

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 10TH MARCH, 2021

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 21ST DECEMBER, 2020

“C422 CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEES – RESPONSE TO WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION (L/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report set out the various elements of proposals by Welsh Government to introduce four Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) and set out a response to the current consultation on the same.

The response form was attached at Appendix A to the report and this had been completed for the consideration of Cabinet so that the Council could respond to the consultation by the deadline date of 4th January, 2021.

CJCs were described as a new statutory mechanism for regional collaboration by local government. The consultation was seeking views on draft regulations which would create four regional CJCs to exercise functions relating to strategic development planning, regional transport planning and the economic well-being of their areas.

The consultation documents included an overarching document on CJCs as well as specific regulations for the four separate CJCs. Given that the Vale of Glamorgan fell within the proposed South East Wales CJC, the report and the consultation response focused on this particular set of regulations.

The Leader noted the use of the urgency procedure in order to meet Welsh Government response deadline of 4th January, 2021, and that the report would be referred to Scrutiny Committee and any further comments would be sent as an addendum to Welsh Government even though the response deadline would have passed.

The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) had taken reports from all Councils on this issue and there would be a full response from WLGA to Welsh Government also.

The Managing Director advised that comments back to Welsh Government related to the need to resource the undertaking the CJC requirements and could not be at the expense of the existing Local Government structure if they are to function efficiently. The Leader added that would have to consider both the set-up costs as well as ongoing costs.

Cabinet thanked Officers for the work undertaken on a complicated matter.

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 contents of the report and the draft response to the consultation be noted and the same agreed for submission to Welsh Government.

(2) T H A T the report and appended consultation response be referred to the Corporate Performance and Resources and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees for consideration, with any additional recommendations reported to Cabinet for further consideration in advance of submission to Welsh Government as an addendum, if necessary and appropriate.

(3) T H A T the urgency procedure set out in section 14:14 of the Council's Constitution in respect of Recommendation (1) above be approved.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To enable the Council to respond to the Consultation on CJsCs.

(2) To enable the matter to be considered by the Corporate Performance and Resources and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees.

(3) The reporting of the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure is a requirement of the Council's Constitution."