

CABINET

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 2nd October 2025.

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

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

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

Also Present: Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson.

C93 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.

C94 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor B.E. Brooks.

C95 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2025 be approved as a correct record.

C96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C97 AUDIT WALES: VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL AUDIT PLAN 2025 (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 23rd June 2025 was presented.

Committee commented on the effectiveness of the Council's hybrid meetings solution and the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee before noting the report and referring 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.

C98 WORK TO TACKLE POVERTY AND THE CURRENT COST OF LIVING CRISIS (REF) –

The reference from Live Well Scrutiny Committee held on 8th July 2025 was presented.

Committee asked a number of questions and the Director of Corporate Resources advised that the data provided within Appendix B of the report was data introduced against the 2025 performance measures.

There were comments concerning meeting the Welsh Benefits Charter and working as a partner with Citizens Advice to provide effective support, as well as reference to the 'Life in the Vale' survey which was currently underway.

Committee recommended that the following aspects of the report be noted and the report referred to Cabinet:-

- the work being undertaken with regards to tackling poverty and the cost-of-living crisis, and
- the use of the cost-of-living reserve to support those in need.

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the reference from the Live Well Scrutiny Committee held on 8th July 2025 be noted.

(2) T H A T the Budget Working Group be made aware of the discussion concerning the cost-of-living-reserve and whether further support was required going forward.

Reason for decisions

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

C99 URGENT AND EMERGENCY CARE: FLOW OUT OF HOSPITAL (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 21st July 2025 was presented.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health said that the audit had taken place in September 2024 and made seven recommendations which impacted on both the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff Local Authorities and the Public Health Board.

Concerns at the time were on hospital waiting lists and times taken for patient discharge from hospital, but in the year since the audit those waiting lists for assessments had been significantly reduced and teams were able to now respond within a matter of days. Each case was individual and had different levels of need to be assessed.

In the last week, the Care Inspectorate Wales report had been received regarding the Vale of Glamorgan Community Reablement Service who had received an excellent report from the Inspectors, with Social Workers and the multi-disciplinary team of Occupation Health and psychologists working together to compliment the services provided.

Councillor Wilson referred to point 29 on Page 13 of the Detailed Audit Report which discussed what could be done to improve patient discharge from hospital including ensuring a good homecare package was available for patients. Often that was time-consuming and each case individual, sometimes requiring assessment of complex needs, and had to be done in the safest way possible. Maximising weekend discharges was only possible if safe to do so for the patient.

The Leader said that often urgent care could also be put in place to avoid a patient going to hospital in the first place.

Councillor John said that the situation since the audit had taken place had really improved.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 21st July 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C100 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL: REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMISSIONING SERVICES (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 21st July 2025 was presented.

Audit Wales concluded that the Council could provide examples where in commissioning services it had arrangements in place to secure value for money and apply the sustainable development principle, but there was still work to do as that was not guaranteed across all services. Subsequently, Audit Wales made three recommendations in relation to the review and the Director of Corporate Resources and the Head of Financial Services / Section 151 Officer had developed an action plan which would be progressed by the Council.

Committee noted the findings from Audit Wales' review and referred the report to Cabinet for its oversight and endorsement of the proposed Council actions (Appendix B to the report).

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 21st July 2025 be noted.

(2) T H A T the Council's proposed actions would be discussed as part of ongoing performance monitoring arrangements.

Reason for decisions

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

C101 Q1 UPDATE: AUDIT WALES WORK PROGRAMME 2025 (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 21st July 2025 was presented.

Committee commented on the introduction of a 4-day working week that had been introduced in a Council in England, and also in relation to Corporate Joint Committees.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 21st July 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C102 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CODE 2024-25 UPDATE (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 21st July 2025 was presented.

The updated review had been considered by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team and then reported to Governance and Audit Committee for comment / recommendations. Committee noted the report which was then forwarded to Cabinet to consideration.

RESOLVED – T H A T the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 21st July 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C103 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES GAMBLING ACT 2005 – 2025–2028 (REF) –

The reference from Statutory Licensing Committee held on 9th September 2025 was presented.

