

## **CABINET**

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 4th September, 2025.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor L. Burnett (Chair); Councillors B.E. Brooks, R.M. Birch, G. John, S.D. Perkes, S. Sivagnanam, E. Williams and M.R. Wilson.

### **C71           ANNOUNCEMENT –**

The Leader commenced by advising of some housekeeping issues and advised 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.

### **C72           MINUTES –**

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

### **C73           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **C74           Q4 AUDIT WALES WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE 2024/25 (REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 was presented.

The Leader said that in relation to financial audit work, the Council's Statement of Accounts 2023/24 had been completed with an unqualified audit opinion provided and Governance and Audit Committee referred the report to Cabinet for oversight.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 be noted.

#### Reason for decision

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

**C75                    VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL AUDIT SUMMARY  
2024 (REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 was presented.

The Leader said the Auditor General Wales' Annual Audit Summary also considered the setting of Well-being Objectives as part of Vale 2030, the Council's new Corporate Plan with contents of the review contained in Appendix A.

Committee had referred to the Cardiff Region City Deal but the Leader advised that was no longer the correct name having changed its legal form and was now the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC). Committee referred their comments to Cabinet which related to the CJC which had its own corporate Committee as well as its own Governance and Audit Committee and as such was a matter for that Committee.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

**C76                    CORPORATE CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS POLICY REVIEW  
(REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 was presented.

The Leader said there had been discussion as to how to make best use of comments and complaints shared with the Council but also what constituted a 'complaint' rather than a request for service as an area of concern.

Committee discussed the regularity of complaints being reported to the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) on a quarterly basis rather than six monthly, which was a matter for discussion with the SLT. The Committee also suggested that narrative be included to outline within the Policy how the Council would learn from complaints received. The Leader agreed but said the focus should be on how the Council had learned rather than how the Council would learn. There was ongoing discussion concerning what constituted a complaint and once the wording had been agreed, narrative could be included within the Policy.

Councillor Wilson said that residents often contacted the Council via a number of routes such as local Members, C1V or online to advise where issues had been identified and notify the Council, but that was not a complaint. Should a matter that had been raised not have progressed then the resident could of course escalate the matter as a complaint.

## RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the matter of the regularity of complaints being reported to the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) on a quarterly basis rather than six monthly be a matter for discussion with the SLT.
- (2) T H A T narrative be included to outline within the Policy how the Council would learn from complaints received.
- (3) T H A T discussion was ongoing concerning what constituted a complaint and how the Council would address identified areas for improvement and once wording had been agreed, for relevant narrative to be included within the Policy.

Reason for decisions

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

**C77 CORPORATE RISK: QUARTER 4 UPDATE (REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 was presented.

There were four risks on the Register that were forecast to increase over time; Information and Cyber Security, Climate Change and Nature Emergency, Social Care Demand and Capacity and Physical Assets.

Committee discussed what was referred to as potential catastrophic impacts associated with some risks, but the Leader said that possibly referred to impacts at a national rather than a local level but that each risk would be assessed for their impact.

Committee also discussed some of the issues with regards major projects. The Leader said over recent years that the Vale of Glamorgan Council had delivered a number of large scale regeneration projects, including eighteen new schools, the Pump House, the Engine Room, the Goodsheds and new Council housing.

There were issues with regards cyber security which were experienced by all public sector organisations which were monitored closely. Committee also noted that a further update on Major Regeneration Projects would be provided in the next quarterly update report, which the Leader looked forward to seeing.

The comments of the Governance and Audit Committee were referred to Cabinet relating to delivery of major regeneration projects, issues regarding the impact of the legal settlement relating to Aberthaw power station and contract over runs and over spends.

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the concern regarding the risks associated with the delivery of major regeneration projects such as Barry Marina be noted but would be discussed within the next quarterly update report to Committee.
- (2) T H A T the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) had their own governance arrangements in place and that there was an ongoing investigation on the matter concerned.
- (3) T H A T further detail was required to answer the point and may be contained within the update on Major Regeneration Projects report.

Reason for decisions

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

**C78 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL SETTING WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES EXAMINATION (REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 was presented.

The Leader said the Auditor General for Wales' report was an independent report as the Peer Panel Assessment completed prior to Vale 2030, the Council's new Corporate Plan, had been, both of which were positive reports.

