

CABINET

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 29th February, 2024.

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.D. Perkes, S. Sivagnanam, E. Williams and M.R. Wilson.

Also Present: Councillor I. Buckley.

C254 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Cabinet.

Members and Officers were reminded that the meeting was being livestreamed, recorded and would be uploaded to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting.

She asked if all participants to ensure that if participating in person in the Chamber that their microphone not be activated and for remote attendees to 'mute' themselves when not speaking to avoid any background noise or feedback when other participants were speaking, and if a participant wished to speak if they could activate their respective request to speak function or use the 'raise hand' function if attending remotely.

Members were asked to ensure that all debate be 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 Officers.

C255 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C256 INITIAL BUDGET 2024/25 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 TO 2028/29 PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATION (REF) -

The reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15th February, 2024 was presented, which included comments received from both the Learning and Culture and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees.

Items of discussion included:-

- Consequentials as a result of an announcement from the UK Government and how that would be allocated;
- Digital developments and savings;
- Some of the work planned relating to procurement had taken longer than anticipated;
- Cuts in relation to National Insurance;
- Teachers' pay award;
- The 'No One Left Out' initiative;
- The use of inflation figures;
- Proposed charges for coastal toilets; and
- School transport and post-16 proposals in relation to transport.

The Leader said that she was owner of the report considered by Scrutiny as Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources and prepared with advice from Officers rather than being an Officer report. She had been disappointed with the cuts in National Insurance from a Council perspective in contrast to possible support being provided for Local Government where a number of Authorities across the UK were facing dire financial situations.

The Authority continued to face issues following interest rates of 10% plus and although inflation had reduced since that time, the effect was still being felt.

It was recommended that the comments of all Committees be considered by Cabinet and that Cabinet review the proposals for charges for coastal public toilets.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the content of the discussions at the Scrutiny Committees be noted and be considered alongside the Quarter 3 Revenue Monitoring 2023/24 report listed as Item 6 on the meeting agenda.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the references and discussions at the meetings.

C257 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (REF) -

The reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15th February, 2024 was presented, which included comments received from Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

Items of discussion included:-

- Potential changes made to the Draft Capital Programme;
- Queries concerning bridge structures and how that was defined;
- The Llanmaes flood alleviation scheme;
- Future pipeline schemes;

- Edge switching; and
- Concern regarding funding for the Specialist Resource Base at Pencoedre High School.

It was recommended that the comments of both Committees be considered by Cabinet.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the content of the discussions at both Scrutiny Committees be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C258 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST DECEMBER, 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 31st December, 2023 and to request changes to the Capital Programme.

The Leader said that historically it was school projects that were affected where school holiday dates and end of financial year were at odds. There was also an error in Table Two on Page 5 of the report where the heading should have read 'Actual Spend to December 2023', rather than September as was stated.

Appendix 1 detailed financial progress on the Capital Programme as at 31st December, 2023 and Appendix 2 set out the changes by Directorate from the approved budget from last year and had been a good way to monitor slippage and delivery and provide greater clarity on the latest position for both.

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 to the report be noted.

(4) T H A T the following changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme and future years' Capital Programme be approved:

- Second Capital Review – Amend the 2023/24 and future year's Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 2.10 to 2.12.
- Review of revenue spend over £10k – Include capital schemes as part of a review of revenue spend as set out in paragraph 2.13 to 2.14 of the report.
- Band B Ysgol Y Deri – Reprofile the scheme budget as set out in paragraph 2.26.
- Colcot Primary Toilet Refurbishments – phase two – Vire £25k from the Education Asset Renewal Contingency budget to the Colcot Primary Toilet Refurbishment – phase two budget in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Various Schools Boiler Pressurisation Valves – Carry forward £20k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Health and Safety Priority Items Identified in Condition Surveys – Vire £22k from the Education Asset Renewal Contingency budget to the Health and Safety Priority Items Identified in Condition Surveys scheme budget in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Victoria Primary Boundary Wall – Carry forward £14k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Jenner Primary – External doors and window refurbishment – Phase one – Carry forward the scheme budget for £25k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Holton Drainage – Carry forward £50k budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Rondel House fire Alarm Improvements – Vire £16k to the new scheme in the 2023/24 Capital Programme, to be funded from the Social Services Asset renewal budget.
- Flying Start – Family Centre – Electrical Upgrade – Carry forward £48k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Cartref Porthceri Residential Home – Drainage Repairs and Underpinning of Building – Carry forward £236k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Social Services Invest to Save – Carry forward £150k budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Housing Improvement Programme – Vire £30k from the Individual Schemes budget to the 7 St Paul's Avenue scheme budget in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Neighbourhood Services Highway Improvements – Carry forward £264k of the scheme budget to the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Retaining wall at Windsor Road – Carry forward £200k budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Llanmaes Construction – Carry forward the scheme budget of £518k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Review Alterations of Parking Permit Schemes – Carry forward the scheme budget of £55k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Residential Parking Schemes and Permits – Carry forward the scheme budget of £21k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Dimming of Street Lighting/Fitting of LED lanterns – Carry forward £100k of the scheme budget to the 2024/25 Capital Programme.

- Boverton Retaining Wall – Carry forward £100k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Eglwys Brewis Active Travel Route – Reduce the scheme budget, funded by grant in the 2023/24 Capital Programme by £100k.
- OVO Bike – Carry forward the budget of £200k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- 20mph Grant – Reduce the scheme budget, funded by grant in the 2023/24 Capital programme by £642k, £1.016M will remain in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Llantwit Major Leisure Centre – Improvements to toilets and changing rooms – Carry forward £88k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Air Handling Unit, Llantwit Major Leisure Centre – Carry budget of £77k to the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Penarth High Level Glazing – Carry forward £1.116M budget for the scheme into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Barry Regeneration Partnership Project Fund – Carry forward the scheme budget of £150k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme and rename this scheme Vale Regeneration schemes.
- Cowbridge Farmers Market – Reduce the scheme budget by £4k in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Restore the Thaw – Carry forward £115k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Business Service Centre 2 – Carry forward £30k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Cosmeston Works Programme – Vire £60k of the scheme budget to the Country Parks ANPR scheme budget in the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Country Parks ANPR – Carry forward £200k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Cowbridge Livestock Market – Carry forward the scheme budget of £22k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Country Park Toilets – Carry forward £100k of the scheme budget into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Empty Homes Grant – Reduce the scheme budget by the grant element of £846k and carry forward £75k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.
- Penarth Renewal Area – Remove the scheme budget of £5k from the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- Transport for Wales – Barry Railway Depot – Include the scheme in the 2023/24 Capital Programme with a budget of £2.986M.
- Country Parks as Social and Economic Connectors – Reduce the scheme budget in the 2023/24 Capital Programme by £13k.
- City Deal – Reprofile the scheme set out in paragraph 2.52 of the report.
- Extension to Cowbridge Primary Phase 2 – Carry forward £240k of the scheme budget to the 2024/25 Capital Programme
- Changing Rooms, Ancillary facilities and replacement boxing club at the Buttrills playing field – Carry forward the scheme budget of £150k into the 2024/25 Capital Programme.

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.

C259 QUARTER 3 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 3 Revenue Monitoring position for 2023/24.

The Council were fortunate to have earmarked reserves that could be used to offset pressures with the overall position reflected in unplanned use of reserves of £6.9m in 2023/24 plus a further £6.7m of school balances. The Authority continued to work constructively with Schools to reduce deficits where possible.

There had been a slight reduction in Quarter 2 pressure overall in Social Services with significant growth allocated as part of next year's budget to address some of the changes in need within the Directorate and some transformational changes.

The expectation was that all in-year savings would be achieved and all Directorates were thanked for working to meet such hugely challenging savings targets this year, but that they would potentially have to tackle similar challenges next year also.