The Leader said the reference formed part of the process of Statutory Licensing Committee considering the report, and noting that no consultation responses had been received, referred the report to Cabinet in order to refer the report to Full Council for final approval.

RESOLVED – T H A T the proposed Statement of Licensing Principles for 2025-2028, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be approved and the report referred to Full Council for final approval.

Reason for decision

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

C104 FINAL DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024/25 (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee held on 15th September 2025 was presented.

Discussion took place regarding Council communication which had been considered as part of the self-assessment process. The assessment of the Council rating had been 'Fair' in the previous year, but it was felt that the work completed on the 'Life in the Vale' engagement had moved the status up to 'Good, however Committee recommended that the Engagement and Insight Assessment of the Vale of Glamorgan within the Final Draft Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25 should be amended from 'Good' to 'Fair'.

The second 'Life in the Vale' survey was currently live and 19 of the 21 other Local Authorities in Wales were also using the Vale of Glamorgan's data set. It was hoped that rating would move to 'Good' going forward.

The Leader noted that the reference having been considered by Governance and Audit Committee and Cabinet, would now be referred to Full Council for consideration and approval, as stated in the 4th of September 2025 Cabinet report.

RESOLVED –

(1) **T H A T** the reference from the Governance and Audit Committee which took place on 15th September 2025 be noted.

(2) **T H A T** the Engagement and Insight Assessment of the Vale of Glamorgan within the Final Draft Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25 be amended from 'Good' to 'Fair'.

(3) T H A T the Final Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment report 2024/25 be referred to Full Council on 1st December 2025 for consideration and approval.

Reason for decisions

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

(2-3) 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.

C105 VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL ACCESS FORUM –

The minutes of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum held on 9th April 2025 were presented.

Matters considered at the meeting included thanks being given to F. Coleman who had sat on the Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum since inception in 2003 and an overview of achievements from the Public Rights of Way Team.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum held on 9th April 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C106 CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE –

The minutes of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee annual meeting held on 23rd July 2025 were presented.

Matters considered at the annual meeting included the timetable of meetings and update reports from the Cardiff Harbour Authority, Natural Resources Wales and Waterfront Partners.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee annual meeting held on 23rd July 2025 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C107 CABINET QUARTERLY WORK PROGRAMMES – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2025 AND OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2025 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – NO RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Leader presented the report to involve, engage and consult Members of the progress to date in respect of Cabinet Quarterly Work Programmes for the period July to September 2025 and to confirm the Quarterly Work Programme for October to December 2025.

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 updates to the Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme for July to September 2025 attached at Appendix 1 be agreed.
- (2) T H A T the Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme October to December 2025 attached at Appendix 2 be endorsed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To monitor progress.
- (2) To approve the Work Programme for October to December 2025

C108 BARRY MAKING WAVES LEVELLING UP FUND UPDATE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Leader presented the report to update Cabinet on the Levelling Up Fund projects.

The Council was progressing the Barry Making Waves projects at the Dock Office (as described in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.8 of the report) and the Mole (as described in paragraphs 2.9 to 2.16 of the report).

The scheme for the Dock Office would provide a long-term solution for the future of the building which would remain in the control of the Council and would retain the building as part of the public infrastructure of the town, subject to relevant planning approval.

Paragraph 2.9 of the report referred to the proposal for a new educational and water sports activity centre on the Mole, working with the existing facility as well as Cardiff and Vale College.

Councillor Perkes said that as a Barry Councillor she was excited that the funding had been agreed and would be used to redevelop the area. She further noted the

recent finalisation of the contract with Lovell and Cardiff Council for the construction of new homes and that there would be a scheme for the Mole. The provision of facilities for the community would not only benefit the people of Barry but would also benefit the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan as a whole.

Councillor Wilson echoed Cllr' Perkes' comments about the benefits to the Vale of Glamorgan as a whole and hoped the developments would act as a catalyst for further development in the area and promote more opportunities for active travel.

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 formal response by the UK Government to the amended Levelling Up Fund (Round 3) award be noted and the arrangements relating to the delivery of the projects as described in the body of the report be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To apprise Cabinet of the current position regarding the funding from UK Government and the progress being made.

