

CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 25th May, 2023.

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 and M.R. Wilson.

Also Present: Councillors C.P. Franks, Dr. I.J. Johnson and N.C. Thomas.

C1 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.

C2 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May, 2023 be approved as a correct record.

C3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C4 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 13th March, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

Councillor Williams, who Chaired the Corporate Parenting Panel, said it was important to note that there were currently 324 children looked after by the Authority

with a variety of needs and complexities. The Authority continued to provide support to families and there was ongoing discussion concerning the needs and support requirements for children as unaccompanied asylum seekers. The Vale of Glamorgan Council had linked with Cardiff Council which had a higher number of such cases and could advise on best practice based on their knowledge and experience to date.

The Panel had also considered the 'Draft Transgender Inclusion Toolkit and Guidance Document for Schools and Other Settings' as a reference from Cabinet from 23rd January, 2023 and had been pleased with the information provided which provided a better understanding of the concerns and life experience of those concerned.

Councillor Birch advised that she had been pleased at the comments from the Panel and said that it was important to have a toolkit in place for people to refer to as some situations were fraught with complications and every case was different.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 13th March, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C5 CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION REGIONAL CABINET PANEL –

The minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet meeting held on 27th March, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

The Leader, who had attended the meeting, said Professor Piers Thompson (Nottingham Trent University) and Professor Robert Huggins (Cardiff University) would be undertaking baseline work in support of the Gateway Review Process and Local Evaluation Framework process.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet meeting held on 27th March, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C6 AUDIT WALES: SPRINGING FORWARD – VALE OF GLAMORGAN ASSET MANAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE PLANNING (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 25th April, 2023 was presented.

The Leader in presenting the reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15th March, 2023 advised there had been a good discussion on the report at both meetings.

The report had focused on the effectiveness of the Council's arrangements in strategically managing its assets and workforce and that overall the review findings were positive and that she would recommend endorsement of the proposed Council actions.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the findings arising from the review of the Council's asset management attached at Appendix A to the report and workforce planning arrangements (Appendix B to the report) and the response to the review findings and Audit Wales's recommendations (Appendix C to the report) be noted.

(2) T H A T the proposed Council actions to address the recommendations as at Appendix C to the report be endorsed.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C7 Q3 PROGRESS AGAINST EXTERNAL REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 25th April, 2023 was presented.

The Leader in presenting the reference said that the progress against the recommendations that external regulatory bodies had made to the Council and the actions had been incorporated within the Council's Strategic Insight Board (SIB) Insight Tracker. The Council's progress to date in addressing existing recommendations and improvement proposals made by the Council's external regulators had been noted by Governance and Audit Committee which had also endorsed the removal of completed actions from the (SIB) Insight Tracker.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the views raised by the Governance and Audit Committee on 25th April, 2023 be noted.

(2) T H A T the removal of completed actions from the Strategic Insight Board (SIB) Insight Tracker be endorsed.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C8 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES / JOINT COMMITTEES (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to appoint / nominate representatives to the Outside Bodies / Joint Committees detailed in the report. Members were recommended to be appointed to a number of different outside bodies and joint committees which was usually considered at the beginning of an Administration but needed to be amended from time to 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 amended record of Members as attached as Appendix A to the report be appointed or nominated to serve on the Bodies listed until the local government elections in 2027.

(2) T H A T where legally possible, attendance at meetings of organisations to which a Member had been nominated or appointed by the Council be classed as an approved duty for which travelling and subsistence allowances were payable, in accordance with the Council's scheme.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) To ensure continuity of representation by the Council on Outside Bodies.

C9 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE CALENDAR 2023/24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report which outlined the key plans/reports that would be subject to consideration by Members throughout the year. The report outlined how elected Members would be involved in shaping the approach, key plans and reports aligned to the performance management framework annual calendar to enable the Council to meet the performance requirements (Part 6 section 89-93) of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (LG&E) and contribute to the national goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WCFG).

The report also outlined the key findings and learning from the previous year's Annual Self-Assessment review approach and made proposals to further enhance the process in readiness for the 2022/23 self-assessment. Appendix A to the report

outlined a rolling programme of collaborative work with Members throughout the 2023/24 Annual Performance Calendar to develop their skills and knowledge and strengthen their involvement in shaping and refining the key plans, reports and processes that would support them in their key role of assessing whether the Council was achieving its Well-being Objectives, delivering value for money and improving the well-being of its citizens.