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 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 Budget Virements for 2023/24 presented in the report be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To inform Cabinet and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of the projected revenue outturn for 2023/24.

(2) To update the revised budget for a proposed virement for increased energy costs in Council Buildings and to correct the allocation of funding between Adult Services and Children and Young People Services.

C260 DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to put forward draft proposals for the Budget 2024/25 and outline the financial position across the medium term 2024/25 to 2028/29 for approval by Full Council on 6th March, 2024.

The proposals were published at the end of the previous week, prior to the availability of Welsh Government settlement figures. There were no changes to the overall settlement following that announcement but there was additional detail regarding the Standard Spending Assessment that was subsequently detailed in the supplementary information that was distributed to all Members and published online prior to the meeting.

The Council faced significant financial pressures in excess of £38m initially and had undertaken significant work to mitigate those pressures. As a result, it had not been possible to fund pay awards in full and there were limited resources to meet the full demands of care providers to fully meet demographic growth and the complexity of services required.

A 3.4% increase in the grant received by the Council from Welsh Government alongside the proposed 6.7% increase in Council Tax fell short of meeting the additional costs.

There would be a further UK budget announcement on the same day the report would be considered by Full Council, and it remained to be seen if there would be any further funding made available for Local Government, but it was not expected there would be any further matters for Council to consider on 6th March.

Consultation on how to allocate the available resources had taken place including a 4-week public budget consultation, consideration by the five Council Scrutiny Committees and the 'Life in the Vale' survey where residents were asked for their views on what they expected from the Council, where residents were supportive of the ambition to target resources to social care, affordable housing and schools and less supportive of any Council Tax increase and increase in discretionary charges by the rate of inflation.

Council Tax levels in the Vale of Glamorgan were below the Welsh average and below the level of expected rises for many Authorities across Wales, with 10% or more having been proposed by some.

There had been in-depth discussions at Scrutiny but no alternatives put forward prior to consideration at Full Council where it was difficult to take proposals on board at that point and achieve a balanced budget as was the legal requirement for the Authority to do, but there would be a full debate at Full Council on the day.

The proposal concerning concerning charging for toilets at coastal areas had been removed as Members felt that was not something they could support and the £5k saving would be found elsewhere.

Next year's £7.7m savings programme were mostly tactical and looked at how to provide and deliver services more effectively, along with some transformational initiatives, as having another multi-million-pound savings programme next year would be challenging.

The Leader thanked previous Vale of Glamorgan Councils for their role in managing its resources effectively over the years, with healthy reserves in place that provided a level of assurance but were only able to be used once.

Prospects for next year were equally as challenging as this year had been and the Chancellor's announcement next week would provide more detail as to the impact on Local Authorities. That would be discussed once the full details had been received. There was already a £9m funding gap for next year, but the Administration was prepared to face the challenges and deliver sustainable services to the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Councillor Wilson said that there were several pressures within his Portfolio and thanked Officers for their hard work in mitigating those.

Councillor John was supportive of the budget and thanked the staff concerned for their work to put together the draft proposals under challenging circumstances. There would be discussion in Full Council about the use of reserves, but it had been possible to put forward a proposed lower Council Tax increase than other Welsh Authorities as those reserves were in place.

The Leader said there would be a full debate at Full Council on 6th March and there was a legal duty to deliver a balanced budget.

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 updated financial position be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council to approve a Council Tax increase of 6.7%
- (3) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council to approve the budget for 2024/25.
- (4) T H A T the forecasts across the medium term to 2028/29 be noted.

(5) T H A T the fees and charges presented for approval in January, which stood unchanged following review by Scrutiny be noted.

(6) T H A T the realigned reserves which sought to match the risks the Council now faced be noted along with the comments of the s151 Officer on the adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates in paragraphs 2.86 to 2.95.

(7) T H A T the arrangements put in place to ensure the delivery of the £7.676m savings programme and ensure the management and mitigation of those cost pressures not awarded be noted.

