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| Meeting of:   | <b>Cabinet</b>  |
| Date of Meeting:  | <b>Thursday, 08 January 2026</b>  |
| Relevant Scrutiny Committee:  | No Relevant Scrutiny Committee  |
| Report Title:   | Cabinet Quarterly Report - Reporting Minutes of Joint Committees and Committees where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an Active Participant  |
| Purpose of Report:  | To provide a quarterly update for all elected Members of the Vale of Glamorgan Council concerning meetings of Joint Committees and Committees where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant from October to December 2025. |
| Report Owner:   | Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources   |
| Responsible Officer:  | Chief Executive   |
| Elected Member and Officer Consultation:  | Democratic Services   |
| Policy Framework:   | This is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet  |
| <p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In receiving the quarterly Cabinet report which is made available to all Members, minutes from various Committees over the period October to December 2025 are made available to Members as requested by Governance and Audit Committee for ease of reference and for information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of meetings contained in this quarterly report are:</li> <li>Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee – 22nd October 2025 (attached as Appendix 1).</li> <li>South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee – <a href="#">6th October (Extraordinary)</a>, <a href="#">13th October</a> and <a href="#">24th November 2025</a>.</li> <li>Central South Consortium - Joint Education Service Joint Committee – <a href="#">16th December 2025</a>.</li> <li>Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee – <a href="#">3rd (Special)</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |   |

## **Recommendation**

1. That the minutes concerning meetings of Joint Committees and Committees where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant from October to December 2025 be noted.

## **Reason for Recommendation**

1. To present to Cabinet a report on a quarterly basis which would provide an overview of all the Joint Committee Meetings of which the Vale of Glamorgan Council was a formal member and links to the respective minutes.

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Governance and Audit Committee as its meeting held on 15th September 2025 considered a report concerning '[Reporting Arrangements for Joint Committee Meetings](#)', following initial information provided to the Committee at its meeting held [24th March, 2025](#), which provided a summary for the following joint bodies of which the Vale of Glamorgan were formal members:
  - Central South Consortium - Joint Education Service Joint Committee;
  - South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (formally Cardiff Region City Deal);
  - Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee;
  - National Joint Committee for the National Adoption Service and Foster Wales;
  - Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint Committee;
  - Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee; and
  - Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee.
- 1.2 The matter related to a number of meetings not managed by the Council but where the Council was one of a number of parties that had participated. Governance and Audit Committee had discussed a proposal for a new process that would involve a report being presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis which would provide an overview of all the Joint Committee Meetings of which the Vale of Glamorgan Council was a formal member and links to the respective minutes.
- 1.3 Cabinet considered the associated [reference](#) from Governance and Audit Committee at its meeting held on 16th October 2025 ([Minute No. C116](#) refers) and resolved that the proposed new process in which a quarterly report be presented to Cabinet providing an overview of meetings of Joint Committees be endorsed.

## 2. Key Issues for Consideration

**2.1** Further to the resolution under Minute No. C116, Cabinet further considered as its meeting held on 6th November 2025 a report concerning '[Strategic Collaborative Working Initiatives Update](#)' which proposed that the quarterly report also include the minutes of other meetings that Cabinet considers on a regular basis as part of the same quarterly report, those being:

- Appointment of Local Authority Governors Advisory Panel
- Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee
- Corporate Parenting Panel
- Glamorgan Heritage Coast Advisory Group
- Joint Consultative Forum
- Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum

**2.2** Cabinet is therefore asked to consider and note the minutes concerning meetings of Joint Committees and Committees where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant from October to December 2025.

## 3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

**3.1 Involvement** – Members are sent copies of Cabinet papers associated with every public meeting, as well as being published on the Vale of Glamorgan Council website, and the report seeks to provide Members of the Council and residents of the Vale of Glamorgan with information on meetings where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant.

**3.2 Collaboration** – The report seeks to detail via minutes of a number of Committees where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant the partnership working and collaboration between the Council and its partners.

**3.3 Long-term** – The quarterly report will seek to provide Members of the Council and residents of the Vale of Glamorgan information each quarter that relates to the activities of the Council.

**3.4 Integration** – Providing details of the minutes from meetings where the Vale of Glamorgan Council is an active participant in one place each quarter will make it easier for Members of the Council and residents of the Vale of Glamorgan to keep up to date with the activities of the Council and its partners.

