

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 9th March, 2026.

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

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

Present: Councillor Naomi Marshallsea (Mayor), Councillors Anne Asbrey, Julie Aviet, Gareth Ball, Rhiannon Birch, Bronwen Brooks, Gillian Bruce, Ian Buckley, Lis Burnett, Samantha Campbell, George Carroll, Christine Cave, Charles Champion, Janice Charles, Amelia Collins, Marianne Cowpe, Brandon Dodd, Pamela Drake, Vincent Driscoll, Anthony Ernest, Robert Fisher, Christopher Franks, Wendy Gilligan, Russell Godfrey, Emma Goodjohn, Ewan Goodjohn, Stephen Haines, Sally Hanks, William Hennessy, Nic Hodges, Mark Hooper, Catherine Iannucci-Williams, Gwyn John, Dr. Ian Johnson, Susan Lloyd-Selby, Belinda Loveluck-Edwards, Julie Lynch-Wilson, Kevin Mahoney, Michael Morgan, Jayne Norman, Helen Payne, Elliot Penn, Sandra Perkes, Ian Perry, Joanna Protheroe, Ruba Sivagnanam, Carys Stallard, Neil Thomas, Rhys Thomas, Steffan Wiliam, Margaret Wilkinson, Edward Williams, Mark Wilson and Nicholas Wood.

697 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Mayor read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing”.

698 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

The following declarations of interest were received:

Councillor J. Aviet	Agenda Item No. 9(a) – Draft Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2030/31 – Personal interest in that they were a Council tenant, however this did not equate to a prejudicial interest under the Members’ Code of Conduct under paragraph number 19,3,3 (ii) A.
Councillor J. Aviet	Agenda Item No. 9(g) – Pay Policy 2026/27 – Personal and prejudicial interest as a family member was a Council employee however, they had a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee to speak and vote on

	matters relating to employee terms and conditions.
Councillor G. Bruce	Agenda Item No. 9(g) – Pay Policy 2026/27 – Personal interest as a member of their family worked for the Vale of Glamorgan Council, although the Councillor wished to say that they did not know any details of their pay or grade.
Councillor I.R. Buckley	Agenda Item No. 9(g) – Pay Policy 2026/27 – Personal and prejudicial interest as a family member was a Council employee however, the Councillor had a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee to speak and vote on matters relating to employee terms and conditions.
Councillor W.A. Hennessy	Agenda Item No. 9(a) – Draft Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2030/31 – Personal interest as the Councillor was a Council tenant. However this did not equate to a prejudicial interest under the Members’ Code of Conduct under paragraph number 19,3,3 (ii) A.
Councillor M.R. Wilkinson	Agenda Item No 9(a) – Draft Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2030/31 and Agenda Item No. 9(b) – Budget 2026/27 and MTFP 2026/27 to 2030/31 Supplemental Report – Personal Interest as they were a Council tenant, however this did not equate to a prejudicial interest under the Members’ Code of Conduct under paragraph number 19,3,3 (ii) A.
Councillor M.R. Wilkinson	Agenda Item No. 9(g) – Pay Policy 2026/27 – Personal and prejudicial interest as a family member was a Council employee however, the Councillor had a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee to speak and vote on matters relating to employee terms and conditions.

699 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 1st December, 2025 and the four Special meetings held on 12th January, 2026 at 6.00 p.m., 6.15 p.m., 6.30 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. be approved as a correct record.

700 ANNOUNCEMENTS –

The Mayor shared that they had recently been involved in commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day, and they had met a Holocaust survivor who shared their story, which emphasised that everyone had a responsibility to call out prejudice alongside also visiting a memorial exhibition at Art Central Gallery, which included immersive elements. They also shared how they had visited Vision 21, which provided training opportunities for people with disabilities and recognised the positive work being undertaken, alongside visiting a clothes bank in Llantwit Major, and encouraged people to think about donating items.

The Leader noted that this would potentially be the last Full Council meeting for Senedd candidates standing in the May election, and wished them well whilst asking them to remember the value of Local Government.

701 PUBLIC QUESTIONS –

The following question was submitted in accordance with the protocol agreed by Council on 5th May, 2010.

(i) Question from Ms C. Cutts

I would like to ask the Council why it feels they should be housing homeless applicants before anyone else on the housing list? Whilst I fully understand the Council legal requirement to help house those who are homeless, I question where that leaves others who are in desperate need of suitable housing? How someone can be gold plus for in excess of two years, can be ignored when a family who is homeless for less than two months then takes priority. I would like to ask the Council what data has been collected to assess the impact this policy has on other applicants and their circumstances.

What are the Homes4U team doing to house others for whom they have statutory responsibility?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Public Sector Housing and Tenant Engagement

The Council acknowledges the long waiting times for social housing and understands how challenging this is for applicants. Demand for housing in the Vale

significantly exceeds supply, which means difficult decisions must be made about how homes are allocated.

The Council has a legal duty under the Housing Wales Act 2014 to provide accommodation to households who are legally homeless. When someone is assessed as homeless, the Council must take reasonable steps to secure suitable housing for them – this is a statutory requirement, not a choice.

Homeless applicants are prioritised using the same Homes4U allocations policy as all other applicants. Some receive urgent or high priority due to their specific circumstances, just as others may do because of medical needs, risk of harm, or severe overcrowding. However, because there are far more high priority applicants than available homes, even those with significant need may face long waits, especially for certain property types or areas with very limited supply.

To manage these Housing pressures, the Council is taking proactive steps to increase the availability of affordable homes across the Vale. This includes delivering a growing programme of new Council house building, purchasing suitable properties on the open market to add directly to the housing stock, and converting existing buildings to create additional high-quality homes. These initiatives are designed to expand the range of accommodation options and support more households to move into homes that better meet their needs.

The Housing team continues to support all applicants by allocating properties fairly, maximising the use of available stock, working with housing associations to increase supply, offering alternative housing options, and helping prevent homelessness where possible. The Council remains committed to a fair, transparent and legally compliant allocations process.

702 AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (MO/HLDS) –

The Leader presented the report which sought Council's approval for the following elements to the Council's Constitution to be updated:

- To include amendments to Section 18 of the Council's Constitution as outlined within section 2.2 of the report;
- To include the new profile for Section 26 of the Council's Constitution as outlined within section 2.3 of the report;
- To make minor amendments for points of clarity as outlined within the Appendix.

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the amendments to the Council's Constitution as detailed in paragraphs 2.2 of the report be approved and the Constitution updated accordingly.

(2) T H A T the amendments to the Council's Constitution as detailed in paragraphs 2.3 of the report be approved and that the Constitution be updated accordingly.

(3) T H A T the amendments to the Council's Constitution as detailed in Appendix A of the report be approved and that the Constitution be updated accordingly.

Reason for decisions

(1-3) To update the Constitution to reflect amendments as outlined within the report.

