

CABINET

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 5th February 2026.

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.

Also Present: Councillor N.C. Thomas.

C193 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.

Councillor Burnett updated Cabinet that she had attended a ground-breaking ceremony at the new Cardiff and Vale College site which would hopefully be in operation by summer 2027, alongside the site in Rhoose, and would provide skills and opportunities for young people in the Vale of Glamorgan after a £119m investment. She had also visited the new Extra Care Housing facility in Penarth which was moving ahead and also joined the British Heart Foundation and a local resident at the installation of a new 'living bench' in Alexandra Park in Penarth. The bench was for those who had survived illness due to medical advances and thanks were passed on to the team concerned as part of the installation.

C194 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meetings held on 8th and 15th January 2026 be approved as correct records.

C195 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C196 TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION: LONG TERM CRISIS (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee dated 16th December 2025 was presented.

The Leader said there had been an interesting discussion at the meeting regarding how the Council managed its Homelessness Services and the savings made to the Council through development of services to support the homeless over recent years.

It was also noted that the new Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation Bill would place additional pressures on the Council which formed the basis of the recommendation from the Committee relevant to Cabinet which called for Cabinet to write to Welsh Government to express concern that no additional funding had been provided to Local Authorities in relation to that new piece of legislation.

The Leader referred to Recommendation (4) from the Committee which also called for the Chair of Governance and Audit Committee to also write to Welsh Government concerning the new Bill. As the Leader met regularly with Welsh Government representatives, as did other Cabinet Members and relevant Officers, the position of the Authority was already well known and it was agreed that the letter from the Chair of Governance and Audit Committee would further make the point.

RESOLVED – T H A T Cabinet agreed that the Chair of Governance and Audit Committee writing to Welsh Government concerning the new Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation Bill would adequately express concern that no additional funding had been provided to Local Authorities in relation to that new piece of legislation.

Reason for decision

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

C197 CORPORATE RISK: QUARTER 2 UPDATE (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee dated 16th December 2025 was presented.

There was an in depth discussion at the meeting regarding the decision taken by Associated British Ports to withdraw from the delivery of a marina as part of the Vale's Levelling Up Programme, risks concerning cyber security and the movement of risk levels for a number of matters.

The Committee made a recommendation to Cabinet based on the Committee's comments to highlight the increased risks associated with major projects, cyber security and climate change / nature emergency. It was noted that the first paragraph of the reference reflected the Strategic Leadership Team's (SLT) consideration of the recommendations made by the Committee which was also an ongoing process and Cabinet worked closely with SLT and would form part of the ongoing conversations concerning those risks.

RESOLVED –

- (1) **T H A T** the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be noted.
- (2) **T H A T** Cabinet would continue to work with the Senior Leadership Team as part of ongoing processes to monitor risks associated with major projects, cyber security and climate change / nature emergency.

Reason for decisions

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

C198 Q2 2025/26 PROGRESS AGAINST EXTERNAL REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee dated 16th December 2025 was presented.

The Leder said there had been an interesting discussion at the meeting with one recommendation to Cabinet requesting that the views and recommendations of the Governance and Audit Committee be referred to Cabinet (including endorsing the removal of completed actions from the Strategic Insight Board Insight Tracker).

The Leader said there was no direct actions for Cabinet as the removal of completed actions from the Strategic Insight Board Insight Tracker was a matter for the Strategic Insight Board itself and the Board would be made aware of the Committee's request.

RESOLVED – T H A T the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be noted.

Reason for decision

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

C199 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS: MAY 2026 TO MAY 2027 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – NO RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Leader presented the report to consider a draft timetable of meetings for the period May 2026 to May 2027.

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 timetable of meetings for May 2026 – May 2027, as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved, subject to any future changes in arrangements for meetings deemed appropriate by the Mayor of the Council or the relevant Committee / Meeting Chair.

Reasons for decisions

To approve / publish a calendar of meetings for the 2026/27 Municipal year.

**C200 BIGLIS TO DINAS POWYS ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTE (DL/SP)
(SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

The Deputy Leader presented the report to update Cabinet with work undertaken to date on the Active Travel Route from Biglis to Dinas Powys and to provide sufficient information to allow decisions to be made regarding the principle of undertaking the scheme to the next stage.

The Leader said the report had been long-awaited and it was important to consider connectivity within the Vale of Glamorgan, in this case from Barry to the Merrie Harrier in both directions and working on routes through Sully and Dinas Powys. It was important to have a straight route but also different ways to access that route and for users to be able to choose the part of the journey relevant to them safely.

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 progress on design, statutory approvals, and preparatory work for the Biglis to Dinas Powys Active Travel Route be noted.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places, the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources , the Chief Executive, and Head of Finance / Operational Manager Financial Services to proceed with land negotiations, tender preparation, and funding applications.
- (3) T H A T the submission of external funding bids to the Regional Transport Authority to secure delivery funding for the scheme be endorsed.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Neighbourhood Services to progress with a construction tender for both the first and second phase of construction of the scheme.
- (5) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into a New Engineering Contract (NEC) for the first and second phase of construction of the scheme.
- (6) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places, the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, the Chief Executive, and Head of Finance / Operational Manager Financial Services to enter negotiations for the acquisition of land (Indicated in Appendices C-G) required for the first and second phases of construction for the scheme, whether by financial consideration or other mutually agreed means.