## 4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

**4.1** There are no direct implications as a result of the report.

## 5. Resources and Legal Considerations

### Financial

**5.1** There are no direct implications as a result of the report.

**Employment**

**5.2** There are no direct implications as a result of the report.

**Legal (Including Equalities)**

**5.3** There are no direct implications as a result of the report.

**6. Background Papers**

None.

## CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2025.

Present: Councillor N.C. Thomas (Vice-Chair in the Chair), A. Coles (Western Marinas – representing British Marine Federation and Royal Yachting Association), C. Kingston (Waterfront Partners), and M. Thomas (Clerk – Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer, Vale of Glamorgan Council).

Also present: A.M. Ernest (Penarth Tourism and Visitor Association), D. Hall (Cardiff Harbour Authority) and A. Vye-Parminter (Cardiff Harbour Authority).

(a) Apologies for Absence –

These were received from Councillor M.R. Wilson (Chair), C. Dimond (Cardiff Flood Action Committee), S. Jones (Boatfolk Marinas Ltd.), C. Michael (RSPB Wales), C. Pooley (Natural Resources Wales) and P. Stone (Paddle Cymru).

(b) Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2025 –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

(c) Navigational Safety and General Progress Report –

The Committee were informed by A. Vye-Parminter and D. Hall, representing the Cardiff Harbour Authority (CHA), of the following on navigational safety and general progress of the CHA activities:

### **Navigation**

There was nothing to report or update the Committee about in terms of navigation issues within the Bay at this time.

### **Barrage**

Sluice 2 cylinder repairs had been completed successfully, and the Sluice was back in service. Sluice 4 maintenance campaign was ongoing, with two cylinders having been sent for overhaul.

The Engineering team had been on site preparing the route for the Cardiff Half Marathon and on standby in case there were any engineering issues. The bridges were lowered for participants in the marathon to cross. No issues had occurred or been reported, and the event went well.

Lock 1 had been used since Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October to unload plant and equipment from Flatholm on completion of the site works. Mobile cranes would be deployed on site and Lock 1 Island would be used to offload all plant and materials.

## **Environment**

A major clearance of debris and reed growth had been carried out under the A4232 bridge in the vicinity of Cardiff Yacht Club. This would be followed by a community litter pick in November, involving volunteers from the Royal Engineers Veteran's group.

A re-profiling of the pond area at Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve had also recently been completed. It had become very overgrown, and these works would help to improve access for educational pond dipping trips.

Since the last meeting update in July, the Environment Team had engaged with approximately 500 primary school children, either during history trips of Cardiff Bay or in school sessions based around looking after rivers and seas.

Cardiff recently hosted the 44<sup>th</sup> Network of the Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) Network Plenary meeting. This was a gathering of the heads of all the environmental protection agencies across Europe. One of the Environment Officers led an hour-long boat tour round Cardiff Bay as part of this conference, explaining the history of the development and the environmental challenges associated with it. This would also help to build up connections in terms of future management strategies, etc.

In terms of future management strategies, the CHA would continue to collaborate with universities across the UK. Funding had recently been secured from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) project looking at Real-Time Digital Water-Based Systems (RED-ALERT). This collaboration between CHA, Cardiff University and Bangor University would aim to develop a viral prediction model for Cardiff Bay. This ground-breaking work could be used to further demonstrate that Wales continued to be at the forefront of water quality prediction and management.

Following the update, A.M. Ernest (Penarth Tourism and Visitor Association) asked about the publishing of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary book on Cardiff Bay and further details on it. It was explained that the book had not been published yet and was currently still being produced. The book would have a short run, but a copy of the book would be shared with the Committee once published, and a copy would also be available online.

Following consideration by the Committee on this item, it was subsequently

**AGREED – T H A T** that this item be noted.

(d) Natural Resources Wales Update –

The Natural Resources Wales (NRW) update highlighted the following areas of interest to the Committee:

**Dissolved oxygen (DO) levels**

Overall DO levels within the Bay remained above the 5 mg/L threshold. Levels had at times temporarily dropped below the threshold in some of the deeper areas of the Bay during periods of warm, calm weather but no signs of distress to wildlife was observed.

The arrival of autumn had seen a reduction in these events with the last update from the Cardiff Harbour Authority (CHA) reporting no low oxygen events during September, even in the deeper sections of the Bay. It had therefore been agreed that these reports would now resume next summer.