703 DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU – VALE OF GLAMORGAN ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS REVIEW FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS (CX) AND AGENDA ITEM 9(e) DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU – VALE OF GLAMORGAN ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS REVIEW FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS (REF) –
(Agenda Items 7 and 9(e) were considered together)

The Leader presented the report which noted that the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 required the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru (“the Commission”) to review the electoral arrangements for each principal area in Wales at least once every 12 years.

The electoral arrangements are defined as:

- a. The number of Members of the Council for the principal area;
- b. The number, type and boundaries of the electoral wards into which the principal area is for the time being divided for the purpose for the election of Members;
- c. The number of Members to be elected for any electoral ward in the principal area; and
- d. The name of any electoral ward.

The Commission commenced the Electoral Review for the Vale of Glamorgan on 5th June, 2025 and published its Final Recommendations on 29th January, 2026.

The final recommendations had been submitted to Welsh Government Ministers and any further comments concerning the Commission's Final Recommendations should be addressed to Welsh Government and submitted by no later than 12th March 2026.

The Commission had notified all mandatory consultees of the publication of their Final Recommendations.

Cabinet considered the report on 26th February, 2026 and resolved “**(2) T H A T Cabinet recommends to Full Council that the Final Recommendations be accepted and that this be conveyed to Welsh Ministers in advance of 12th March 2026.**” (Minute No. C218 refers).

The purpose of the report was to update Full Council of the Commission's Final Recommendations.

Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson indicated that there had been several interesting conversations around these changes, including at the previous meeting of Full Council and Community Liaison Committee. They reflected there were several changes they did not believe to be controversial, such as combining Plymouth and Cosmeston wards, and welcomed that the Commissioner had listened to previous responses and kept the St Brides Ward as-is.

Councillor Carroll expressed concern regarding the impracticalities of the size and nature of some wards in the Western Vale but welcomed improved recommendations from the Commission. They however felt that the changes did not best serve communities.

A Recorded Vote took place as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey	√		
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		
Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		
Lis Burnett	√		
Samantha Campbell	√		
George Carroll		√	
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Amelia Collins	√		
Marianne Cowpe	√		
Brandon Dodd		√	

	For	Against	Abstain
Pamela Drake	√		
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest		√	
Robert Fisher		√	
Christopher Franks	√		
Wendy Gilligan	√		
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Ewan Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
Sally Hanks	√		
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges	√		
Mark Hooper	√		
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		
Gwyn John	√		
Ian Johnson	√		
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Kevin Mahoney		√	
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Jayne Norman	√		
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry		√	
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Steffan Wiliam	√		
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood		√	
Total	38	15	

RESOLVED – T H A T the Final Recommendations as set in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.9 of the report to Cabinet and as recommended by Cabinet be accepted and that this be conveyed to Welsh Minsters in advance of 12th March, 2026.

Reason for decision

Having noted and accepted the Commission's Final Recommendations, whilst being mindful that all Members were able to submit their own comments if they so wished.

704 CONSULTATION WITH NON-DOMESTIC RATEPAYERS (CX) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the position be noted, having regard to the fact that no responses to the consultation had been received.

Reason for decision

To comply with the Non-Domestic Ratepayers (Consultation) Regulations 1992 (Statutory Instrument No. 3171).

705 DRAFT BUDGET 2026/27 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 TO 2030/31 (REF) AND BUDGET 2026/27 AND MTFP 2026/27 TO 2030/31 SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT (EL/PR) –
(Agenda items 9(a) and 9(b) were considered together.)

The draft Budget report to Cabinet had initially proposed a Council Tax increase for 2026/27 of 5.5%. The Council had been exploring, at consultation stage, investment in Youth Service provision, Rural Buses and Parks at a cost of £1.070m which would require a further 1% increase in the Council Tax, i.e. 6.5%.

The recommendations to Council from Cabinet on 26th February included a recommendation that further investment be made in key services and an additional 1% Council Tax increase taking the total increase to 6.5%.

Following detailed consideration by Cabinet on 26th February, the report provided a breakdown of the additional resources across Youth Service provision and Rural Transport as well as setting out the benefits that this would deliver.

There was also an update to the MTFP Summary Spend table (Table 4 para 2.24) and the Council Tax by Band table (Table 5 para 2.32).

The Leader presented the report, noting that the proposed budget had to contend with rising demand and prices, particularly within Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Social Care. They noted that this was the first budget since 2021 where the Council was able to make choices and invest in services, and that since 2010, the Council had made £87m worth of savings, and asked Members to reflect upon how this money could have been spent. They noted that the process began in June, with Councillors being consulted throughout whether it be through briefings or scrutiny, and no alternative solutions had been proposed. They further explained the consultation response, with over 70% of respondents agreeing that the Council should support the most vulnerable, and whilst the majority were against increasing Council Tax, they were not against the notion of further supporting areas which would be funded by the additional 1%. They indicated that most respondents were aged 45 and over and there was a lack of youth voice, so they visited multiple schools speaking to a range of young people who emphasised the importance of funding education, social care and ALN. They closed by noting that the Vale of Glamorgan was 17th out of 22 Local Authorities in terms of Council Tax charges when comparing across Wales.

The Deputy Leader noted the importance of rural transport, and how they had made a conscious decision to replace the rural transport grant, and highlighted potential opportunities as a result of the additional funding such as expanding the Green Links service to 2 vehicles running 6 days per week, additional buses to support existing services and increasing capacity, endeavouring to align with the former village bus

network. They also shared the possibilities of an additional service between Cowbridge and Barry with a fixed timetable but emphasised the need to work with communities to understand what was needed in the future.

Councillor Franks stated that they had not seen the outcome of the consultation, but that felt no-one would voice support for cutting the highways maintenance budget by approximately £1m. They further listed areas such as a bus station with no buses, coastal car parking, Aqua Park and the purchase of Wilko as disasters. They shared they remained to be convinced budgets would be adequate to support the level of repairs needed and highlighted an example of a road in Dinas Powys which was not resurfaced despite preparation being undertaken. They further noted that they were please to see an extra £2m for schools within the budget, but that this would not be enough to prevent a forthcoming crisis.

Councillor Carroll reflected that he felt the budget setting process to be extraordinary, with the proposed increases being high and above the general rate of inflation. They referenced the Leader's comments surrounding the consultation process and highlighted that comments on social media more accurately represented public sentiment, with many wanting to understand what they were paying for and where money was being wasted. They shared that a 3.2% increase in line with inflation would leave a gap of £3.7m which could be drawn down from general reserves, which were on a similar level to Cardiff. They noted that whilst this was not prudent year on year, this could be used to ease financial pressures rather than burdening Council taxpayers.

Councillor Dr. Johnson thanked officers involved in preparing the budget, and referenced the Joint Scrutiny session, where he was surprised to hear comments from the Opposition Leader as he had opportunities to raise these concerns more proactively. They reflected that the Council had benefitted from Plaid Cymru's agreement in the Senedd and welcomed that there was no need for cuts. And that whilst they were not opposed to extra spending in areas which had previously been cut, he did not feel it was right to increase Council Tax to fund this. He also expressed disappointment around seeing above inflation increases and felt that this increase was raising the baseline ahead of a lower increase next year, when there were Council elections.