(7) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to complete all necessary legal documentation associated with the acquisition of land.

(8) That the need and use of the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in the public interest be endorsed, should land negotiations fail to proceed.

(9) T H A T the report be referred to Full Council for consideration of the use of delegated powers regarding the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders as a function of Full Council.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To keep Cabinet informed of progress on design development, statutory approvals, and preparatory work for the Biglis to Dinas Powys Active Travel Route, ensuring transparency and oversight of the strategic infrastructure project.

(2) To enable timely delivery of the scheme by granting delegated authority for land negotiations, tender preparation, and funding applications. The approach avoided delays that could arise from returning to Cabinet for each operational decision.

(3) To secure external funding opportunities from the Regional Transport Authority, reducing reliance on Council resources and supporting the Council's commitment to sustainable transport and active travel objectives.

(4) To enable the timely progression of the construction tender for both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the scheme. The approach ensured the project could advance without delay, maintained continuity in delivery, and allowed procurement activity to be managed efficiently within established operational and governance frameworks. It also supported the Council's commitment to delivering the scheme within planned timescales and budget parameters by allowing necessary decisions to be taken promptly as the project developed.

(5) To allow efficient progression to construction by delegating authority to enter into a New Engineering Contract (NEC) for the first and second phases. That ensured compliance with procurement regulations and accelerated project delivery.

(6) To facilitate completion of the first and second phase by authorising land acquisition as detailed in Appendix C-G, ensuring that all necessary land was secured for the full implementation of the route.

(7) To ensure that all legal documentation required for the land acquisition was completed efficiently and in accordance with statutory, regulatory, and governance requirements. The delegation enabled the necessary legal processes to progress without delay, supported timely delivery of the project, and ensured that all agreements, contracts, and associated documents were executed correctly to protect the Council's legal and financial interests.

(8) To safeguard the public interest and project viability by endorsing the potential use of Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers should negotiations fail, ensuring that the scheme could proceed without undue delay.

(9) To comply with governance requirements by confirming that a further report would be presented to Full Council, as Cabinet does not hold delegated powers to authorise the use of CPOs. That maintained legal and constitutional integrity.

C201 REVIEW OF PILOT LEISURE ACTIVITY AT COSMESTON COUNTRY PARK (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Deputy Leader presented the report to provide a review of the summer's pilot of an on-water leisure activity in Cosmeston Country Park, going through the report in detail.

The Leader said it was a comprehensive report and that one local Member had said when the pilot was initially proposed that it was a good idea to explore options in terms of economic impact and employment in the area, and the pilot data had shown that a proposal such as the Aqua Park would be feasible going forward as an offer in a Country Park and detailed further in Paragraph 1.6 of the report.

People were passionate about the Country Parks and for vastly different reasons, be that as a quiet space, to walk their dog or to take their children to play. The Council was interested in what activities may be possible and interested in bird life and varied species in the various Country Parks, and as such there were a huge range of considerations to be mindful of.

The Leader asked the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan, however they used the Country Parks, to register to speak at the Scrutiny Committee meeting and have a thorough debate, particularly groups such as the Glamorgan Bird Club who kept their own records concerning bird numbers and would potentially have relevant data they could present to the Committee.

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 recognised:
- (a) the increase in visitor numbers to the park and associated expenditure associated with the aqua park leisure activity;
 - (b) the ecology reports from the operator's ecologist and an ecologist commissioned by the Council which noted from an ecological and legal standpoint, the Aqua Park's operation was compatible with the continued breeding of protected species on site and overall, the

available dataset indicated that breeding by key species occurred successfully during the Aqua Park's operational trial with bird use of the site being broadly equivalent to the 2022 baseline dataset available for the site;

- (c) the concerns expressed by some residents and users of the park in correspondence and demonstrations and noting the petitions received which sought to prevent the aqua park trial.

(2) T H A T the outcome of the trial undertaken in Summer 2025 which had now concluded be noted, and in advance of any further decisions being made on future water and land based activities, authorised the undertaking of a comprehensive review of options and opportunities for activities that exist at Cosmeston Country Park to help sustain the long-term future of the Country park status.

(3) T H A T as part of a review of options, the Council or its agents would undertake a further full year of breeding bird surveys in 2026, in the absence of potential impacts such as leisure operations on the water and that the Council and Natural Resources Wales agreed a further baseline survey, monitoring, mitigation and enhancement strategy well in advance of any future leisure installation and operation at the Park.

(4) T H A T in pursuance of Resolutions (2) and (3), the Council also undertake a further full 12 months of water quality testing, in the specific area identified for leisure uses during the aqua park trial and that that testing be undertaken weekly during June, July, August and September.