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 Vale of Glamorgan Annual Performance Calendar 2023/24 and the proposed approach to engaging with Members in-year to shape and refine the Annual Performance Calendar of activities and to support Members in their scrutiny role be approved.

(2) T H A T the review findings from last year's Annual Self-Assessment approach and approve the proposed changes to the 2022/23 self-assessment, including the indicative timetable be noted.

(3) T H A T the proposed timing of the panel performance assessment be approved.

(4) T H A T the report be referred to all Scrutiny Committees and the Governance and Audit Committee for their consideration, with any views being referred back to Cabinet.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure all Scrutiny Committees and the Governance and Audit Committee (section 114 of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021) have oversight of the Annual Performance Calendar and their views inform the Council's approach to meeting the performance requirements.

(2) To ensure the Council's approach to the 2022/23 Self-Assessment increased the extent to which it was meeting the performance requirements of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

(3) To allow adequate preparatory time to commission and respond to the panel performance assessment within the statutory timescale.

(4) To ensure the Council fully discharges its duties under both the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 to publish annual Well-being Objectives, keep performance under review and consult and report on our performance through an annual self-assessment relating to the previous financial year.

C10 PENARTH ESPLANADE CONSULTATION REPORT (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Deputy Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to inform Cabinet of the outcomes of the three phases of public consultation on the future development of Penarth Esplanade and to recommend next stages of activity. She said that a huge amount of work had already been undertaken together with care taken in thinking about making informed and sustainable decisions for the Esplanade.

With regard to Public Facilities, there had been a lot of appreciation expressed for the appearance of the Esplanade but there was a recurring issue concerning the need for maintenance and improved lighting at the Italian Garden. Further consultation was also needed concerning the appearance, design and quality of the existing licensed seating areas along the Esplanade.

Discussion would also be undertaken regarding sufficient car parking, transport and a desire for shuttle transport from the town centre and/or the Clifftop Car Park, as well as more signage on arrival at Penarth Train Station and generally within the Town Centre offering information about walking routes and distances to the Esplanade.

There had been favourable feedback in relation to the Summer Festival events run by Penarth Town Council which would need to be considered as part of Penarth Town's Placemaking Plan.

Across the Focus Groups and the public drop-in sessions the importance of the Kymin Grounds was repeatedly referenced as both an important resource and as an important natural environment. Further work was required as to how the Kymin site could be linked to the Esplanade.

The Deputy Leader said that the Plymouth and St Augustines Ward Members had been consulted on the report and three responses had been received. There were some different views expressed which would be considered as part of the next stages of consultation and those responses would be added as supplemental papers to that meeting agenda.

The Leader commented that this was a good piece of work and that the Vale of Glamorgan was made up of diverse and special places. She had said last year that the Council would listen to the residents of the Vale and discuss any future ideas going forward, however some of the views received were contradictory to each other and would need to be worked through, although the Creative Communities and Communications Teams had already listened to, and collated views received to date. The Leader passed on her thanks to those Teams for the work they had completed to date.

Councillor Sivagnanam said it had been a positive consultation with good community engagement about the Esplanade which was an iconic area of the Vale of Glamorgan and which the Council held in high regard along with the Kymin. The

Placemaking Plan was also an exciting consideration which was an important piece of work which would tie into the consultation.

Councillor Wilson said there were a number of objectives yet to fulfil, including taking pride in the Esplanade and further encouraging Penarth as a town centre destination for local residents and visitors to the area.

Councillor Williams also stated that it was a good piece of work and that the Esplanade drew visitors from across the Vale of Glamorgan and beyond.

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 feedback received during the three phases of public consultation be noted.
- (2) T H A T a programme of priority activity, as set out in section 2 of the report, relating to the feedback received during the three phases of consultation be endorsed, and the production of a longer-term strategic study be approved, including the production of a Place based strategy for the Esplanade, intended as the preliminary part of developing a “Place-Making” Plan for the whole town of Penarth.
- (3) T H A T the parking bays currently set aside for trading continue to be used for the same on a month-by-month basis whilst options and potential funding for an appropriate engineering solution for the longer term are considered.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Director of Place, Chief Executive, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places to consider requests for any additional temporary licenses for street trading at the Esplanade, pending progress on an appropriate longer term engineering solution for the Esplanade.
- (5) That in pursuance of Resolutions (3) and (4), delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Director of Place, Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places to produce a series of design principles that will guide the continued temporary use of the Esplanade for street trading, pending the implementation of a longer-term solution.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To inform Cabinet on the outcomes of the three phases of public consultation.
- (2) To ensure that the concerns and needs of residents and visitors, and of businesses operating on the Esplanade are reflected and acted upon and that strategic continued improvement of the area is informed by the community mapping that supports Place-Making activity, and that any developments reflect the six

Principles that underpin the Place-Making Charter Wales (2020): People and Community; Location; Movement; Mix of Uses; Public Realm and Identity.