Audit Wales concluded that, 'The Council had applied the sustainable development principle to shape the setting of its well-being objectives including effective use of data, alignment with financial plans and a strong approach to involvement.' No formal recommendations had been made in relation to the examination.

One Committee Member commented that he considered there to be a disconnect between a positive report such as this and the lived experiences for residents of the Vale. The Leader said she would welcome further detail on that matter.

Councillor Birch said that previously the Council had been criticised for carrying out internal assessments, however the Auditor General for Wales' report was an independent report and made no reference to a disconnect. The statement needed to be qualified with a recommendation as to how to deal with the matter, rather than just a negative statement.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 23rd June, 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

**C79 TASK AND FINISH GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL'S PROCUREMENT POLICY, FUNCTION AND STRATEGY (REF) –**

The reference from Resources Scrutiny Committee which took place on 9th July, 2025 was presented.

The Leader moved that the reference be considered in association with Agenda Item 14 as the matters were related, which was agreed.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference be considered alongside Agenda Item 14 of the meeting agenda as the matters were related.

Reason for decision

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

**C80 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024-25 (REF) –**

The reference from Performance Joint Scrutiny Committee which took place on 16th July, 2025 was presented.

The Leader moved that the reference be considered in association with Agenda Item 16 as the matters were related, which was agreed.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference be considered alongside Agenda Item 16 of the meeting agenda as the matters were related.

Reason for decision

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

**C81 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024-25 (REF) –**

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 21st July, 2025 was presented.

The Leader moved that the reference be considered in association with Agenda Item 16 as the matters were related, which was agreed.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference be considered alongside Agenda Item 16 of the meeting agenda as the matters were related.

Reason for decision

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

## **C82 PROJECT ZERO UPDATE REPORT (REF) –**

The reference from Place Scrutiny Committee which took place on 22nd July, 2025 was presented.

The Leader said there was an excellent presentation from Officers to Committee at the meeting. The Council had declared a climate emergency in 2019 and a nature emergency in 2021 that had subsequently shaped Policy going forward. The update report then detailed the six-month period from October 2024 to March 2025 and progress against the 18 Challenges which were part of the Climate Change Challenge Plan.

Committee asked about Project Zero reserve finances and if they were being held and it was confirmed that they were, however, the Leader said there were matters that were not statutory for the Council and would have to be considered as part of the budget setting process as to how matters would be funded.

Committee made eight Recommendations, two of which were related to Cabinet. Cabinet had considered the report and noted that under the new Reshaping format the Committee were able to agree to distribute the report to members of the Public Services Board and all Town and Community Councils for their information, with Vale of Glamorgan Members already having had sight of the report through published papers.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (1) T H A T the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T Elected Members had already sight of the report as part of the publication of meetings that were sent to all Members, and that Committee were able to agree to the report being distributed to members of the Public Services Board and all Town and Community Councils for their information.

### **Reason for decisions**

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

## **C83 JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM –**

The minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting held on 30th June, 2025 were presented.

The Leader said there had been a good discussion at the meeting including Social Partnership Duty and Proposals for Strategic Themes People Strategy 2025-2030.

**RESOLVED – T H A T** the minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting held on 30th June, 2025 be noted.

### Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

### **C84            PROCUREMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY REVIEW (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to review and update the 2022/23 Procurement Policy and Strategy, which included consideration of the Reference from Resources Scrutiny Committee that took place on 9th July, 2025 and was included on the meeting Agenda under Item 9.

The Council were undertaking a Policy and Strategy Review at the same time that in-depth Task and Finish work was undertaken on Procurement Policy, and as a result of all those discussions amongst Task and Finish Members and Officers several aspects included within the Task and Finish work were already being built into the Review as it evolved.

Cabinet were being asked to approve for the Policy and Strategy to be adopted in draft mindful of possible changes following consideration by Resources Scrutiny Committee and the planned focused review on Social Value and Circular economy by Resources Scrutiny Committee in November. It would then be reviewed again in two years' time.

Within the Task and Finish work, there were recommendations that had resource implications and those would be reviewed as part of the budget setting process as part of a joined up internal working with ongoing procurement processes.