(8) T H A T the use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be approved in order for the Draft Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2028/29 to be considered by Full Council on 6th March, 2024.

(9) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the information provided in the supplemental report regarding updated Standard Spending Assessment figures be endorsed as an update to Item 7 on the meeting agenda and considered by Full Council on 6th March, 2024.

Reasons for decisions

(1) It was important for Cabinet to be regularly appraised of the Council's medium term financial position.

(2) Setting the annual rate of Council Tax was a key policy decision for Council.

(3) Setting a balanced budget was a statutory responsibility and decision for Full Council.

(4) Sustainability was one of the fundamental principles of the Financial Strategy.

(5) To confirm fees and charges for 2024/25.

(6) The review of the reserves was one of the fundamental principles of the Financial Strategy and given that the s151 Officer had a statutory duty to comment on the adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates.

(7) To ensure all savings could be delivered in full for 2024/25 and also that the unawarded cost pressures did not come forward as overspends.

(8) To allow the Draft Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2028/29 to be referred to Full Council on 6th March, 2024 for consideration and approval.

(9) To provide Full Council with the most up to date figures as part of its final budget deliberations at its meeting on 6th March, 2024.

C261 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2024/25 AND FINAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to set out final proposals for Cabinet Members to consider, before making recommendations to Full Council, in respect of the final capital budget for the financial year 2024/25 to 2028/29 and to consider the Capital Strategy for 2024/25.

Councillor Birch was pleased to see what had been achieved over the last year within her Portfolio and looked forward to further achievement to come for the benefit children and young people.

Councillor Perkes was pleased with the current house-building programme within her Portfolio, working towards meeting the requirements of the Welsh Quality Housing Standards and providing homes of an excellent standard. The Leader said that the decision for the Council to build its own properties had led to the current position where multiple developments were in progress to provide homes for people within the Vale of Glamorgan.

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 Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the Capital Strategy 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

(2) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the final Capital Programme for the years 2024/25 to 2028/29 as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved.

(3) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, be given delegated authority to make additions, deletions or transfers to or from the:

- i. 2024/25 to 2028/29 Housing Improvement Programme as appropriate.
- ii. 2024/25 to 2028/29 Asset Renewal budgets as appropriate.
- iii. S106 funded schemes subject to Member consultation as required under the existing process.
- iv. Energy Management Schemes
- v. Building Strong Communities Fund schemes.
- vi. Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B programme (Previously 21st Century Schools schemes).
- vii. Discretionary Adaption Grant Schemes.
- viii. Vale Regeneration Schemes.

(4) T H A T Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the Chief Executive, Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer, and Director of Learning and Skills in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, be given delegated authority to increase the Capital Programme for the long term solution in relation to the Successful Futures Centre at Pencoedtre High School when the feasibility studies have been concluded. £300k had been ringfenced within reserves to carry out the scheme when feasibility studies had been undertaken.

(5) T H A T the use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be used to enable the Capital Strategy 2024/25 and Final Capital Programme Proposals 2024/25 to 2028/29 to be considered by Full Council on 6th March, 2024

Reasons for decisions

(1) To approve the Capital Strategy for 2024/25.

(2) To set and approve future Capital Programmes to 2028/29.

(3) To enable the Housing Capital budget, Asset Renewal budgets, S106 schemes, Energy Management Schemes, Building Stronger Communities Fund, Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B programme, Discretionary Adaption Grant Schemes, and Vale Regeneration schemes to be managed effectively.

(4) To enable the long term solution to the Successful Futures Centre at Pencoedtre High School to proceed when the feasibility studies had been concluded.

(5) To allow the Capital Strategy 2024/25 and Final Capital Programme Proposals 2024/25 to 2028/29 to be referred to Full Council on 6th March, 2024 for consideration and approval.

C262 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2024/25 AND UPDATE 2023/24 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an interim report on the Council's Treasury Management operations for the period 1st April to 31st December, 2023 and to submit for consideration the proposed 2024/25 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy and Treasury Management Policy.