(5) T H A T subject to the agreement of Resolutions (2), (3) and (4), a further report be presented to Cabinet in late 2026 to advise of the outcomes of the work undertaken in regard to a review of options, the baseline assessment and water quality testing so that any future opportunities could be considered and if appropriate agreed.

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

Reasons for decisions

(1) To apprise Cabinet of the current position following a trial period for the aquapark during the Summer period 2025.

(2) To consider and identify suitable opportunities for appropriate (including from an ecological and visual standpoint), sustainable, safe, tourism and leisure activities within Cosmeston Country Park for the 2027 season that realised income opportunities which could be reinvested in the Park to support the important biodiversity and rewilding work already undertaken.

(3) To allow a full ecological base line assessment to be made in 2026 without formal leisure use of the water being undertaken and using that assessment to inform a future offer and tendering process.

- (4) To allow for a further base line to be established for water quality in the eastern lake in 2026 without formal leisure use of the water being undertaken and using that data to inform any future opportunities and tendering process.
- (5) To allow further consideration by Cabinet and for that consideration to be informed by the review of opportunities, baseline surveys and water testing.
- (6) To allow consideration by Scrutiny Committee.

C202 UPDATE ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING PROGRAMME (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – START WELL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report which sought Cabinet approval to formally include Sully Primary into the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and to proceed with submission of Strategic Outline Case.

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 approval be granted to formally add Sully Primary school into the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, increasing the Programme envelope by £9,350,000.
- (2) T H A T approval be granted to submit the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for Sully Primary School.
- (3) T H A T approval be granted to increase and reprofile the scheme in the Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 5.4 of the report.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To formally include Sully Primary School as a scheme under the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and increase envelope by £9.350m taking total envelope to £99.189m.
- (2) To allow the Sully Primary School Scheme to proceed to next stages of project delivery, undertake market testing and proceed with invitation to tender to appoint relevant partners.
- (3) To allow the scheme to proceed and approve the budget on the Capital Programme.

C203 OBJECTION REPORT: PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) TO AMEND THE SPEED LIMITS ON PORT ROAD WEST (PART) BARRY, PORT ROAD (PART) RHOOSE, AND PORTHKERRY ROAD, RHOOSE (NBS) (SCRUTINY – PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report to advise Cabinet of objections received and to propose an appropriate way forward.

There were contributory factors to the recorded collisions in the various areas, with careless/reckless driving, loss of control and exceeding the speed limit noted particularly at junctions, bends and areas of roadside activity. Such findings demonstrated the need for proportionate intervention to reduce risk and collision severity.

Welsh Government Road Support Grant Funding had been granted following external assessment of the scheme for robustness, value for money and safety benefits. Failure to proceed would place that funding at risk and undermine the Council's ability to deliver planned safety improvements within the associated funding timescales.

Statutory consultation had been undertaken in full and all representations carefully considered, with Officers remaining satisfied that the proposals were necessary, reasonable and defensible, also supporting the Council's duty to support highway safety.

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 objections be overruled and removal of support from South Wales Police for the reasons contained within the report and the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be approved.

(2) T H A T the objectors and South Wales Police be advised of this decision.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made, and the changes to speed limits implemented.

(2) To ensure that all those who took part in the Traffic Regulation Order consultation were advised of the outcome of the process.

C204 SHARED LIVES (SCH) (SCRUTINY – LIVE WELL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report to gain Cabinet approval to implement a change to the current payment system from one standard payment for Shared Lives Carers to a banding system of payments.

Councillor Williams said there were 29 Vale of Glamorgan citizens in long-term Shared Lives Placements in the Vale of Glamorgan with a further 20 people accessing respite placements to allow their family members a break from the caring role. There was a 'no detriment' approach that had been adopted in devising the new arrangement in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council.

A Banding System approach would be taken in the Vale of Glamorgan and once assigned, a band would travel with the individual across placements for both long and short-term and subject to review in accordance with individual needs and legislative framework set out in the Social Service Well-being (Wales) Act 2016.

It was important to consult with those affected by the proposed changes and as such the report called for a 12-week consultation to take place. There was already support for the change but it was important to have that formal consultation process.

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 a 12 week consultation period with Shared Lives Carers regarding the proposed changes be endorsed, to commence in February 2026.
- (2) T H A T the Director of Social Services and Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health be endorsed to implement the new banding system, having given due regard to feedback received from the consultation process.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the proposed changes to the payments for Shared Lives Carers to be consulted upon.
- (2) To allow for timely implementation of the new banding system, alongside regional partners, assuming that the feedback was predominantly supportive of the new arrangements.

**C205 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.

Councillor Sivagnanam advised Cabinet that they had previously considered the Annual Equality Monitoring Report in September 2025 and referred the report to Live Well Scrutiny for consideration. The Committee endorsed the Annual Equality Monitoring Report and as such Cabinet were asked to approve the final version of the Report and for the Report to be published.

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 this report and at Appendix 1 be approved.
- (2) T H A T the report be published by 31st March 2026 to meet statutory duties.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the Vale of Glamorgan 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 Cabinet to consider the report and to enable publication by 31st March 2026 to meet statutory duties.