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 Policy and Strategy at Appendix A to the report be endorsed.
- (2)    T H A T the Procurement Policy and Strategy be approved as a Draft for consultation with Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- (3)    T H A T in pursuance of Resolution (2), the Draft Procurement Policy and Strategy be referred to the Resources Scrutiny Committee for review and, subject to Cabinet considering any recommendations from the Committee, that the Policy and Strategy to be then approved as a final version.
- (4)    T H A T Cabinet recommends to Full Council to amend 18.12.1 (c) in the Constitution to require Social Value to be a tender requirement at £0.250m for Works and above Threshold for Services.

(5) T H A T pending the consideration of the Procurement Policy and Strategy by Resources Scrutiny Committee, the document be implemented on an interim basis.

(6) T H A T Resolution (5) be subject to the agreed use of the urgency procedure as set out at Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution.

(7) T H A T Cabinet reviews the Policy and Strategy over the next two years, with a formal report to Cabinet forthcoming in 2027 and delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer to make minor amendments to the Policy and Strategy to ensure it remained current in the meantime.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) It was important that the Policy and Strategy remained current and was reviewed by Scrutiny and Cabinet on a regular and frequent basis.

(2) The current Procurement Policy and Strategy did not reflect current regulation and needed to be brought up to date ahead of review by Resources Scrutiny as a Policy and Strategy for the Council to work to.

(3) There was constructive input by the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee when the Policy and Strategy was first brought forward and it was important to have their continued input alongside their Task and Finish work on Procurement.

(4) The current thresholds were too low and a greater focus on social value was required.

(5) To enable the measures included in the Strategy to be implemented with an immediate effect and on an interim basis pending wider consultation and subsequent review as necessary.

(6) To enable the measures included in the Strategy to be implemented with an immediate effect.

(7) To ensure the Policy and Strategy remained current and Cabinet would formally review in a timely manner.

#### **C85            RESHAPING PROGRAMME: CORPORATE LANDLORD (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to seek approval to implement a Corporate Landlord approach to ensure the more efficient and effective operation of the Council's property assets.

The Corporate Landlord model sought to bring the functions of all the Council's property assets together into a central focus, looking at maintenance spend, how management assets were managed effectively, better ability to develop revenue savings and how to maximise the use of assets for income generation.



CIPFA were commissioned to do a piece of work in 2022 and make recommendations as how this activity could be improved with an Outline Business Case finalised at the end of 2024. Work would progress on consolidating budgets, adjusting existing staffing structures and putting in place new process and procedures which were hoped to be in place for the 2026/27 financial year. The model looked at Council assets and did not include schools or community centres, but there may be opportunities in the future for discussion on those areas.

The Leader said that the report sought to create a Head of Corporate Landlord role as it was a complex function managing a multi-million pound group of public assets but the proposed structure would be cost-neutral.

Councillor Wilson said that other Councils already follow a similar model and was considered best practice that the Council could learn from.

Councillor Williams said that there were some Care Homes in Social Services who could benefit from the model and assist with dealing with maintenance issues and legal matters potentially.

The Leader added there would also be benefits on purchases and utility costs with economies of scale 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 report and the CIPFA Review of Current Delivery of Property Related Services Compared to a 'Corporate Landlord' Approach in Appendix A and CIPFA Outline Business Case in Appendix B be noted.

(2) T H A T the proposals in the report be approved to create the Corporate Landlord Model and make the necessary adjustment to other asset ownership in Place set out in the report.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Corporate Resources to take forward the implementation of the Corporate Landlord model in consultation with Senior Leadership Team and the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources as described in the report.

(4) T H A T the proposal to create a Head of Corporate Landlord as described in the report be endorsed and the Director of Corporate Resources be requested to prepare a report for Senior Management Appointments Committee to consider the proposal.

#### Reasons for decisions

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

(2) For Cabinet to approve the next steps in order to have the new arrangements in place for 1st April, 2026. There were also some out of scope assets which would benefit from being managed alongside similar assets in the current service arrangements.

(3) The implementation impacted existing services across the Council and it was important that the Leader and SLT were kept fully apprised, the advice of the Head of Human Resources was engaged to assist with restructuring and Head of Finance with regards the establishment of budgets for the new service.

(4) To enable the recruitment of a Head of Corporate Landlord to be considered by the Senior Management Appointment Committee in line with the Council's Constitution.

