

CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 7th September, 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 I.R. Buckley, E. Goodjohn, I.J. Johnson, B. Loveluck-Edwards, I.A.N. Perry and N.T. Thomas.

C74 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.

C75 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July, 2023 be approved as correct record.

C76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C77 ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE 2022/23 (REF)

The reference from Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 13th July, 2023 was presented.

The Leader moved that the reference be considered alongside the report listed on the Agenda under Item 12, which was agreed.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference be considered alongside the report listed on the Agenda under Item 12.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting alongside the associated Cabinet report later on the Agenda.

C78 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 4 UPDATE (REF)

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee on 17th July, 2023 was presented.

The Leader noted the complex discussions that had taken place at the Committee meeting.

Governance and Audit Committee had resolved for consideration to be given to the removal of Brexit from the Risk Register given that most impacts were incorporated under other themes and Risks. The Leader referred to the discussion that had taken place at the meeting on that issue where Brexit was discussed as an ongoing issue that had impacts on several areas, including inflation and supply of goods. As such, Cabinet was mindful that Brexit was still an issue and therefore would not be removed at this time but would continue to be monitored.

Cabinet agreed that there was a challenge faced by the Authority regarding Project Zero and its aspirations but did not feel that being attributed a risk impact status of 'catastrophic' was warranted and should remain as listed.

The Leader said with regards the third recommendation concerning the impact on the capacity of Looked After Children residential care placements and new legislation from Welsh Government that it was an area of ongoing priority and consideration and regularly discussed with other Council partners whilst sharing good practice across the region and Wales.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the reference to Brexit would not be removed from the Risk Register at this time but would continue to be monitored.

(2) T H A T a risk impact status of 'catastrophic' with regards Project Zero was not warranted and should remain as listed.

(3) T H A T the impact on the capacity of Looked After Children residential care placements and new legislation from Welsh Government, particularly in relation to private sector providers and market fragility was already being given further consideration.

Reasons for decisions

(1-3) Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C79 REVISED MULTI-LOCATION MEETINGS POLICY (REF)

The reference from Democratic Services Committee on 17th July, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that whilst discussing the Council meetings to be conducted and broadcast on a hybrid basis, Democratic Services Committee had referred to Cabinet that all Scrutiny Committees be included within the revised draft Multi-Location Meetings (MLM) Policy to be undertaken on a hybrid basis and broadcast live, save for when Part II matters were to be discussed.

There was an increased level of complexity and resources required for the administration of hybrid meetings as physical attendance needed to be planned, as well as setting up remote equipment, increased staff to support meetings and could also include the possibility of simultaneous Welsh translation. Resource implications were discussed at the meeting as there would need to be increased input from Democratic Services, ICT and Facilities to service hybrid meetings as well as the need to broadcast them live.

Previous issues with the use of technology had mainly been addressed, with most current matters realigned to user error and as such there would be further training for Members over the coming months.

Having listened to the points made at the Democratic Services Committee meeting and following further Cabinet consideration it was proposed that the MLM Policy be adopted but that there be a trial period of 6 months regarding the preferred option of the live broadcast of hybrid meetings. That would allow further training of Members, ascertain the level of resources required to service hybrid meetings and assess the viewing figures prior to any discussion about an appropriate budget as part of financial discussions for next year's budget as a potential priority spend.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the resolutions of Democratic Services Committee be agreed, subject to there being a trial period of 6 months regarding the preferred option of the live broadcast of hybrid meetings.

(2) T H A T the Council's public speaking guides be amended in line with the revised Multi-Location Meetings Policy.

Reasons for decisions

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

C80 FROM CHARTER TO SELF-ASSESSMENT, THE EVOLUTION OF THE WALES CHARTER FOR MEMBER SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT (REF)

The reference from Democratic Services Committee on 17th July, 2023 was presented.

At the Democratic Services Committee meeting the majority of Members felt that the framework should be endorsed, with two Members wishing to note the proposals.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the WLGA proposal to replace the existing Welsh Charter for Member Support and Development with a Councillor Support Self-Assessment Framework and the associated draft Principles as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.

Reason for decision

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

C81 PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) FOR EXCEPTIONS TO WALES 20MPH DEFAULT SPEED LIMIT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ANCILLARY SPEED LIMITS (REF)

The reference from Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 18th July, 2023 was presented.