Councillor Goodjohn noted that the budget represented an 8% increase in investment, with particular emphasis upon education and social care, key statutory services, alongside improving town centres, and that money was going on services that were most vital and residents cared about. They noted that there were only 3 responses from people aged under 24 and reflected that they did not engage in the same way but there was a risk of their voices being drowned out. They shared that they felt previous comments around funding from general reserves to be irresponsible, and that money to support youth services would provide opportunities for young people, help reduce those who were not in education, employment or training, and had an impact of all communities. They challenged all Councillors to think of the youngest person they knew and to consider what life they would want them to lead in the future within their communities.

Councillor Payne shared that they had worked with young people for 44 years and witnessed a decimation of youth services but emphasised that there was a connection between those services and individual well-being. They indicated that they were delighted that the Council was seeking to support young people, as it was vital to create safe spaces where people could have relationships with trusted adults, other young people, whilst accessing activities, mentoring and generally gaining life skills.

Councillor Godfrey noted that based upon the Vale of Glamorgan's population, only 3.4% of the population responded to the survey, and sought to understand if this was justification enough to go ahead with the proposed increase. They also noted that residents felt they were paying more Council Tax for fewer services and highlighted the Wilko building whether no operators were interested and he believed the Council did not have a strategy in place.

Councillor Haines raised that families were still dealing with cost-of-living pressures, and that whilst supporting young people and rural areas was important, increases to Council Tax added up and that behind every increase was a person impacted. They felt there was a contradiction and lack of joined up thinking with regards to green spaces, as the Local Development Plan proposed development whereas the budget proposed better investing in green spaces.

Councillor Protheroe shared that as a rural Councillor, many residents in her area lived away from services, with limited public transport and amenities, which could be taken for granted by people in urban areas, and noted the additional 1% only equated to approximately 32p per week for Band D properties.

Councillor Penn felt it was not serious to talk about funding services whilst cutting Council Tax and using reserves, that the budget position was the cumulative impact of 14 years of austerity and that it was vital to invest in transport and young people.

Councillor Morgan reflected that a great deal of residents in his ward were elderly who were troubled by rural transport and were serviced by buses for routes which were underutilised such as Talbot Green to Cardiff. He sought to understand if changes to bus routes could be undertaken within existing budgets.

Councillor Birch raised the importance of youth services, and how they provided an outlet for many children whilst also acting as a positive influence. They referenced examples of youth services work, including Her Voice Project (visiting New Zealand) and an upcoming trip to New Zealand, and how these opportunities were provided to young people because of the work undertaken and may not necessarily be available to people from a range of walks of life. They shared around how youth services provided an outlet for young people to socialise, receive advice and make connections, and that all Councillors had young people in their wards who could now vote at 16 but may feel that older people had taken away opportunities by voting against their interests.

Councillor Charles opposed the proposed increase and felt it should be in line with inflation as many residents were already struggling. They further questioned where

the value for money was, as residents would be paying more for less services, and that there needed to be a focus upon identifying efficiencies.

Councillor Wilson shared that there were demographic aligned pressures such as an aging population which meant that any increase would need to be above inflation and reflected the need to support people to be cared for in their communities and outside of hospitals. They also noted that using general reserves to fund services in the way discussed would deplete them quickly, and that the reality was 71% of the Council's funding was allocated to statutory services such as education and social care, supporting the most vulnerable in society.

Councillor Williams raised that the Council had award winning social care provision with very positive inspections, and that the increase in Council Tax was there because there was a need to fund services which helped people. They raised that residents in deprived areas or who may require support in paying were able to receive this by the Council.

The Leader closed by reflecting that the additional 1% did not feature in the original Cabinet report but came about because of conversations with young people. They also noted that it could take up to 2 hours for people to get to appointments in rural areas, and that reserves had help to build 18 schools since 2018 and reduce hospital discharge times. They also shared that spending had gone from £97m per year in 2013 to £151m per year in supporting schools, and that it was vital to invest in communities.

A Recorded Vote took place as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey		√	
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		
Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		
Lis Burnett	√		
Samantha Campbell			√
George Carroll		√	

	For	Against	Abstain
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Amelia Collins		√	
Marianne Cowpe		√	
Brandon Dodd		√	
Pamela Drake	√		
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest		√	
Christopher Franks		√	
Wendy Gilligan	√		
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Ewan Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
Sally Hanks			√
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges		√	
Mark Hooper		√	
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		
Gwyn John			√
Ian Johnson		√	
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Kevin Mahoney		√	
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan			√
Jayne Norman	√		
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry			√
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Rhys Thomas		√	
Steffan Wiliam		√	
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood		√	
Total	26	22	5

The vote being carried, it was

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the content of the report at Agenda Item 9(b) – Budget 2026/27 and MTFP 2026/27 to 2030/31 Supplemental Report – providing additional details regarding updated Standard Spending Assessment Figures Assessment as supplemental information to Agenda Item 9(a) – Draft Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2030/31 – be noted.
- (2) T H A T a Council Tax increase of 6.5% be approved.
- (3) T H A T the budget for 2026/27 be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report with the most up to date figures as part of its final budget deliberations and for the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that all relevant matters were considered as necessary.
- (2) Setting the annual rate of Council Tax was a key policy decision for Council.
- (3) Setting a balanced budget was a statutory responsibility and decision for Full Council.

706 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2026/27 AND FINAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2026/27 TO 2030/31 (REF) –

The Leader presented the report which outlined the Council's approach to capital finance for the forthcoming years and highlighted a range of schemes to undertaken in the medium and longer term, to the value of approximately £0.5billion. They outlined that where possible there would best endeavours to ensure minimal slippage and that the proposals included schemes such as schools, housing and wider infrastructure alongside decarbonisation activity, and the Western Vale Gateway. They further noted that the emerging conflict in the Middle East would have an impact due to oil and gas prices, but budgets included contingency arrangements.

Councillor Franks queried how the Council would manage potential slippage and sought assurance for how deliverable this strategy would be.

Councillor Dr. Johnson raised concerns over year-on-year slippage and the completion of plans, citing Western Vale Gateway as an example, and further raised the lack of a second Welsh medium secondary school in a rural area within the Strategy.

The Leader responded that there would inevitably be slippage as elements outside of the Council's control such as school holidays, but the Council was building resilience in its Project Management capacity. They noted that Western Vale Gateway scheme had taken a number of years as it had required negotiations with the Health Board as site owners, but they would be moving forward imminently, and

that information around a new Welsh Medium secondary school would be provided when available.