(3) To confirm that the outcomes of the public consultation support the continuation of licences for trading currently offered within the parking bays set aside for trading (subject to satisfactory quality and design) and that any business on the Esplanade that so wishes may apply for a highway trading licence (subject to quality and design).

(4) To allow full consideration to be given to any additional requests for temporary street trading at the Esplanade.

(5) To ensure that the continued and any additional temporary use of the street for trading purposes meets design requirements that reflect the important setting of the Esplanade.

C11 BECOMING A PLACEMAKING WALES CHARTER SIGNATORY AND DEVELOPING PLACEMAKING PLANS (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The purpose of the report was to seek delegated authority for the Council to sign up to the Placemaking Wales Charter and to grant delegated authority for the Council to apply for Welsh Government funding to develop Placemaking Plans for each of the four towns in the Vale.

The Deputy Leader in presenting advised that were four different towns within the Vale of Glamorgan all with their own unique identities, and it was important to recognise those individual identities. The Placemaking Wales Charter signatories agreed to promote six principles in the planning, design and management of new and existing places. Movement referred to walking, cycling and public transport being prioritised to provide a choice of transport modes and avoid dependence on private vehicles, but that would include all modes of active travel. Identity was an important principle as each of the areas in question were different and their different identities had important characteristics.

The Leader said it was important that those communities, each with their own distinct characteristics, had the various components required to go forward and be successful.

Councillor Williams said that the report outlined what Placemaking was, who was involved in terms of communities and stakeholders, and that there was a presentation regarding Placemaking to the Town Council that evening.

Councillor John said that he was enthusiastic about what Llantwit Major could achieve going forward.

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 proposal that Vale of Glamorgan Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter be referred for consideration by Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. Should Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee agree and have no further comments, the matter would be considered as agreed.

(2) T H A T subject to Resolution (1), the Vale of Glamorgan Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter.

(3) T H A T subject to Resolution (1), the Vale of Glamorgan Council would apply for Welsh Government funding to prepare Placemaking Plans for each town in the Vale.

(4) T H A T subject to Resolution (1), 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 enter into funding / legal agreements with Welsh Government or any third parties to support the development of Placemaking Plans.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To allow the proposal to be referred to Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration and approval

(2) In signing the Placemaking Wales Charter the Vale of Glamorgan Council would agree to support placemaking in all relevant areas of the Council's work and promote the six placemaking principles in the planning, design and management of new and existing places.

(3) To enable the submission of funding applications and the development of Placemaking Plans.

(4) To accept grant funding towards the development of placemaking plans and enter into any necessary legal agreements.

C12 UPDATE ON THE CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY FOR WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION BY EXPANDING YSGOL IOLO MORGANWG FROM 210 PLACES TO 420 PLACES FROM SEPTEMBER 2025 (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken on the proposal to increase the capacity for Welsh Medium Education by expanding Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 210 places to 420 places from September 2025.

Of the 91 responses received, 5 indicated they were not in support of the proposals, citing a variety of reasons such as prioritising English medium language over Welsh Medium language but which ran contrary to Welsh Government requirements to increase the number of Welsh speakers within Wales. There were also concerns about the size of the school and loss of community, but that was to be managed by the staff, the children and the leadership to ensure that a community was retained within the school, whatever its size.

There had also been concern on the impact to Mudiad Meithrin, but work had been undertaken to ensure that Welsh medium nurseries outside of the Vale of Glamorgan's provision were going to be able to work with the school.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the report, the consultation document (Appendix A), the Consultation Response report (Appendix B) and other appendices included as part of the report, including the Community and Equality Impact Assessments at Appendices C and D respectively to increase the capacity for Welsh medium education in the Western Vale by expanding Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 210 places to 420 places from September 2025 be noted.

(2) T H A T the proposal to increase the capacity for Welsh medium education by expanding Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 210 places to 420 places from September 2025 through the publication of the proposals in the form of a statutory notice be approved.