The Leader moved that the reference be considered alongside the report listed on the Agenda under Item 23, which was agreed.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference be considered alongside the report listed on the Agenda under Item 23.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting alongside the associated Cabinet report later on the Agenda.

C82 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES - THE ROLE OF THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE (REF)

The reference from Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee on 25th July, 2023 was presented.

Councillor Birch, who Chaired the Committee, advised that items under discussion included:-

- a number of Audit Wales reports which had relevance to the Committee, and the approach being taken to progress an integrated response to those reports.
- better engagement with stakeholders.
- the need to review the voluntary sector compact between the Council and Glamorgan Voluntary services, with such work already underway.
- the potential for the work of the Committee to be aligned more closely to the Council's Annual Delivery Plan 2023 to 2024 and the critical challenges of Project Zero, the cost of living crisis and organisational resilience.
- that the Council had strong relationships with a range of Third Sector and Community organisations which had strengthened over recent years, not least because of COVID. Work was underway to reflect on the learning from the pandemic and cost of living crisis and to articulate a vision for how the Council could work to support communities in partnership with other organisations, including the Third Sector and Town and Community Councils in new ways.

Councillor Williams who Chaired the Regional Partnership Board said that working in partnership with the Third and Voluntary Sector was a key matter, as well as working in partnership with Cardiff for shared high priorities such as health and social care.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the observations and suggestions of the Committee during the meeting would be taken forward by the Director of Corporate Resources and considered further when future discussions were being held.

Reason for decision

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

C83 CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION REGIONAL CABINET –

The minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet held on 5th June, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

The Leader advised that all considered reports were available to be viewed on the Cardiff Capital Region website.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet held on 5th June, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decisions

In noting the minutes.

C84 SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE –

The minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee held on 21st June, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

Councillor Sivagnanam advised that the meeting was the Annual Meeting of the Committee and involved:-

- election of the new Chair
- Statement of Accounts
- SRS Annual Report, Business Plan and Health and Safety Enforcement Service Plan 2023/24

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee held on 21st June, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decisions

In noting the minutes.

C85 ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE 2022/23 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to present quarter 4 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 Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives.

The report had been considered by all five Scrutiny Committees who had reviewed the report and noted it. There had been some discussion at Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee concerning school attendance figures and a potential report on such being presented to Committee in September or October. The Leader advised that a great deal of work had been ongoing regarding school attendance and the latest data was very positive and supported by the 'Miss School, Miss Out' campaign that had been seen on banners outside schools and as adverts at bus stops.

Scrutiny Committee had also raised a query regarding a Service Plan action relating to Barry Library and the planning or implementation of the Makerspace. The Leader was pleased to advise that the Makerspace was now operational, currently taking specific bookings and hoping to run courses shortly as was the case in Penarth.

Councillor John referred to Objective 3 of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee regarding supporting people at home and in their community, specifically that 100% of domestic abuse victims reported feeling safer as a result of

security improvements to victim's homes delivered by the Safer Vale Partnership. He praised the work done by Officers to achieve that on behalf of those residents.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein, along with the comments made by Learning and Culture Scrutiny

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Q4 performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2022/23 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Wellbeing Objectives be endorsed.

(2) T H A T the views and recommendations of Scrutiny Committees in relation to Q4 performance be approved and identified remedial actions as the basis to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified be noted.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure the Council clearly demonstrated the progress being made towards achieving its commitments in the Annual Delivery Plan 2022/23 aimed at making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

(2) To ensure the Council was effectively assessing its performance in line with the requirement to meet performance requirements as outlined in the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and reflecting the requirement of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that it maximised its contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.

C86 DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2022/2023 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet endorsement of the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment Report 2022/23 for consultation.

The Leader noted two clerical errors in the report. The first was the 'Date of Meeting' said Wednesday, 7th September, 2022 and should have read Thursday, 7th September, 2023. The second was in Bullet Point 9 of the Executive Summary which referred to 'the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2021/22 appended at Appendix A as the basis for consultation', which should have referred to 2022/23.

The report would be referred to all five Scrutiny Committees as well as Governance and Audit Committee for consideration before returning to Cabinet for consideration prior to Cabinet referral for endorsement by Full Council.