**C86 FINAL DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024/25 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – PERFORMANCE JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to present the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Council Annual Self-Assessment (incorporating end of year performance against the Annual Delivery Plan) 2024/5 (Appendix A), which included consideration of References from Performance Joint Scrutiny Committee that took place on 16th July, 2025 and Governance and Audit Committee that took place on 21st July, 2025 which were included on the meeting Agenda under Items 10 and 11.

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 consultation summary findings and the updated Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25 appended at Appendix A be endorsed.

(2) T H A T the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report be referred to Governance and Audit Committee (15th September, 2025) for their consideration and approval in line with their statutory role, under Part 6 (section 114) of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and that upon consideration the Committee refers any recommendations back to Cabinet for their final consideration (2nd October, 2025) prior to Cabinet referring the report with the recommendations of the Governance and Audit Committee and Cabinet's responses to Full Council (1st December, 2025) for consideration and approval. Should Governance and Audit Committee have no further recommendations to refer to Cabinet for consideration, that the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report be referred to Full Council (29th September, 2025) for consideration and approval.

(3) T H A T use of the urgency procedure as set out at Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be agreed to allow the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment 2024/25 to be referred to the Governance and Audit Committee meeting taking place on 15th September, 2025 for consideration, with any recommendations considered by Cabinet on 2nd October, 2025, prior to Full Council consideration on 1st December, 2025.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To enable Cabinet to consider the consultation feedback and then approve the subsequent changes to the Final Draft Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25.

(2) To enable the Governance and Audit Committee to consider the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment findings in line with its statutory role, under Part 6 (section 114) of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

(3) To ensure that the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25 could be presented to Council by December 2025 for consideration and approval.

#### **C87 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 30TH JUNE 2025 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to advise Cabinet of the progress on the 2025/26 Capital Programme for the period 1st April, 2025 to 30th June, 2025 and to request changes to the Capital Programme.

At the time of writing the approved Programme totalled £129,441m and it was essential that the Programme be monitored closely. Appendix B to the report detailed the developments by Directorate so as to closely monitor any slippage. Additional work was being undertaken concerning schools, highway improvements, Active Travel and the new Cowbridge Primary School (lolo) where the scheme was being reprofiled due to a ten-week delay due to sustainable drainage requirements and spend on the project would slip from one financial year to the next as a result but was still within planned expenditure.

Councillor Wilson referred to Table 3 in Paragraph 2.15 of the report which detailed as part of the Local Government Borrowing Initiative an additional £2.7m for highway resurfacing for 2025/26. He encouraged residents to report issues where they were found and hoped that work on improvements to footpaths would encourage more active travel.

Councillor Williams referred to the ENABLE Grant detailed in Paragraph 2.12 of the report which was possible due to Welsh Government grant funding.

The Leader made one point of clarification within the report concerning Paragraph 2.7 which referred to an improved crossing point on Windsor Road in Penarth but should have stated the location as Windsor Terrace near the junction to Church Road.

Additionally, the Leader asked Cabinet to agree to the inclusion of an additional Recommendation in order for the report be referred to Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration, which was agreed.

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 2025/26 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 2025/26 Capital Programme and future years Capital Programme be approved:
  - Holton Road Primary – roof repair – Vire £52k from the Victorian Schools General Maintenance scheme to this scheme budget in the 2025/26 Capital Programme.
  - ENABLE – Include this Welsh Government grant of £343k into the 2025/26 Capital Programme.
  - Neighbourhood Services Highways Improvements – Increase this scheme budget in the 2025/26 and 2026/27 Capital Programme and vire budget to a new scheme for LGBT Footways and LGBT Structures as indicated in paragraph 2.12 to 2.14 of this report.
  - Eastern Shelter and Barry Island Promenade Refresh and ANPR – Rename this scheme in the 2025/26 Capital Programme, Barry Island ANPR and pay systems.
  - Car Park Refurbishment and new parking charges – Merge the schemes for Residential Parking schemes and permits, Car Park Refurbishment and Ogmere by Sea Car Park Refurbishment in the 2025/26 Capital Programme.
  - Active Travel – Allocate the Active Travel budget of £976k in the 2025/26 Capital Programme.
  - Active Travel – Vire £6k Section 106 money to the ATNM improvement and development scheme in the 2025/26 Capital Programme.
  - SPF BSC/Engine Room Transformation Project – Increase the budget for this scheme in the 2025/26 Capital Programme by £141k, to be funded from the Place reserve.
  - Extension to Cowbridge Primary Phase 2 (lolo) – Reprofile this scheme in the current and future years' Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 2.21
- (5) T H A T the 2025/26 Capital Programme be amended to reflect the revised leases arrangements that have/are due to commence in 2025/26 that met the threshold for inclusion under IFRS16.