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Capital Strategy 2026/27 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- (2) T H A T the final Capital Programme for the years 2026/27 to 2030/31 as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved.
- (3) T H A T officers be granted delegated authority to vire £10k or below between schemes that were already approved within the five year Capital Programme.
- (4) T H A T the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, be granted delegated authority to make additions, deletions or transfers to or from the:
 - i. 2026/27 to 2030/31 Housing Improvement Programme as appropriate.
 - ii. 2026/27 to 2030/31 Asset Renewal budgets as appropriate.
 - iii. S106 funded schemes subject to Member consultation as required under the existing process.
 - iv. Decarbonisation Schemes
 - v. Sustainable Communities for Learning programme.
 - vi. Discretionary Adaption Grant Schemes.
 - vii. Pride in Place Impact fund
 - viii. Plan for Neighbourhood
 - ix. Transforming Towns
 - x. Local Growth fund.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To approve the Capital Strategy for 2026/27.
- (2) To set and approve future Capital Programmes to 2030/31.
- (3) To enable officers to progress schemes more quickly where low value virements below £10k were required.
- (4) To enable the Housing Capital budget, Asset Renewal budgets, S106 schemes, Decarbonisation Schemes, Sustainable Communities for Learning programme, Discretionary Adaption Grant Schemes, Pride in Place Impact fund, Plan for Neighbourhood, Transforming Towns and Local Growth Fund to be managed effectively.

707 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2026/27 AND UPDATE FOR 2025/26 (REF) –

The Leader provided an overview of the report, which demonstrated how the Council managed its finances prudently, and thanked attendees of a recent briefing session surrounding treasury management. They highlighted Appendix 1, containing an update to the review strategy and updated prudential indicators and Appendix 2 which included areas such as the investment strategy and CIPFA reporting framework.

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the proposed 2026/27 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy including the following specific resolutions (detailed in Appendix 2 to the report) be approved:

- The Authorised Limit for External Debt be set at £265.800m for 2025/26, £308.472m for 2026/27, £370.857m for 2027/28 and £435.486m for 2028/29.
- The Operational Boundary for External Debt be set at £237.168m for 2025/26, £278.201m for 2026/27, £339.237m for 2027/28 and £402.998m for 2028/29.
- The Section 151 Officer be granted delegated authority within the total Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary as estimated for individual years to effect movement between the separately agreed limits for borrowing and other long-term liabilities.
- An upper limit of £0m for 2025/26, £10m in 2026/27, £10m in 2027/28 and £10m in 2028/29 be set for total principal sums invested for over 364 days.
- The amount of projected borrowing that is fixed rate maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing that is fixed rate be set as shown below and further detailed in Appendix 1.

Table 1 – Upper and lower Limits for fixed rate borrowing

	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 months	20%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	40%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	40%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	40%	0%
10 years and above	100%	0%

- Any breaches of the Prudential Indicators will be reported through to the next meeting of Cabinet, with the exception of the Authorised Limit for External Debt which would require prior Council approval.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer to approve the Treasury Management Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted as set out in paragraph 2.34 of the report, to enable the assigned officers to place investments with the Debt

Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF) in line with the daily cash flow projections.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) In order for the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy as prepared be approved as required by the Local Government Act 2003.
- (2) In order for the Treasury Management Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices to be approved.
- (3) In order for smooth running of daily cash flow.

708 BIGLIS TO DINAS POWYS ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTE (REF) –

The Deputy Leader presented the report, noting that this work had been underway for several years, but that this would allow the Council to move into construction on both phases in line with regulations. They indicated that they were seeking to utilise 8 pieces of land owned by 4 landowners, with the preferred approach being negotiation ahead of Compulsory Purchase Order. They noted that this active travel route was essential in supporting people's health, providing an alternative form of transport and improving safety on a particular route.

Councillor Dr. Johnson said that this route was long awaited, with initial plans for this to be delivered in 2020, and that this would be considered by Planning Committee in the future. They highlighted the twin track approach outlined by Welsh Government, with the emphasis being upon discussions, which could take several years.

Councillor Ernest indicated that this this could be an opportunity to revive the Dinas Powys bypass project and provide better links for road users.

Councillor Penn stated that many people were put off cycling to Barry due to safety concerns and welcomed anything that could be done to facilitate active travel.

The Deputy Leader emphasised that negotiations were due to get underway as quickly as possible, and that the scheme had significant preparation work over many years, and they hoped it would help the aim of reducing car users and improving safety.

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of delegated powers regarding the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders be approved.

Reason for decision

To comply with governance requirements, as Cabinet does not hold delegated powers to authorise the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders and in order to maintain legal and constitutional integrity.

709 PAY POLICY 2026/27 (REF) –

The Leader presented the report, noting that the median and mean pay gap had reduced significantly from 2019 to 2025 to 1.6% and 2.3%, respectively. ONS had reported that the average UK figure for the previous year had been 7% and so reflected a positive position for the Council as a position of parity was worked towards.

RESOLVED – T H A T the Council's Pay Policy, as attached at Appendix A to the report to Cabinet on 8th January, 2026 (Minute No. C180), be approved.

Reason for decision

To respond to the legal requirement under the Localism Act 2011 and to provide openness and accountability in relation to how the Council rewards its staff.

N.B. All Chief Officers, save for two Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officers servicing the meeting and the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, left the meeting when this item was considered. The Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development remained in the meeting, until the matter was to be voted upon, in order to provide any clarification required by Elected Members.

710 TO SET THE COUNCIL TAX 2026/27 –

The Leader presented the report based upon a 6.5% Council Tax increase as discussed earlier in the meeting but noted the inclusion of precepts for Town and Community Councils and the Police and Crime Commissioner. They also noted that the Band E charge would be 3 pence more than outlined within the report due to a publication error. A Recorded Vote took place as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey		√	
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		
Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		
Lis Burnett	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Samantha Campbell		√	
George Carroll		√	
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Amelia Collins		√	
Marianne Cowpe		√	
Brandon Dodd		√	
Pamela Drake	√		
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest		√	
Christopher Franks		√	
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Ewan Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
Sally Hanks			√
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges		√	
Mark Hooper		√	
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		
Gwyn John	√		
Ian Johnson		√	

	For	Against	Abstain
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Kevin Mahoney		√	
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan			√
Jayne Norman	√		
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry		√	
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Rhys Thomas		√	
Steffan Wiliam		√	
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood		√	
Total	26	24	2

The vote being carried, it was

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T it be noted that at its meeting on 18th December 2025, Cabinet (the Executive) calculated the following amounts for the year 2026/27 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

(a) 64,634 being the amount calculated by Cabinet (the Executive) in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, as its council tax base for the year.