Councillor John referred to work within his Portfolio including the Golden Pass Project, further development of walking football/netball/ basketball, the opening of the Knap Skate Park at the end of September and a range of activities for young people that were put on over the summer holidays, as well as the winter wellbeing programme that helped both young and old with their wellbeing. The Leader added the recent opening of Belle Vue Pavilion had been hugely successful.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and noting the required amendments to the two clerical errors in the report

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2022/23 be endorsed as the basis for consultation as described in the report and Resolution (2).

(2) T H A T the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2022/23 be referred to the Governance and Audit Committee and all Scrutiny Committees for their consideration as part of a programme of consultation, with any views and recommendations for changes to the judgements or proposed actions (areas for future focus) being referred back to Cabinet for their consideration prior to the final Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report being considered by Governance and Audit Committee, Cabinet and thereafter presented for endorsement by Full Council.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that consultation was undertaken on the findings of the Council's Annual Self-Assessment in line with requirements of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

(2) To ensure all Scrutiny Committees and the Governance and Audit Committee (as per section 114 of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021) had oversight of the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2022/23 and their views informed the Council's approach to meeting the new performance requirements.

C87 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 30TH JUNE, 2023 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the progress on the 2023/24 Capital Programme for the period 1st April, 2023 to 30th June, 2023 and to request changes to the Capital Programme.

Service Areas would be asked to provide information within the Quarter 2 Monitoring Report to identify any overspends and slippages anticipated later in the year.

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 progress made on delivering the 2023/24 Capital Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority as set out in the report be noted.
- (3) T H A T the use of Emergency Powers as detailed in Appendix 1 be noted.
- (4) T H A T the following changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme be approved:
 - St Athan Primary Roof Renewal Phase 2 – Merge the schemes listed in paragraph 2.8 in relation to St Athan Roof Renewal on the 2023/24 Capital Programme to create one scheme for St Athan Primary Roof Renewal and Associated Works with a budget of £600k.
 - Additional Learning Needs Grant – Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant Primary – Equipment – Increase the 2023/24 Capital Programme by £14k to be funded from the school's revenue budget.
 - Victorian Schools – Merge this scheme's budget with the Victorian Schools – General Maintenance scheme giving a total budget of £144k.
 - High Street Primary – Flat Roof Replacement – Merge this scheme's budget with the High Street Primary – Roof Renewal scheme giving a total budget of £85k in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
 - Early Years Childcare Capital Grant – Increase this scheme in the 2023/24 Capital Programme by £39k to be funded from Welsh Government grant.
 - Cartref Porthceri External Repairs Phase 2 & Salisbury Road No. 91 (YOS) External Repairs Phase 2 – Merge these schemes with the Cartref Porthceri Residential Home – Drainage Repairs and Underpinning of Building scheme in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
 - Asset Renewal – Highway Surfacing – Vire £200k to a new scheme on the 2023/24 Capital Programme for Footway Reconstruction works and vire the remaining £50k to the existing Neighbourhood Services Highway Improvements scheme.
 - Allotment Grant - Include a new scheme with a budget of £29k each year in the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Capital Programme, to be funded from Welsh Government grant.
 - Target Hardening Grant – Include this scheme with a budget of £44k in the 2023/24 Capital Programme, to be funded from Welsh Government grant.
 - Stronger Community Grant Fund – Increase the 2023/24 Capital Programme by £106k, to be funded through the Stronger Community Grant revenue budget.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To advise Cabinet of the progress on the Capital Programme.
- (2) To advise Cabinet of the use of Delegated Authority.
- (3) To advise Cabinet of the use of Emergency Powers.
- (4) To allow schemes to proceed in the current and future financial years.

C88 QUARTER 1 REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the Quarter 1 Revenue Monitoring position for 2023/24.

The Leader noted there was significant pressure within Social Care for both adults and children, with an adverse variance of £1m after the unplanned use of reserves of £3.2m. It was a major challenge, but part of the Authority's commitment to support the most vulnerable in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Due to greater than anticipated interest rates it had been possible to internally borrow and not have to pay external interest costs.

85% of efficiency targets had been met, with mitigations identified for a further 7%.

The Council's reserves were set to reduce to £54m from £110m at the start of the year as planned use, with £35m supporting new capital expenditure. However, there was a level of concern over the significant run down of school balances and the unplanned use of the Social Services reserve.

Officers were closely monitoring spend and exploring all opportunities to mitigate the pressures that the Council was facing, with the report proposed to go to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for review.