Councillors had received a briefing on Treasury Management which they were able to attend in person and also view online as Treasury Management was crucially important to the sustainability of the Council.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Treasury Management interim report for the period 1st April to 31st December, 2023 be noted.
- (2) T H A T policy for making Minimum Revenue Provision in 2024/25 be approved.
- (3) T H A T the proposed 2024/25 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy be approved, including the following specific resolutions (detailed in Appendix 1).
- The Authorised Limit for External Debt be set at £240.969m for 2023/24, £271.200m for 2024/25, £303.939m for 2025/26 and £336.893m for 2026/27.
 - The Operational Boundary for External Debt be set at £226.147m for 2023/24, £255.687 for 2024/25, £287.406m for 2025/26 and £320.338m for 2026/27.
 - The Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority within the total Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary as estimated for individual years to effect movement between the separately agreed limits for borrowing and other long term liabilities.
 - An upper limit of £0m for 2023/24, £10m for 2024/25, £10m in 2025/26 and £10m in 2026/27 be set for total principal sums invested for over 364 days.
 - The amount of projected borrowing that was fixed rate maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing that was fixed rate for 2024/25 be set as:

Table 1 – Upper and lower Limits for fixed rate borrowing

	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 months	20%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	20%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	30%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	40%	0%
10 years and above	100%	0%

- (4) T H A T Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- (5) T H A T the Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved.
- (6) T H A T use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be approved in order for the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2024/25 and Update for 2023/24 to be considered by Full Council on 6th March, 2024.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To present the Treasury Management Interim Report.
- (2) To agree the basis of the Minimum Revenue Provision calculation for 2024/25.
- (3-5) In order for the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy as prepared be approved as required by the Local Government Act 2003.
- (6) To allow the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2024/25 and Update for 2023/24 to be referred to Full Council on 6th March, 2024 for consideration and approval.

**C263 MATTER WHICH THE CHAIR HAS DECIDED WAS URGENT
(PART I) –**

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.

**C264 MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKING PARTY MEETING (REF) –
(Urgent by reason of the need to ensure Cabinet consideration in line with
timescales relevant to the Council's 2024/25 Budget and Medium Term
Financial Plan Consultation and approval process.)**

The reference from Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 6th February, 2024 was presented, which referred to the Budget Working Party meeting that was held to consider the budget proposals and whether there were suggestions to bring forward for Cabinet consideration and was not to be confused with the Budget Working Group that was part of the budget setting process within the Council.

The Leader said that it was important to look at the Recommendations and the reasons for Recommendations of the Budget Working Party together. It was recommended that an informative booklet or leaflet outlining what the Council and others offered in terms of help and support be produced to support elected Members in dealing with enquiries received from the relatives of elderly individuals requiring support. The Leader said that the Council and Scrutiny Committee would have to have a conversation with Officers concerning current provision and how any further provision would work. It was suggested that those residents requiring support could be sign-posted to the Wellbeing Support Team in the Contact Centre.

It was also recommended that an Innovation Day be arranged and hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and to invite external organisations that were making developments in technology and equipment, which may be used to support care services, to meet collectively to expand the Council's knowledge of external services and expertise available. The Leader was not sure what developments were being

referred to and therefore suggested a discussion between the Scrutiny Committee and Council Officers.

Councillor Williams said that clearly there was a focus on the budget within Social Care and Health and Officers were aware of the challenges faced both in terms of increasing complex need and the numbers of people requiring support. The challenging budgets needed to be understood to provide as much support as possible. It was clear from Officers responses that they were looking at different ways to provide support. There was such a breadth of services being provided by different providers for different services and it would be difficult to put that into a leaflet and kept up to date, and outlets were already in place to provide advice to Members alongside the training they would have received when becoming a Councillor such as C1V.

The Leader said that the Wellbeing Support Team were skilled to work both across Social Care in the Council and also with Health partners to provide more support and assistance to residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the content of the discussions at the Scrutiny Committee and minutes of the Budget Working Party be noted.

Reason for decision

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