possible manner.

(8) To ensure the appropriate level of scrutiny.

(9) To ensure that Cabinet are kept informed on the use of Shared Prosperity Fund.

#### **C168 COUNCIL TAX BASE: 2023/24 - (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek approval for the Council Tax Base for 2023/24, agreeing the number of properties at Band D level that Council Tax would be based upon and submitted to Welsh Government by 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

Councillor Wilson said that the detail provided a good indication of the size of communities and the basis for working out the precepts for the Town and Community Councils.

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 pursuant to this report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations, the amount calculated by The Vale of Glamorgan Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2023/24 shall be:-

- For the whole area: 62,334
- For the area of Town and Community Councils:

Town/Community Council	Tax Base £	Town/Community Council	Tax Base £
Barry	20,914	Pendoylan	352
Colwinston	375	Penllyn	1,065
Cowbridge with Llanblethian	2,839	Peterston-Super-Ely	553
Dinas Powys	4,028	Rhose	3,229
Ewenny	450	St. Athan	1,601
Llancarfan	486	St. Brides Major	1,434
Llandough	951	St. Donats	205
Llandow	441	St. Georges & St. Brides-Super-Ely	241
Llanfair	384	St. Nicholas & Bonvilston	742
Llangan	464	Sully & Lavernock	2,706
Llan-maes	261	Welsh St. Donats	325
Llantwit Major	4,305	Wenvoe	1,564
Michaelston	241	Wick	535
Penarth	11,643		

(2) T H A T the use of paragraph 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgent decision procedure) be authorised to allow the final ratified Tax Base to be returned to the Welsh Government by 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) It was essential that the Council Tax Base was set in order that it could be submitted to the Welsh Government and used by Councils and levying bodies to set precepts.

(2) In order to meet the Welsh Government timescale.

**C169 COST OF LIVING SUPPORT FOR FOOD, WARM SPACES AND OTHER MEANS OF SUPPORT - (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES AND HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to present an overview of the work the Council had undertaken to address the cost of living crisis. This included help to improve access to food across the Vale of Glamorgan and outline how this work and funding opportunities connected with providing a Warm Welcome this winter, other work to assist people struggling with the rising cost of living and to raise awareness of the recent Audit Wales 'Time for change – poverty in Wales' report and the Council's proposed response.

The Leader referred to Paragraph 2.6 of the report and that she had been provided with updated figures to the published table, as follows:-

<b>Funding Stream</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Total Received</b>	<b>Total Awarded to Date</b>	<b>Total Number of Organisations Supported</b>	<b>Approx. Total Number of Service Users per Week (approx. at the time of bid received)</b>
Household Support Fund	14/04/2022	£32,747	£32,747	6	598
Direct Food Support Fund 1	06/10/2022	£17,151	£0	N/A	N/A
Direct Food Support Fund 2	16/11/2022	£32,945	£30,420	7	605
Cost of Living Discretionary Fund	09/06/2022	£50,000	£50,000	7	303
Food Partnership Fund	Awaited	£97,000 (indicative)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warm Banks Fund	15/11/2022	£33,196	£14,611.80	9	3,460
<b>Total</b>		<b>£166,039 (£263,039 including indicative)</b>	<b>£127,778.80</b>	<b>19*</b>	<b>4,966</b>

\*Some organisations had been successful in more than 1 bid across the different streams.

With regards to warm spaces, one user of Barry Library had appreciated a warm welcome, was able to read a book, watch the children's activities and offered a hot drink and a hot water bottle, leaving her feeling supported and appreciative of the efforts made by the staff. On behalf of the Cabinet, the Leader thanked the team in Barry Library, as well as all the other library staff, and anyone working to ensure that residents of the Vale of Glamorgan were cared for and supported.

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 report and intended way forward to distribute the remaining 2022/23 funding streams be noted.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources and Homes and Safe Scrutiny Committees for their information and in particular consideration of the Council's response to the Audit Wales Report, with their views referred with the report to Governance and Audit Committee for consideration, with any views of those Committees referred back to Cabinet for approval of the actions in response to Audit Wales's work.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To enable Members to consider the progress being made in the delivery of multiple funding streams and projects to improve access to food.

(2) The report was subject to scrutiny by those Committees and the response to the Audit Wales Report considered by the Governance and Audit Committee prior to approval by Cabinet.

#### **C170 A VISITOR LEVY FOR WALES – VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL - (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Deputy Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to establish the Council's current intentions on introducing the Tourism Tax and provide a response to the current Welsh Government consultation on the proposed introduction of a discretionary Visitor Levy in Wales.

It had been noted that the consultation document focussed on staying visitors rather than where the dominant visitor type was the day visitor. The consultation document allowed for feedback highlighting that issue to be raised.

The Deputy Leader said that the 'Elected Member and Officer Consultation' section of the report advised that the report be referred to the relevant Scrutiny Committee, which would of course be the case at the appropriate time.

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 on the current Welsh Government consultation on the proposed introduction of a discretionary Visitor Levy in Wales be noted.

(2) T H A T the current Welsh Government proposals for the introduction of a Visitor Levy in Wales be considered and agreed that in light of the current economic difficulties facing the industry the current position would be to not introduce a levy in the Vale of Glamorgan and that this be used to inform the response to the Welsh Government Consultation.

(3) T H A T the Council would periodically keep under review options for a Visitor Levy, should the legislation be enacted and having regard to the economic conditions at the time of that review.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To inform Cabinet of the current consultation.

(2) To establish the Vale of Glamorgan's current position on the introduction of the Visitor Levy, and to provide a response to the current consultation.

(3) To allow further consideration of a Visitor Levy in the Vale of Glamorgan in the future should economic or other conditions change.

**C171 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2024/25 - (EAWL)  
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval to consult on the Local Authority's school admission arrangements as required by the Welsh Government's School Admission Code issued in July 2013.

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 consultation required and as set out in the body of the report, to agree Local Authority admission arrangements (Appendix A to the report) for all community schools in the Vale of Glamorgan be approved.

Reason for decision

Para 2.3 (page 6) of the School Admissions Code (Wales) July 2013 stated that "Admission Arrangements must be consulted on for each maintained school between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 1<sup>st</sup> March and be set by 15<sup>th</sup> April of the school years beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply".

**C172 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021 – 2036: INTEGRATED SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT - REPORT OF CONSULTATION - (CEERS) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the outcome of the consultation on the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) Scoping Report and advise on the next stages of the ISA 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 content of the report on the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report public consultation be noted.

(2) T H A T the proposed amendments to the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report as set out in Appendix A to the report be endorsed and that the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Framework be updated accordingly.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Sustainable Development in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Equalities and Regulatory Services and Director of Place to make typographical or other minor changes to the Scoping Report/ISA Framework as necessary.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To reflect the feedback from the public consultation and enable officers to finalise the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report/ISA Framework.

(2) To reflect the feedback from the public consultation and enable officers to finalise the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and to ensure that the RLDP fulfils the requirements and duties for Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

(3) To enable typographical or other minor amendments as necessary without the need to seek Cabinet approval.