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 position with regard to the Authority's 2023/24 Revenue Budget be noted and the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for review.
- (2) T H A T the virements requested as part of the report as set out in Table 1 be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To inform Cabinet and Scrutiny Committee of the projected revenue outturn for 2023/24.
- (2) To update the original budget for 2023/24 for virement requests.

C89 QUARTER 1 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2023/24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to present to Cabinet the Quarter 1 Treasury Management 2023/24 Monitoring Report, which detailed minor changes to the Capital Programme since the last report to Cabinet and updates to the prudential indicators to reflect those changes. Those changes were marginal and fell within the limits as set in the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy.

Due to current high borrowing costs, the Council was currently self-financing new capital expenditure and maturing debt which had led to a reduction of the amount of external borrowing.

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 Quarter 1 Monitoring Report for Treasury Management 2023/24 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Quarter 1 Monitoring Report for Treasury Management 2023/24 be referred to Governance and Audit Committee.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To inform Governance and Audit Committee of the position in respect of Treasury Management.

C90 NON TREASURY INVESTMENT STRATEGY (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an update on the development of the implementation plan to deliver the Council's Non Treasury Investment Strategy.

Initial plans were focused on Barry in the short to medium term, as it was considered the priority town for the purpose of the Plan, aiming to drive community wealth generation and building on the placemaking work already undertaken. Other key settlements would follow over the medium to longer term and matters put forward for investment would be brought back to Cabinet for consideration.

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 Non Treasury Investment Plan as set out in the report and appendices be approved, and that the prioritisation framework and investment principles and values be noted.

(2) T H A T prioritised schemes supported by the Non Treasury Investment Board would be brought back to Cabinet for approval in due course.

(3) T H A T a progress report be submitted to Cabinet in 12 months' time and for progress to be monitored by Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

(4) T H A T the initial focus (as set out in the investment plan) on the key settlements of Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, and Penarth in the short to medium term be approved with rural communities and strategic employment sites such as the Enterprise Zone being considered as and when opportunities arose.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2) Investments would be approved in line with the existing governance arrangements and Cabinet would retain overall responsibility for approval.

(3) Progress reporting to Cabinet was a key element of the performance framework for the Framework, including the role of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

(4) Capacity and resources required a focussed approach, and this would align with the Council's approach to the development of Place Making Plans and allow the Non Treasury Investment Strategy to fully support Place Making and sustainable economic growth.

C91 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIVE WORKING INITIATIVES UPDATE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an update for Cabinet on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives. The report was the agreed six-monthly Cabinet report outlining the various strategic working initiatives that the Authority was involved with and provided an oversight of strategic level cooperation.

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 strategic collaborative working initiatives that were in place to support the delivery and development of Council services and the Council's well-being outcomes and objectives be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To provide Cabinet with an update of strategic collaborative working initiatives.

C92 BSC2 BUILDING WORKS CONTRACT (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Deputy Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to obtain approval to procure and agree and let a works contract for construction works at BSC2.

The Leader looked forward to seeing the building being completely occupied as there was undoubted demand for space.

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 procurement process for this scheme be noted.
- (2) **T H A T** delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place in consultation with the Head of Finance and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places to accept the preferred tender and approve the letting of the works contract(s) associated with the project, following the completion of the tender process.

(3) T H A T delegated authority to be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services / Operational Manager Legal Services to draft and execute the contract(s) for the award of a contract with the successful bidder.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2) To ensure compliance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and financial Regulations.

(3) To ensure that the necessary legal documentation were in place to award the contract and that the works were delivered in a timely manner.

C93 PROPOSAL TO INCREASE CAPACITY FOR WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION BY EXPANDING YSGOL IOLO MORGANWG (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the outcome of the publication of the statutory notice on the proposal to allow a determination to be made.

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, consultation document, consultation report and statutory notice be noted.

(2) T H A T the implementation of the proposal to make a regulated alteration under section 2.3 of the School Organisation Code 2018 to increase Welsh medium primary provision in Cowbridge to meet future demand by increasing the capacity of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 210 places to 420 places from September 2025 be approved.

(3) T H A T the transfer of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg to the new school building whilst consulted on, was not a regulated alteration under the Act and therefore, was not subject to the statutory process.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2) To approve implementation of the proposed regulated alteration to expand the capacity of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg from 210 places to 420 places. That would ensure the Local Authority could meet demand for Welsh medium primary education in the

Cowbridge area and that the pupils of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg were taught in an environment fit for the 21st century.