(6) T H A T the report be referred to Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and for any recommendations to be referred back to Cabinet for consideration.

#### Reasons for decisions

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

(4) To allow schemes to proceed in the current and future financial years.

(5) To request approval of the revised Leasing additions for 2025/26 as part of the IFRS16 accounting standard.

(6) To enable to report to be considered at the next meeting of the Resources Scrutiny Committee.

#### **C88 QUARTER 1 REVENUE MONITORING 2025/26 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to provide an update on Quarter 1 Monitoring for 2025/26.

There was concern currently with demands from unplanned use of reserves and deficits in some school budgets. There was a disparity between schools of similar demographics where one would be in surplus and another in deficit that would be addressed over the coming months. Schools were experts in teaching and learning and not financial managers and support was available for schools experiencing issues from Council Finance staff. Meetings would be taking place with schools experiencing issues with Senior Leaders to look at specialist support going forward.

Councillor Birch agreed that Headteachers were not financial managers but were expected to be and may need some support. Often Headteachers had to take difficult decisions as to where to allocate their funding for a wide variety of school aspects. Finance staff had been in to some schools to provide support already and that work would continue going forward so as not to interfere with the education standards for children and young people.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

#### **RESOLVED –**

(1) T H A T the report and the financial measures taken and proposed be approved.

- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and for any recommendations to be referred back to Cabinet for consideration.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To approve the report and the financial measures taken and proposed.
- (2) To enable the Scrutiny Committee responsible for finance to review the year end position.

### **C89 QUARTER 1 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2025/26 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the Quarter 1 Treasury Management 2025/26 Monitoring Report.

The report detailed the changes in the Capital Programme since the last report which all fell within the limits for long-term treasury management investment strategy. Capital had financed new capital expenditure and maturing debt wherever possible from its own resources but reserves and balances were now depleted. Going forward the Council would be required to meet more of its capital requirements through external borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board, which had been discussed as part of the proposals for St Richard Gwyn and Ysgol Iolo schools as borrowing would be required in order to meet the costs.

Due to the high cost of borrowing currently, the Council was taking a prudent approach and borrowing on shorter term loans up to 5 years with an expectation that rates will fall during that period and the Council can then borrow at lower levels in the future. £6m external borrowing had been undertaken so far this financial year to fund capital expenditure at 0.2% below the standard rate.

Most of the Council's investments were placed with the UK Government (DMADF and Treasury Bills) or Local Authorities as they were considered to be safe with a reasonable to good return and protected base capital.

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 One Monitoring report for Treasury Management 2025/26 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Quarter One Monitoring report for Treasury Management 2025/26 be referred to Governance and Audit Committee.

(3) T H A T use of the urgency procedure as set out at Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be agreed to allow the report to be considered by Governance and Audit Committee on 15th September, 2025.

#### 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.
- (3) To allow the report to be considered at the next meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee.

#### **C90 RESTRICTIONS ON HIGH IN FAT, SUGAR AND SALT (HFSS) ADVERTISING - UPDATED ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP PROTOCOL (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Leader presented the report to update the Protocol in line with the Council's policy commitments.

The Council had an objective to reduce health inequalities in the Vale of Glamorgan as there was an established gap in healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas of the Vale of Glamorgan, measured at 19.3 years for females and 17.9 years for males. Diet had an impact on health going forward and around 20% of young people were classed as overweight. Residents were surrounded by advertisements that encouraged people to make less healthy choices than they could and so the update to the Protocol was put forward for Council-controlled sites where the Council could control what was being advertised.

Councillor Birch said that historically there had always been objections to public health announcements and policies, including the removal of smoking promotions more recently and the wearing seatbelts in cars which are now taken for granted as common sense approaches. People were more aware of making better choices and Councils had an obligation to assist residents to be well-informed about what they were eating.

The Leader said it was important to understand that the Council was not saying residents could not eat or buy products high in fat, sugar and salt as that was a personal choice, but the Council would use advertising space on Council-owned sites for more constructive matters.