C109 TRANSFORMING TOWNS FUNDING (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Leader presented the report to seek approval to use the existing (2015-2031/37) Welsh Government's Transforming Towns repayable loan funding for a 'Town Centre Loan Scheme', to use the 2025-2027 Placemaking Grant variation award and to also make recommendations for governance and budget management arrangements.

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 current position regarding Transforming Towns Funding be noted.
- (2) **T H A T** a repayable loan fund of £1,895,666 be established using approved Welsh Government loan funding.
- (3) **T H A T** delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place and the Operational Manager, Regeneration to approve loans in High Street/Broad Street, Barry Town Centre; Holton Road, Barry Town Centre; Cowbridge Town Centre; Llantwit Major Town Centre; and Penarth Town Centre.

(4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Vale of Glamorgan Place Board to approve the use of Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant funding to projects delivered either by the Council or by a third party recipient via a grant. Grants could be used to support projects in in High Street/Broad Street, Barry Town Centre; Holton Road, Barry Town Centre; Cowbridge Town Centre; Llantwit Major Town Centre; and Penarth Town Centre.

(5) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Vale of Glamorgan Place Board to approve the use of the Council's Placemaking reserve for use on Placemaking projects or as match funding for placemaking projects.

(6) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party loan and grant recipients.

(7) T H A T changes to the 2025/26 and 2026/27 Capital Programme as outlined in paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the report be approved.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To inform Cabinet of the current position.

(2) To create a repayable loan fund product that would encourage regeneration in the four Vale of Glamorgan town centres.

(3) To enable the approval of 3rd party loan funding in High Street/Broad Street, Barry Town Centre; Holton Road, Barry Town Centre; Cowbridge Town Centre; Llantwit Major Town Centre; and Penarth Town Centre.

(4-5) To enable the delivery of placemaking projects.

(6) To prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party loan and grant recipients.

(7) To obtain authority for the funding to be included within the 2025/26 and 2026/27 Capital Programme.

C110 BARRY ISLAND SMUGGLERS COVE ADVENTURE GOLF (NBS) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report to grant a supplemental lease to the existing agreement between the Council and Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf and to seek approval to grant a supplemental lease for an additional area that would increase the overall demise of the existing lease.

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 delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the proposed loss of a small parcel of Public Open Space (in accordance with s123 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972) which it was intended to be included in a new additional lease for Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf.
- (2) T H A T, if objections were received as a result of the advertisement process outlined in Resolution (1), those objections would be reported back to Cabinet.
- (3) T H A T the disposal of the additional parcel of land by including it in a new additional lease agreement for Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf be authorised, should there be no objections from the S123 (2A) advertisement process.
- (4) T H A T the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer be granted delegated authority to agree terms and conditions for the new additional lease in consultation with the Head of Neighbourhood Services
- (5) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to draft and execute a new additional lease agreement for Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf for the extra parcel of land provided there were no objections from the S123 loss of Public Open Space advertisement process.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) The small parcel of land was currently legally designated as Public Open Space and as such the Council was obliged to advertise the potential loss of the space pursuant to Section 123 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- (2) In order that Cabinet could consider any objections and to comply with the provisions of the Act.
- (3) To allow the land to be incorporated into an additional lease for Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf if there were no objections to the loss of Public Open Space.
- (4) To allow Heads of Terms to be agreed prior to instructing the legal team to draft the lease.
- (5) In order to regularise the situation by lease.

C111 SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROCUREMENT EXERCISES 2025-2026 (PSHTE) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report to inform Cabinet of the upcoming Supporting People procurement exercises and to seek approval to enter into new contracts.

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 exercises for the ten contracts due to expire be approved.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Sector Housing and Tenant Engagement and the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, to enter into a contract with the most advantageous providers following the conclusion of each of the procurement exercises and for the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to negotiate and execute contracts and any supporting contractual documents with the successful providers.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Building Services to extend the existing TESS 1 and 2 contracts up to 14th September 2026.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that the Supporting People Team could carry out the procurement exercises in line with Vale of Glamorgan standing orders and UK procurement regulations.
- (2) To ensure that the Supporting People Team could enter into new contracts that replaced the existing contracts that were due to expire.
- (3) To improve efficiency by merging the two generic floating support contracts that were due to be retendered.