(3) To appraise Cabinet.

C94 UPDATE ON THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (SCfL) PROGRAMME AND PROPOSED REVISION TO THE SCfL BAND B STRATEGIC OUTLINE PROGRAMME (SOP) (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide Cabinet with an update on the SCfL Programme, seek approval from Cabinet to increase the SCfL Band B Strategic Outline Programme.

The Leader said that over the last ten years around £240m had been spent on new schools and maintenance in the Vale of Glamorgan and the proposal would add to that programme of investment.

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 Sustainable Communities for Learning (SCfL) Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T changes to the Strategic Outline Programme and expansion of the Band B programme envelope be approved to include the Ysgol Iolo Morganwg scheme and increased costs for Ysgol y Deri and Ysgol Sant Baruc.
- (3) T H A T the proposed amendment to the Capital Programme and profiles for the Band B Cowbridge Primary Phase 2 (Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg) scheme as set out in the table in paragraph 5.9 be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To increase the Band B programme envelope by £15,847,114 to allow for the inclusion of the expansion of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and increased costs for Ysgol Y Deri and Ysgol Sant Baruc to the capital programme, enabling the submission of a revised Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) to secure approval in principle from Welsh Government of the overall SOP.
- (3) To allow schemes to proceed in the current and future financial years.

C95 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS LAND AT ST CYRES COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL, PENARTH (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval to dispose of disused land to the rear of Cwrt St Cyres, Penarth.

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 parcel of land at St Cyres Comprehensive School shown outlined red on the plan attached at Appendix A be declared surplus to the Council's requirements.

(2) T H A T authority be granted to the Director of Learning and Skills to dispose of the land shown on the plan at Appendix A under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 subject to compliance with the relevant legislative provisions.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Learning and Skills, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language and the Head of Finance/S151 Officer, to appoint an external valuer to provide a market valuation report for the land and agree appropriate terms and conditions for the disposal of the land.

(4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to dispose of the land.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To declare the land surplus to Council's requirements as the land was no longer required for education purposes or any other purpose.

(2) To ensure compliance with the relevant legislative provisions.

(3) To ensure that the Council obtained best consideration for the land in accordance with its statutory and fiduciary obligations.

(4) To legally formalise the disposal of the land in order to obtain a capital receipt which would be used to contribute towards funding the Council's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and to ensure compliance with statute.

C96 PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) FOR EXCEPTIONS TO WALES 20MPH DEFAULT SPEED LIMIT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ANCILLARY SPEED LIMITS (NBS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the recommendations made by the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny on 18th July, 2023 and the public objections received to the proposed TRO and to agree an appropriate way forward.

The Cabinet Report of 6th July, 2023 was considered by the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 18th July, 2023, and the associated reference was attached to the meeting agenda as Item 8. At the meeting and following detailed consideration, the Scrutiny Committee recommended that comments raised by the Committee be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Councillor Wilson thanked everyone who had taken the time to respond during the consultation period as those responses informed the final decision making.

Technical Officers had considered and interpreted the Welsh Government guidance, assessed evidence from multiple sources, analysed the latest collision data and traffic composition and utilised their professional engineering judgement combined with local knowledge of the network in a reasonable, reasoned and proportionate methodology to substantiate the basis for making the exception from the default 20 mph speed limit on A and B class roads.

In all cases, Officers had considered the question whether there were ‘significant’ numbers (or potential numbers, if speeds were lower) of pedestrians and cyclists travelling along or across the road and the extent that they needed to mix with motor traffic for proposed exception sites.

Officers used place criteria as a primary guide when assessing all A and B Class roads, albeit with mitigations based on a variety of local factors to aide decision making associated with Place criteria; protected facilities meeting relevant criteria within Active Travel Act Guidance (ATAG); and safety of vulnerable road users being considered when determining what roads to retain at 30mph. The presence of local shopping / business / tourist / visitor areas as an additional attractor was included within local factors to substantiate evidence of significant pedestrians and cyclists use along a road.