Councillor Sivagnanam said the main effect of the proposal would be on advertisers who would not be able to advertise on Council sites. The Protocol formed part of the Council's contribution to public health and delivering on objectives to reduce health inequality in the Vale of Glamorgan contained in the values-driven Corporate Plan, Vale 2030.

Councillor Wilson said the proposal would encourage residents to more informed choices take more healthy options but of course any individual was able to make their own choices.

The Leader said that the report had to come to Cabinet as it constituted a policy change but was directed to helping residents of the Vale of Glamorgan to make more healthy choices.

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 Advertising and Sponsorship Protocol contained in Appendix A attached to the report be approved.
- (2) T H A T the accompanying Food and Drink Advertising Approval Guidance contained in Appendix B attached to the report be approved.
- (3) T H A T, subject to Resolution (1), delegated authority be granted to the relevant Head of Service in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Director of Corporate Resources and Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer to promote and agree sponsorship and advertising opportunities and award necessary contracts in line with the Advertising and Sponsorship Protocol contained in Appendix A. Where it was deemed appropriate to do so, further reports to Cabinet on specific opportunities would be reported.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that advertising and sponsorship activity was undertaken consistently in line with the Council's Corporate Plan and wider policy agenda and contracts were agreed in line with defined processes and emerging regional and national policy to support people in making healthier food and lifestyle choices.
- (2) To ensure advertising and sponsorship activity was managed in accordance with the Advertising and Sponsorship Protocol and, where in certain circumstances it was deemed to be appropriate to do so, that individual reports were brought to Cabinet in due course.
- (3) To ensure that the process for progressing any changes was undertaken efficiently and effectively in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures and that the views of the Scrutiny Committee were taken into account.



**C91            WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS ANNUAL MONITORING  
REPORT 2024-2025 (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – START WELL AND RESOURCES  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEES) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report to seek approval for the Council's Annual Welsh Monitoring Report and update on 5-year Promotion Strategy.

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 Annual Welsh Monitoring Report for 2024/25 (Appendix 1) and Update on the Welsh Language Promotional Strategy (Appendix 2) in principle be approved, subject to consideration by the Start Well and Resources Scrutiny Committees.

(2)     T H A T the report (and appendices) be referred to the Start Well and Resources Scrutiny Committees for consideration and if endorsed by the Committees, that the report be published.

Reasons for decisions

(1)     To allow the Council to meet its reporting duty to the Welsh Commissioner as part of the Welsh Language Standards.

(2)     To enable Start Well and Resources Scrutiny Committees to consider the report (and appendices) prior to publication.

**C92            ANNUAL EQUALITY MONITORING REPORT 2024-2025 (CEERS)  
(SCRUTINY – LIVE WELL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report to seek approval of the Annual Equality Monitoring Report (Appendix 1).

Councillor Sivagnanam said the report summarised the work across the organisation for 2024/25 and was structured so as to meet the requirements of the Equality Act and specific Duties for Wales.

Cabinet was made aware that Appendix 5 to the report would contain a detailed report on employment information, a summary of which should have been included in the main report. The employment data was not submitted in time for the meeting cycle and as such, neither Appendix 5 nor the summary within the main report were included. Appendix 5 would follow at a later Scrutiny meeting once the data had been submitted.

Several examples of the Council's work to achieve the equality objectives were quoted including QuickStart, staff networks (GLAM, Diverse and Abl), the Family Information Service (FIS) and Schools of Sanctuary which all worked towards making a difference to addressing inequalities across the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Leader said it was important to show what the Council was doing to tackle inequalities across the Vale of Glamorgan and also referred to the specialist support and advice services available at the Pod at Golau Caredig on issues such as housing, benefits employment matters.

Councillor Sivagnanam said the report reflected the values of the Council and made a difference to both communities and the Council's workforce who delivered services to those communities.

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 Annual Equality Monitoring Report 2024-2025 as described in the body of the report and at Appendix 1 be approved.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Live Well Scrutiny Committee and that any recommendations be referred back to Cabinet for consideration and inclusion in the final version of the Annual Equality Monitoring Report.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the Council to meet its reporting duty under the specific duties for Wales and continue to make progress towards meeting the public sector equality duty whilst ensuring our equality work was available for scrutiny by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and others.
- (2) To enable the Scrutiny Committee to consider the report and to enable publication by 31st March, 2026 to meet our statutory duties.