(b) Part of the Council's area

Barry	21,575
Colwinston	374
Cowbridge with Llanblethian	3,040
Dinas Powys	4,067
Ewenny	466
Llancarfan	494
Llandough	981
Llandow	450
Llanfair	394
Llangan	481
Llanmaes	249
Llantwit Major	4,417
Michaelston	256
Penarth	12,010
Pendoylan	377
Penllyn	1,229
Peterston-Super-Ely	558
St. Athan	1,832
St. Brides Major	1,507
St. Donats	224
St. Georges and St. Brides-Super-Ely	243
St. Nicholas and Bonvilston	799
Sully and Lavernock	2,896
Welsh St. Donats	331
Wenvoe	1,572
Wick	554
Total Council Tax Base Town and Community Councils	61,376
Rhoose	3,258
Total Council Tax Base	64,634

being the amounts calculated by Cabinet (the Executive), in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as amended, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(2) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2026/27 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a)	Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a) to (d) and (2A) of the Act (including Town / Community Council Precepts totaling £4,120,294)	£512,619,334
(b)	Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a), (aa) and (c), and (3A) of the Act	£154,727,807
(c)	Amount by which the aggregate at (2)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (2)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.	£357,891,527
(d)	Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, its council tax reduction scheme, additional grant or special grant less certain Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Reliefs	£239,844,113
(e)	The amount at (2)(c) above less the amount at (2)(d) above, all divided by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.	£1,826.40
(f)	Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.	£4,120,294
(g)	Amount at (2)(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (2)(f) above by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.	£1,762.65

(h)	<u>Part of the Council's area</u>	<u>£</u>
	Barry	1,832.32
	Colwinston	1,819.84
	Cowbridge with Llanblethian	1,882.51
	Dinas Powys	1,802.40
	Ewenny	1,814.15

Llancarfan	1,797.35
Llandough	1,845.98
Llandow	1,789.32
Llanfair	1,777.46
Llangan	1,787.15
Llanmaes	1,822.20
Llantwit Major	1,841.65
Michaelston	1,796.07
Penarth	1,856.04
Pendoylan	1,787.85
Penllyn	1,776.89
Peterston-Super-Ely	1,807.09
Rhoose	1,762.65
St. Athan	1,816.77
St. Brides Major	1,786.54
St. Donats	1,787.10
St. Georges and St. Brides-Super-Ely	1,795.08
St. Nicholas and Bonvilston	1,834.66
Sully and Lavernock	1,796.97
Welsh St. Donats	1,788.27
Wenvoe	1,791.59
Wick	1,784.31

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (2)(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (1)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(i) Part of the Council's Area	Valuation Bands									
	£	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Barry	1,221.55	1,425.14	1,628.73	1,832.32	2,239.50	2,646.68	3,053.87	3,664.64	4,275.41	
Colwinston	1,213.23	1,415.43	1,617.64	1,819.84	2,224.25	2,628.66	3,033.07	3,639.68	4,246.29	
Cowbridge with Llanblethian	1,255.01	1,464.17	1,673.34	1,882.51	2,300.85	2,719.18	3,137.52	3,765.02	4,392.52	
Dinas Powys	1,201.60	1,401.87	1,602.13	1,802.40	2,202.93	2,603.47	3,004.00	3,604.80	4,205.60	
Ewenny	1,209.43	1,411.01	1,612.58	1,814.15	2,217.29	2,620.44	3,023.58	3,628.30	4,233.02	
Llancarfan	1,198.23	1,397.94	1,597.64	1,797.35	2,196.76	2,596.17	2,995.58	3,594.70	4,193.82	
Llandough	1,230.65	1,435.76	1,640.87	1,845.98	2,256.20	2,666.42	3,076.63	3,691.96	4,307.29	
Llandow	1,192.88	1,391.69	1,590.51	1,789.32	2,186.95	2,584.57	2,982.20	3,578.64	4,175.08	
Llanfair	1,184.97	1,382.47	1,579.96	1,777.46	2,172.45	2,567.44	2,962.43	3,554.92	4,147.41	
Llangan	1,191.43	1,390.01	1,588.58	1,787.15	2,184.29	2,581.44	2,978.58	3,574.30	4,170.02	
Llanmaes	1,214.80	1,417.27	1,619.73	1,822.20	2,227.13	2,632.07	3,037.00	3,644.40	4,251.80	
Llantwit Major	1,227.77	1,432.39	1,637.02	1,841.65	2,250.91	2,660.16	3,069.42	3,683.30	4,297.18	
Michaelston	1,197.38	1,396.94	1,596.51	1,796.07	2,195.20	2,594.32	2,993.45	3,592.14	4,190.83	
Penarth	1,237.36	1,443.59	1,649.81	1,856.04	2,268.49	2,680.95	3,093.40	3,712.08	4,330.76	
Pendoylan	1,191.90	1,390.55	1,589.20	1,787.85	2,185.15	2,582.45	2,979.75	3,575.70	4,171.65	
Penllyn	1,184.59	1,382.03	1,579.46	1,776.89	2,171.75	2,566.62	2,961.48	3,553.78	4,146.08	
Peterston-Super-Ely	1,204.73	1,405.51	1,606.30	1,807.09	2,208.67	2,610.24	3,011.82	3,614.18	4,216.54	
Rhoose	1,175.10	1,370.95	1,566.80	1,762.65	2,154.35	2,546.05	2,937.75	3,525.30	4,112.85	
St.Athan	1,211.18	1,413.04	1,614.91	1,816.77	2,220.50	2,624.22	3,027.95	3,633.54	4,239.13	
St.Brides Major	1,191.03	1,389.53	1,588.04	1,786.54	2,183.55	2,580.56	2,977.57	3,573.08	4,168.59	
St.Donats	1,191.40	1,389.97	1,588.53	1,787.10	2,184.23	2,581.37	2,978.50	3,574.20	4,169.90	
St.Georges & St.Brides-Super-Ely	1,196.72	1,396.17	1,595.63	1,795.08	2,193.99	2,592.89	2,991.80	3,590.16	4,188.52	
St.Nicholas and Bonvilston	1,223.11	1,426.96	1,630.81	1,834.66	2,242.36	2,650.06	3,057.77	3,669.32	4,280.87	
Sully and Lavernock	1,197.98	1,397.64	1,597.31	1,796.97	2,196.30	2,595.62	2,994.95	3,593.94	4,192.93	
Welsh St.Donats	1,192.18	1,390.88	1,589.57	1,788.27	2,185.66	2,583.06	2,980.45	3,576.54	4,172.63	
Wenvoe	1,194.39	1,393.46	1,592.52	1,791.59	2,189.72	2,587.85	2,985.98	3,583.18	4,180.38	
Wick	1,189.54	1,387.80	1,586.05	1,784.31	2,180.82	2,577.34	2,973.85	3,568.62	4,163.39	

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (2)(g) and (2)(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1/1A) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

(3) T H A T it be noted that for the year 2026/27 the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

£	Valuation Bands								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	270.09	315.11	360.12	405.14	495.17	585.20	675.23	810.28	945.33

(4) THAT, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (2)(i) and (3) above, The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2026/27.