(3) T H A T the major investment towards a new school building set out in the proposal was subject to the necessary funding being approved by Welsh Government be noted.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that all relevant information was considered in reaching a decision on whether to publish a statutory notice on the proposals.

(2) To ensure that there was sufficient capacity for Welsh medium primary education in the Western Vale and to reflect the Council's commitments in its 10 year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy.

(3) To ensure Cabinet was aware that the full investment in the school building described in the consultation documents was dependent on Welsh Government funding.

C13 FORMATION OF A HOUSING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME WITH CARDIFF COUNCIL (PSHTE) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to inform Cabinet of a proposal to establish a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council and to jointly procure a Development Partner to deliver the Council's Housing Development Programme.

Strategic housing planning had been discussed in past Scrutiny Committees about the pressures that were faced to ensure that people in the Vale of Glamorgan had stable homes for the future whilst considering the fragility of the market, therefore it was felt that the best way to move forward was to go into a delivery partnership with Cardiff Council.

The Council's forward development programme identified both confirmed and potential sites that could deliver around 486 new homes, but the Leader hoped that more could be achieved, and that infrastructure was built alongside developments. Working in partnership with Cardiff and delivering the Council's own developments would ensure that there would be more opportunities to develop training and employment opportunities for related communities going forward.

There had been some concern that the single Design Guide and Development Specification would ensure homes were built to the same standards across the entire programme but lead to identical homes being built across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, but the Leader had been told that was not the case. There would be some generic aspects such as having power points at the bottom of the stairs so if needed a stairlift could be installed and there would be downstairs wet rooms to make them accessible to everyone. However, having regard to the previous Placemaking report on the agenda, it was important that the style of housing was reflective of the local area and subject to appropriate planning decisions accordingly.

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 proposal to establish a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council and to jointly appoint a Development Partner to deliver the Council's ambitious housing development programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the requirement to take formal decisions on the progression of the above proposal, as part of the wider considerations detailed in the Part II report later in the agenda be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To advise Cabinet of the intention to establish a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council.
- (2) To ensure decisions were made to progress the proposed establishment of a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council.

C14 MATTER WHICH THE CHAIR HAD DECIDED WAS URGENT –

RESOLVED – T H A T the following matter which the Chair had decided was urgent for the reason given beneath the minute heading be considered.

C15 VALE OF GLAMORGAN RAPID REHOUSING PLAN (REF) – (Matter which the Chair had decided was urgent in order to consider the reference from Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 17th May, 2023 in order to complete the response to Welsh Government.)

(This item was considered prior to Agenda Item 8)

The reference from Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 17th May, 2023 was presented by the Leader, advising that there had been an insightful discussion at the Scrutiny meeting with the Committee having an informative discussion regarding the homelessness crisis and associated actions, new social housing developments, and encouraging private landlords to increase their portfolios and the ‘hidden homeless’.

There had also been discussion concerning hotel and bed and breakfast provision which remained a key challenge, but the Council worked closely with providers through consultation with residents to mitigate that use as much as possible. The Older Person’s Strategy was also discussed with regards having certain properties designated as specifically suited to older people. Members had also discussed the concept of the temporary accommodation and what was happening with the Eagleswell Road development.

Having considered the reference and the Leader’s comments, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the views and comments raised by the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 17th May, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C16 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

C17 FORMATION OF A HOUSING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME WITH CARDIFF COUNCIL (PSHTE) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to inform Cabinet of a proposal to establish a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council and to jointly procure a Development Partner to deliver the Council's Housing Development Programme.

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 formation of a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council be approved, including the appointment of a Lead Residential Development Professional to assist in the formation of the Housing Partnership Programme and the commencement of a procurement exercise to appoint a Development Partner.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into a Housing Partnership Agreement with Cardiff Council.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources (as a Public Sector Housing and Tenant Engagement Portfolio matter) and the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer to manage all matters relating to the procurement process including agreeing the procurement route, agreeing the parameters and delivery model of a housing partnership programme, agreeing the procurement documents, agreeing the evaluation criteria and the evaluation of the bids.
- (4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to prepare and execute the appropriate contracts with the successful Bidder.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To establish a Housing Partnership Programme with Cardiff Council and begin the process of procuring a Development Partner, to deliver the Council's ambitious Housing Development Programme.

- (2) To allow the Council to enter a formal partnership agreement with Cardiff Council.
- (3) To address all matters relating to the procurement of a Development Partner to deliver the Council's Housing Development Programme.
- (4) To allow the Council to enter a contractual relationship with the successful Bidder.