

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

REFERENCE FROM LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
13TH JULY, 2023

“209 ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 4
PERFORMANCE 2022/23 (DLS) -

The report was presented by the Head of Standards and Provision.

The purpose of the report was to present Quarter 4 (Q4) performance results for the period 1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2023 in delivering the 2022/23 Annual Delivery Plan commitments as aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives.

The performance report presented progress at Q4 (1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2023) towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan (2022/23) commitments as aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives.

The appended presentation to the report was intended to provide Members with an overview of end of year performance earlier in the calendar year. This was ahead of the more detailed Self-Assessment 2022/23. This would be reported to Cabinet and Full Council prior to publication in November 2023.

All 4 Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives were attributed a Green performance status at Q4 to reflect the good progress made to date in meeting the Annual Delivery Plan commitments for 2022/23.

90% (343 out of 380) of planned activities outlined in the Annual Delivery Plan had been attributed a Green performance rating reflecting the positive progress made during the quarter, and 10% (37) of planned activities were attributed a Red status.

Of the 128 performance measures aligned to the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives, data was reported for 56 measures where a performance status was applicable. 70% (39) measures were attributed a Green performance Status, 7% (4), Amber status and 23% (13), Red status. A performance status was not applicable for 72 measures with 50 of these relating to measures establishing baseline performance for 2022/23, and for 22 measures no update no data was available.

In relation to the planned activities within the remit of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee, 92% (66 out of 72) were attributed a Green performance status and the final 8% (7) were attributed a Red status. Of the 8 measures reported, 63% (5) were attributed a Green performance status and 37% (3) were attributed Red

status.

For ease of reference, performance exceptions aligned to the Scrutiny Committee's remit highlighted the current status of Red performing actions identified in previous quarters to show direction of travel at end of year. This would enable Members to quickly gauge whether proposed remedial actions had been undertaken in year to progress these actions. This approach of reporting exceptions reflected the changes requested by Elected Members on performance monitoring of the Annual Delivery Plan.

The report sought Elected Members' consideration of Q4 performance results and the proposed remedial actions to address areas of identified underperformance. Upon consideration, the Scrutiny Committee was recommended to refer their views and any recommendations to Cabinet for their consideration.

Following the presentation of the report, in response to queries from the Vice-Chair the Head of Standards and Provision advised the following:

- Derw Newydd was a provision which had replaced the previous Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) with a shift away from negative perceptions of poor pupil behaviour and towards pupils' needs and wellbeing, and a therapeutic approach to supporting pupils.
- School attendance was an important issue for Committee to focus on and a report on the matter would be presented to Committee in September/October 2023.
- A large amount of work around improving school attendance was being carried out by schools, with support from the Council's Inclusion Team.
- Reasons for poor attendance at Pencoedtre High School, as the Vale of Glamorgan school facing the greatest challenges, were being considered, including those around the quality of lessons taught.
- A level of post-Covid related fear of being out in the community among residents as well as a rise in families taking term time holidays, had also had an impact on school attendance.
- Unlike other Local Authorities such as Cardiff, the Council provided school transport for children in specialist provisions who lived within three miles of the school, many of whom would not attend school without the transport service.

In response to a comment from Councillor Lynch-Wilson, the Head of Standards and Provision advised that attendance was generally lower in secondary schools than in primary schools, and that secondary-aged pupils requiring less transport to school by their parents could contribute to this. Councillor Hodges subsequently highlighted the makerspaces within libraries, and queried whether the makerspace at Barry Library was now operational.

With no further comments or queries, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the Quarter 4 performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2022/23 commitments as aligned to the Corporate Plan Wellbeing Objectives within the remit of the Committee be noted.

(2) T H A T the remedial actions to be taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified within the remit of the Committee be noted, and the following comments be referred to Cabinet for their consideration:

- As school attendance is such an important issue, further detail regarding the reasons why poor attendance has been documented, particularly in relation to secondary schools, could be considered ahead of a report on school attendance being presented to Committee in September/October 2023.
- That further clarity be provided in relation to Service Plan Action SL/A018, with particular reference to Barry Library and whether completion refers to completed planning or implementation of the makerspace.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the content of the report and discussions at the meeting and to ensure Committee's views are considered by Cabinet. ”