Part of the Council's Area	£ Valuation Bands									
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
Barry	1,491.64	1,740.25	1,988.85	2,237.46	2,734.67	3,231.88	3,729.10	4,474.92	5,220.74	
Colwinston	1,483.32	1,730.54	1,977.76	2,224.98	2,719.42	3,213.86	3,708.30	4,449.96	5,191.62	
Cowbridge with Llanblethian	1,525.10	1,779.28	2,033.46	2,287.65	2,796.02	3,304.38	3,812.75	4,575.30	5,337.85	
Dinas Powys	1,471.69	1,716.98	1,962.25	2,207.54	2,698.10	3,188.67	3,679.23	4,415.08	5,150.93	
Ewenny	1,479.52	1,726.12	1,972.70	2,219.29	2,712.46	3,205.64	3,698.81	4,438.58	5,178.35	
Llancarfan	1,468.32	1,713.05	1,957.76	2,202.49	2,691.93	3,181.37	3,670.81	4,404.98	5,139.15	
Llandough	1,500.74	1,750.87	2,000.99	2,251.12	2,751.37	3,251.62	3,751.86	4,502.24	5,252.62	
Llandow	1,462.97	1,706.80	1,950.63	2,194.46	2,682.12	3,169.77	3,657.43	4,388.92	5,120.41	
Llanfair	1,455.06	1,697.58	1,940.08	2,182.60	2,667.62	3,152.64	3,637.66	4,365.20	5,092.74	
Llangan	1,461.52	1,705.12	1,948.70	2,192.29	2,679.46	3,166.64	3,653.81	4,384.58	5,115.35	
Llanmaes	1,484.89	1,732.38	1,979.85	2,227.34	2,722.30	3,217.27	3,712.23	4,454.68	5,197.13	
Llantwit Major	1,497.86	1,747.50	1,997.14	2,246.79	2,746.08	3,245.36	3,744.65	4,493.58	5,242.51	
Michaelston	1,467.47	1,712.05	1,956.63	2,201.21	2,690.37	3,179.52	3,668.68	4,402.42	5,136.16	
Penarth	1,507.45	1,758.70	2,009.93	2,261.18	2,763.66	3,266.15	3,768.63	4,522.36	5,276.09	
Pendoylan	1,461.99	1,705.66	1,949.32	2,192.99	2,680.32	3,167.65	3,654.98	4,385.98	5,116.98	
Penllyn	1,454.68	1,697.14	1,939.58	2,182.03	2,666.92	3,151.82	3,636.71	4,364.06	5,091.41	
Peterston-Super-Ely	1,474.82	1,720.62	1,966.42	2,212.23	2,703.84	3,195.44	3,687.05	4,424.46	5,161.87	
Rhoose	1,445.19	1,686.06	1,926.92	2,167.79	2,649.52	3,131.25	3,612.98	4,335.58	5,058.18	
St.Athan	1,481.27	1,728.15	1,975.03	2,221.91	2,715.67	3,209.42	3,703.18	4,443.82	5,184.46	
St.Brides Major	1,461.12	1,704.64	1,948.16	2,191.68	2,678.72	3,165.76	3,652.80	4,383.36	5,113.92	
St.Donats	1,461.49	1,705.08	1,948.65	2,192.24	2,679.40	3,166.57	3,653.73	4,384.48	5,115.23	
St.Georges & St.Brides-Super-Ely	1,466.81	1,711.28	1,955.75	2,200.22	2,689.16	3,178.09	3,667.03	4,400.44	5,133.85	
St.Nicholas and Bonvilston	1,493.20	1,742.07	1,990.93	2,239.80	2,737.53	3,235.26	3,733.00	4,479.60	5,226.20	
Sully and Lavernock	1,468.07	1,712.75	1,957.43	2,202.11	2,691.47	3,180.82	3,670.18	4,404.22	5,138.26	
Welsh St.Donats	1,462.27	1,705.99	1,949.69	2,193.41	2,680.83	3,168.26	3,655.68	4,386.82	5,117.96	
Wenvoe	1,464.48	1,708.57	1,952.64	2,196.73	2,684.89	3,173.05	3,661.21	4,393.46	5,125.71	
Wick	1,459.63	1,702.91	1,946.17	2,189.45	2,675.99	3,162.54	3,649.08	4,378.90	5,108.72	

- (5) T H A T discount for prompt payment of the Council Tax be not granted.
- (6) T H A T the Common Seal be affixed to the said Council Tax.
- (7) T H A T notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Reason for decisions

(1-7) In order to set the Council Tax for 2026/27.

711 NOMINATION OF MAYOR ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2026/27 –

Councillor Protheroe nominated Councillor Stallard, reflecting that they were an energetic community engager who they worked alongside as they were Councillors in the same ward.

Councillor Carroll nominated Councillor Charles, stating he felt she was an ambassador for Barry and wider organisations, and a community and civic minded person. Councillor Carroll subsequently nominated Councillor Charles for Deputy Mayor Elect.

Councillor Payne nominated Councillor Loveluck-Edwards as Deputy Mayor Elect, highlighting her dedication to public services, commitment to residents and belief she was represent the Council with pride and integrity.

A Recorded Vote took place on the Nominations as follows:

Councillor Stallard as Mayor

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey	√		
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		
Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Lis Burnett	√		
Samantha Campbell	√		
George Carroll		√	
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Amelia Collins	√		
Marianne Cowpe	√		
Brandon Dodd		√	
Pamela Drake	√		
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest		√	
Christopher Franks	√		
Wendy Gilligan	√		
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Ewan Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges	√		
Mark Hooper	√		
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		
Gwyn John	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Ian Johnson	√		
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan	√		
Jayne Norman	√		
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry		√	
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Rhys Thomas		√	
Steffan Wiliam	√		
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood		√	
Total	37	14	0

Councillor Charles as Mayor

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey		√	
Julie Aviet		√	
Gareth Ball		√	
Rhiannon Birch		√	
Bronwen Brooks		√	
Gillian Bruce	√		
Ian Buckley		√	
Lis Burnett		√	
Samantha Campbell		√	
George Carroll	√		
Christine Cave	√		
Charles Champion	√		
Janice Charles	√		
Amelia Collins		√	
Marianne Cowpe		√	
Brandon Dodd	√		
Pamela Drake		√	
Vincent Driscoll	√		
Anthony Ernest	√		
Christopher Franks		√	
Wendy Gilligan		√	
Russell Godfrey	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Emma Goodjohn		√	
Ewan Goodjohn		√	
Stephen Haines	√		
William Hennessy	√		
Nic Hodges		√	
Mark Hooper		√	
Catherine Iannucci-Williams		√	
Gwyn John		√	
Ian Johnson		√	
Susan Lloyd-Selby		√	
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards		√	
Julie Lynch-Wilson		√	
Naomi Marshallsea		√	
Michael Morgan		√	
Jayne Norman		√	
Helen Payne		√	
Elliot Penn		√	
Sandra Perkes		√	
Ian Perry		√	
Joanna Protheroe		√	
Ruba Sivagnanam		√	
Carys Stallard		√	
Neil Thomas		√	

	For	Against	Abstain
Rhys Thomas	√		
Steffan Wiliam		√	
Margaret Wilkinson		√	
Eddie Williams		√	
Mark Wilson		√	
Nicholas Wood	√		
Total	13	38	0

Councillor Loveluck-Edwards as Deputy Mayor

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey	√		
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		
Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		
Lis Burnett	√		
Samantha Campbell	√		
George Carroll		√	
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Amelia Collins	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Marianne Cowpe	√		
Brandon Dodd		√	
Pamela Drake	√		
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest		√	
Christopher Franks	√		
Wendy Gilligan	√		
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Ewan Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges	√		
Mark Hooper	√		
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		
Gwyn John	√		
Ian Johnson	√		
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan	√		
Jayne Norman	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry	√		
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Rhys Thomas		√	
Steffan Wiliam	√		
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood	√		
Total	39	12	0