The CHA also confirmed that the aeration system would be switched to winter mode and will only operate between midnight and 06:00 am. This would remain in place until the weather warms up again next year.

**Pollution incidents and investigations**

**Ferry Road Landfill Site**

There were no further updates since the last meeting.

**Other Pollution Incidents**

A report was received on 6th September for oil on the surface of the lower Ely in the area around Pont y Werin bridge. An officer attended the site soon after but could not see any significant signs of oil. It was suspected that a small amount of oil or fuel might have entered the water from one of the boats in the area. There were no reports or signs of wildlife being affected.

**The Barrage Fish Pass**

So far this year a raw count of 52 salmonids was recorded through the fish pass. The numbers would be extrapolated at a later date in order to provide an estimate of the total number entering the Bay and shared with the committee once this was available. Additionally, several juvenile salmon had been recorded during fish surveys at several sites within the Taff catchment. This showed that even when returning numbers were low Salmon were still capable of finding one another and reproducing.

Due to the NRW representative being unable to attend the meeting, the above update had been shared with Members of the Committee previously, and any

questions would be shared with the NRW representative outside the meeting in order to address these.

Following consideration by the Committee on this item, it was subsequently

AGREED – T H A T that this item be noted.

(e) Any other Business –

A.M. Ernest requested that consideration be given to the body he represented, Penarth Tourism and Visitor Association, having full membership status on this Committee, rather than an associate or observer one, which he and this body currently had. He had attended this Committee for several years, and the Association having full membership status would also help in the running of the Committee, such as helping to maintain quoracy, etc. The Vice-Chair in the Chair suggested that the Clerk to the Committee take this suggestion away and look at the terms of reference for the Committee in order to see if this suggestion was feasible. This would be reported back to the Committee in due course.

C. Kingston (Waterfront Partners (WFP)) provided an update to the Committee concerning the work, events, etc. in relation to Waterfront Partners, which included:

- The Partners met monthly to update on events, work together on marketing the Bay and planning for specific projects such as the WFP Christmas Trails. Guest speakers at the monthly meetings, representing businesses / charities / initiatives were welcomed and provided opportunities for Partners to engage with and support.
- There had been notable difficulty for customers reaching businesses in the Bay due to parking. Partners were hoping to receive an update on Bay development plans shortly.
- Feedback from the summer season indicated a drop in tourist / visitor numbers to the Bay from previous years.
- Hotels were taking bookings for the rugby internationals coming up. Planning for Christmas – taking more bookings for smaller group parties / meals rather than the larger parties pre-covid.
- Wales Millennium Centre (WMC) had installed bee hives around the building (approximately 5000 bees) – selling WMC honey next year.
- Businesses were planning for Christmas. WFP would add their events to [www.visitcardiffbay.info.org](http://www.visitcardiffbay.info.org) promoting family activities, offers, competitions etc. WFP would not be organising the WFP Christmas Trail with hired props as they had done for the past three years due to financial restrictions. WFP would be looking to set up a virtual trail instead, as would other partners, etc.
- The WFP were hoping to have a guest speaker at their next meeting to update partners on the plans on what was going on in the Bay considering the significant development going on. If any Members of this Committee would like to come along, the WFP meetings were held on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am.



Following the update, the Vice-Chair in the Chair asked for clarification on the WMC beehive population figures, which C. Kingston would investigate for him and the Committee and report back in due course.

A.M. Ernest asked where the venue for the WFP meeting was. It was explained that November's meeting would be held at the Norwegian Church, but this location changed each month, due to this being held by each different partner. He also referred to what he felt had been a good summer for the Penarth end of the Bay / Barrage in terms of visitors, such as during the visit of the Waverley nearby. Numbers may have dropped, but it remained relatively busy and lesser numbers may reflect the current economic situation. The Vice-Chair in the Chair felt that the area also seemed to remain busy during the summer period, and a drop in numbers during this period could also be down to weather, etc.

(f) Date of Next Meeting –

The Clerk informed the Committee the next meeting would be on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 at 5.00 p.m. This would be held via MS Teams. The intention would be to have an in-person / hybrid meeting later in 2026 in order to visit Cardiff Bay and the Barrage. C. Kingston offered a meeting room for future in-person meetings.