Councillor Wilson made the point that it was impossible to hypothesise the potential number of cyclists or pedestrians that would use a route based on perceived road safety. Perception differed from person to person and unfortunately the Welsh Government guidance did not provide any forecasting model, or formula to determine future usage. If the strategic ‘A’ and ‘B’ routes were reduced to 20mph, the composition and volumes of motor traffic would potentially deter inexperienced or leisure cyclists from using those routes. However, it was acknowledged that more seasoned and experienced cyclists would use those routes, irrespective of the types and/or volume of traffic.

The objections and other comments were summarised in the report, along with detailed Officer responses to the points raised. As a result of the objections made to the proposed exceptions it was proposed to make five changes.

1. West Farm Road (part), Ogmores-by-Sea – removal of 20 mph as private road (Appendix C referred).
2. Cardiff Road, Dinas Powys - extension of default to 20 mph (Appendix D referred).
3. St Nicholas Road, and Park Avenue Barry – default to 20 mph (Appendix D referred).
4. Ewenny Cross Corntown and Ewenny – default to 20 mph (Appendix D referred).
5. Windsor Road (between Plassey Street and Marconi Avenue) – default to 20mph (Appendix D referred).

Cabinet approval was required to overrule the other objections made and accept the amendments to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order to ensure the 30mph exception sites and other ancillary speed limits were implemented as proposed.

Councillor Wison advised that the intention was to keep all the proposed changes under review. The safety of highway users was of utmost importance, and the full consequences of such major changes to the speed limits on the highway network would only be known when once they had been in operation for some time.

Should further changes to the exception list or any speed limits be required in the future, such matters would either be dealt with via the Director of Environment and Housing's delegations to publicly advertise and introduce Traffic Regulation Orders in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, or via Cabinet; should any objections to such changes be received.

Councillor Wilson thanked the Officers who had spent numerous hours collecting all the data and doing the research for the report and Cabinet resolved to include an additional Recommendation to the report to note that work on behalf of the Cabinet.

The Leader agreed that several areas had been in the balance and it would only become clear if any amendments were necessary over time and after review.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and noting the inclusion of additional Resolution (5)

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the recommendations made by Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny on 18th July, 2023, and the officer responses to both those recommendations and the objections received as part of the public consultation be noted.

- (2) T H A T the amendments to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order as identified in the schedules provided at Appendices C and D be approved.
- (3) T H A T the objectors be notified of the decision.
- (4) T H A T the use of article 15:14 (urgency procedure) in respect to the above recommendations be endorsed.
- (5) T H A T the Officers who spent numerous hours collecting and researching the relevant data and answering people's queries be thanked with it being acknowledged by Cabinet the considerable volume of work carried out when producing the report for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that the views of the relevant Scrutiny Committee and objectors have been considered prior to a decision made by Cabinet.
- (2) To permit the proposed order to be amended to enable the proposed 30mph exception and other ancillary speed limits to be implemented, as reflected in the comments from the public consultation.
- (3) To ensure that all those who took part in the TRO consultation are advised of the outcome of the process.
- (4) To ensure a prompt implementation of the TRO's to meet the date set by Welsh Government for implementation of the new default 20mph speed limit on 17th September, 2023.
- (5) To acknowledge the volume of work carried out by Officers when producing the report for consideration.

C97 ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT: 2022/2023 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to update Cabinet on the work that had been undertaken in relation to corporate arrangements for safeguarding across the Council.

Councillor Williams highlighted the 'Working Together to Safeguard People Guidance' under Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 which provided advice on what should happen where an individual had concerns over the wellbeing or welfare of an adult or child and wanted to ensure that Members were aware of that duty and that it was not simply the responsibility of Social Services.

Society as a whole had seen a change in recognising people who needed support and there had been an improvement in support services as a result, e.g. domestic abuse victims being allowed to remain in their own homes and feel safe instead of having to leave.

Councillor Birch was pleased to see the Council taking its responsibilities seriously with regard to education and safeguarding children and vulnerable young people and adults. She was pleased to hear that people who were subject domestic violence were able to stay in their own homes, also illustrated by Councillor John earlier on a separate agenda item, and having appropriate security precautions put in place in order to protect them.

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) T H A T Cabinet would continue to receive six monthly reports on work carried out to improve Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of relevant Policies.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources, Environment and Regeneration, Healthy Living and Social Care, Home and Safe Communities and Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committees, as well as Governance and Audit Committee for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of the key area of corporate working and be assured of effective safeguarding taking place.
- (3) To respond to requests that each Scrutiny Committee be provided with update reports.