Councillor Charles as Deputy Mayor

	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey		√	
Julie Aviet		√	
Gareth Ball		√	
Rhiannon Birch		√	
Bronwen Brooks		√	
Gillian Bruce	√		

	For	Against	Abstain
Ian Buckley		√	
Lis Burnett		√	
Samantha Campbell		√	
George Carroll	√		
Christine Cave	√		
Charles Champion	√		
Janice Charles	√		
Amelia Collins		√	
Marianne Cowpe		√	
Brandon Dodd	√		
Pamela Drake		√	
Vincent Driscoll		√	
Anthony Ernest	√		
Christopher Franks		√	
Wendy Gilligan		√	
Russell Godfrey	√		
Emma Goodjohn		√	
Ewan Goodjohn		√	
Stephen Haines	√		
William Hennessy	√		
Nic Hodges		√	
Mark Hooper		√	
Catherine Iannucci-Williams		√	

	For	Against	Abstain
Gwyn John		√	
Ian Johnson		√	
Susan Lloyd-Selby		√	
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards		√	
Julie Lynch-Wilson		√	
Naomi Marshallsea		√	
Michael Morgan		√	
Jayne Norman		√	
Helen Payne		√	
Elliot Penn		√	
Sandra Perkes		√	
Ian Perry		√	
Joanna Protheroe		√	
Ruba Sivagnanam		√	
Carys Stallard		√	
Neil Thomas		√	
Rhys Thomas	√		
Steffan Wiliam		√	
Margaret Wilkinson		√	
Eddie Williams		√	
Mark Wilson		√	
Nicholas Wood	√		
Total	12	39	0

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T Councillor Carys Stallard be nominated for election as Mayor at the Annual Meeting to be held on 13th May, 2026 and that the Chair use the style of Mayor or Maer.

(2) T H A T Councillor Belinda Loveluck-Edwards be nominated for election as Deputy Mayor at the Annual Meeting.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) To appoint to the positions as outlined within the Council's Constitution.

712 REVIEW OF WINTER CAR PARKING CHARGES AT PENARTH CLIFF WALK, COLD KNAP AND BRON-Y-MORE (BARRY) CAR PARKS (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C154, 4th December, 2025 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

713 FINAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET PROPOSALS 2026/27, RENT SETTING 2026/27 AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUSINESS PLAN (2026/27) (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C179, 8th January, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

714 REVISED STREET SCENE STRATEGY (2026/2031) (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C190, 15th January, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

715 DRAFT BUDGET 2026/27 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 TO 2030/31 (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C214, 26th February, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

716 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2026/27 AND FINAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2026/27 TO 2030/31 (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C215, 26th February, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

717 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2026/27 AND UPDATE FOR 2025/26 (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C216, 26th February, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

718 MIGRATION OF SCHOOL TELEPHONE SYSTEM TO A CLOUD BASED SOLUTION (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C217, 26th February, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's

Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

719 DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU – VALE OF GLAMORGAN ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS REVIEW FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure (Cabinet Minute No. C218, 26th February, 2026 (as set out in Section 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution) be noted.

Reason for decision

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

720 QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4.19 OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION –

The following responses to Member questions as contained within the agenda were presented:

(i) **Question from G.D. Carroll**

Will the Leader please update the Council on environmental assessments being carried out at Cosmeston Lakes?

Reply from Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places

Water quality monitoring will continue throughout the year on the east lake, and these tests will take place every two weeks from 1st March, 2026 onwards. In addition, ecology surveys will start in the bird nesting season this spring to establish nesting bird locations, these will run alongside small mammal surveys to establish water vole (and any other relevant species) distribution in and around the area of the east lake.

Supplemental

Councillor Carroll noted that residents were welcoming of the pause of Aqua Park, but sought to confirm if this was a temporary reprieve, to which the Cabinet Member responded that they were not able to commit as further work needed to be undertaken to understand the future direction of all parks.

(ii) Question from M.J. Hooper

At the Governance and Audit Committee meeting on 23rd February, we received a verbal update on the risk management associated with the “Making Waves” project. This project was initially centred on the development of a marina on the docks; a development that was surrounded with much fanfare and PR from this Council, and given the public monies involved, it is surely appropriate to gauge public support. Given ABP’s decision to withdraw from the marina element of the project, does the Council believe it has support from local residents for what is now a much more limited offering and will the Council commit to consulting with residents on their vastly reduced plans that beyond the statutory planning consultations?

Reply from Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources

It is important to be clear that the Making Waves programme being delivered by the Council remains largely unchanged from the scheme that secured Levelling Up Funding. The only major change is that the marina which was to be delivered by Associated British Ports has now been dropped following ABP’s commercial decision. While regrettable, this does not materially reduce the scale or purpose of the project. Describing the programme as “vastly reduced” is simply not accurate.

The substantial public realm improvements, active travel routes, the provision of new office and business space through the restoration and conversion of the Docks Office, and new Watersports Centre for the Town all remain in place, and these form the majority of the investment. These are also the improvements residents have consistently supported throughout the wider regeneration of the Waterfront.

Because the project has not fundamentally changed, and because UK Government timescales remain extremely tight, the Council does not intend to undertake further non-statutory consultation. Any elements requiring planning consent will, of course, go through full statutory consultation, but beyond that our focus must be on delivery to ensure funding is protected and progress maintained.

We will continue to keep residents updated on the project’s progress and forthcoming milestones. But at this stage, additional consultation on unchanged aspects of the scheme would create delay without any benefit and could harm the overall delivery of the project. The Making Waves programme remains a major, transformational investment in Barry, and the Council is fully committed to delivering it efficiently and transparently.

(iii) Question from G.D.D. Carroll

How much has the Council paid in compensation for damage caused by potholes and road defects in the past 3 years?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services (provided by Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources)

Thank you for your question regarding compensation payments relating to damage caused by potholes and road defects.

The figures provided below represent insurance payouts made by the Council's insurers in respect of successful third party claims. These amounts reflect cases where liability was established- and compensation was awarded accordingly.

- 2022/23 – £4,448
- 2023/24 – £2,596
- 2024/25 – £1,987
- 2025/To date – £419.

Supplemental

Councillor Carroll asked if the Council would explore opportunities to reduce the cost and backlog through the use of technologies, to which the Leader responded that the Council was committed to exploring new technologies, and that there was a Cabinet report due to be shared around the Resurfacing programme, which Members will be able to consider when it is referred to Scrutiny for consideration.

(iv) Question from C.M. Cowpe

The recently announced Street Scene Strategy proposes four dedicated place-based teams for towns and one for large villages to address littering, fly-tipping and environmental improvements, as well as community engagement.

As the urban area of large villages such as Dinas Powys and Rhoose are greater than the smallest town, Cowbridge, how will the Cabinet Member ensure that resources are equitably and effectively distributed across the Vale, based on population and need rather than town status?

Response from Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services (provided by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places)

The Street Scene Strategy has already been developed to ensure that resources are allocated on the basis of need, demand and environmental impact – not simply on whether a settlement is classified as a town or a village.

While the Strategy proposes four dedicated place-based teams for towns and one for large villages, this reflects operational modelling around footfall, commercial centres, density, and recorded incidents of littering and fly-tipping. However, the structure is not intended to create a hierarchy of service provision.

We fully recognise that large villages such as Dinas Powys and Rhoose have populations and urban footprints comparable to – and in some cases greater than – the town of Cowbridge. For that reason, deployment will be informed by:

- Population size and density – this will mean that there will be a concentration of resources as there will be demands;
- Recorded environmental incidents and enforcement data, the means that we are proactive as well as being reactive to issues;
- Seasonal and visitor pressures, we will focus in areas where demand is greatest;
- The scale of public realm assets, we will look at this and try and reduce clutter if possible;
- Opportunities for community partnership and engagement, we have many volunteers at Keep Wales Tidy, we have Community partnership through the Community Liaison Committee and the Charter between the Vale and TCC. We also have the SLCC, One Voice Wales.

The teams will operate flexibly across boundaries where required. Performance and demand data will be reviewed regularly to ensure equitable service standards across the Vale, and the model can be adjusted if evidence shows that additional capacity is required in particular areas.

Our ambition is clear: residents across the Vale – whether in towns or large villages – should feel pride in where they live, supported by visible, responsive services delivered fairly and transparently based on need.

We very much welcome engagement, proactive citizenship.

(v) Question from G.D.D. Carroll

How will the Council assure members of the public responding to its ongoing consultation regarding the Replacement Local Development Plan that their representations will not be ignored?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Equalities and Regulatory Services

The Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) consultation ends on 11th March, and following this, officers will review and consider every representation received. The RLDP Delivery Agreement sets out the likely timeline for progression of the Plan, and this indicates the potential submission of the Plan to Welsh Government in November 2026. The Delivery Agreement builds in a substantial window of time to enable all of the responses to be received and considered, and only once this has taken place will a report of the responses be reported through Cabinet, Place Scrutiny and Full Council – to include any proposed amendments as a consequence of the consultation responses. Similar consultation reports at previous stages of the plan have set out detailed responses to each issue raised, to ensure that it is clear how the matters have been considered and not ignored.

Supplemental

Councillor Carroll asked if there would be consideration of the consultation process to give what he felt was a fuller opportunity for people to response, to which the

Cabinet Member responded there was a statutory timeline, the period provided was sufficient and that a number of residents had been supported in submitting responses.

(vi) Question from Dr I.J. Johnson

What plans does the Council have for investment in improved facilities at the Colcot Sports Centre, and the timeline for any such plans?

Response from Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing

The Council is committed to engaging with residents of the area and users of the site to consider options for the site. We are aware of the strategic importance of the Colcot site to sport and leisure offer in Barry and beyond and will need to factor this into any discussion and engagement.

We will then explore potential investment opportunities for the Colcot Sports Centre in partnership with the Football Association of Wales (FAW) and potentially other funding bodies. External funding may be available to support improvements at the site and discussions will help us to understand the scope of any joint development that could be pursued.

Supplemental

Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson sought to understand if there was a timetable for the proposed developments as this scheme had been ongoing for a number of years, to which the Cabinet Member responded that they were pursuing the area as quickly as possible and there would be a Cabinet Report in a few months' time outlining next steps.

(vii) Question from Councillor R.E. Godfrey

What is the rationale behind the Council's decision to require residents seeking to use its Household Waste Recycling Centres to do so by appointment only?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services (provided by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places)

The Council's appointment only system for Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) is designed primarily to improve efficiency, prevent queuing, and ensure a smooth, well-managed flow of visitors, particularly at busy times.

By requiring appointments, the Council can distribute visits more evenly throughout the day and week, which ensures staff and resources are used efficiently, and safely. The Council also requires residents to sort waste before arriving, and the appointment structure helps maintain these standards by allowing controlled, predictable numbers of visitors but also scope to separate waste on arrival, if needed.

In addition, the system supports effective enforcement of waste legislation, including preventing trade waste disposal and ensuring proper inspection of materials. This is made easier through a managed appointment system that gives staff the time and space to carry out the necessary checks.

Most residents have provided positive feedback about the booking system, reporting that it saves time, reduces on-site waiting, and creates a more efficient experience compared to when the site operated without a booking system. This has also been enhanced since its implementation to allow real-time instant, same day bookings. You can book this via online either on the phone or via a lap top or tablet. It is very easy to do. This avoid queuing which has in the past caused major traffic issues and results in poor air quality.

Supplemental

Councillor Godfrey asked to understand why it was not possible to book to use straight away, to which the Deputy Leader responded that this was possible, the system works well but that it is dependent upon appointment availability.

(viii) Question from C.P. Franks

There is huge dissatisfaction about the poor level of maintenance of the Vale Council's highways.

Comments include the delay in repairing potholes, the resulting damage caused to vehicles and inadequate resurfacing.

Will you indicate how you are addressing this dreadful state of affairs?

Response from Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services (provided by Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources)

I fully appreciate the concerns raised regarding the condition of the Vale's highways. Maintaining a resilient and safe road network is a priority for the Council, and we recognise the frustrations that residents and Members experience when defects arise.

Over the past year, we have made significant additional investment in our highways network, and this commitment continues into the coming financial year. In particular, the Council has secured two years of further funding through Welsh Government's Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI), which is enabling us to accelerate our programme of carriageway improvements and strengthen the overall condition of the network.

As Members will be aware, the recent prolonged period of wet and cold weather has created especially challenging conditions for road surfaces. During these months, potholes and other defects form at a much faster rate than usual. In response, the service has mobilised additional resources through its appointed service provider to

increase capacity for repairs, so we can address the higher volume of issues as quickly as possible.

We expect that as the weather improves, the number of new defects will reduce, allowing the service to catch up and deliver repairs more efficiently. While we recognise the situation is frustrating for road users, it is important to note that these challenges are not unique to the Vale of Glamorgan, Local Authorities across Wales and the UK are experiencing similar pressures as a result of this winter's weather conditions. As you will undoubtedly be aware, the service is also not immune to the Council's overall financial pressures. We will continue to invest, plan, and resource the service to meet demand as best we can, however, under extremely challenging financial conditions.

Nonetheless, we remain committed to improving the condition of our highways. For example, when the Street Scene Initiative is rolled out, we will have more staff out on site, identifying these issues earlier on and these can be reported more efficiently for repair, which I believe will have a positive, palpable impact for our residents.

Supplemental

Councillor Franks noted a reduction in capital funding, and asked for clarity as to when the proposed funding would run out given the scale of the challenges, to which the Leader responded that the budget consisted of revenue and capital funding, and also included pavement repairs, but that it was impossible to predict the volume of repairs due to recent weather events.

(ix) Question from Councillor A.M. Ernest

Will the Leader make provision to ensure Members who represent the Authority on outside bodies are subjected to scrutiny in respect of these roles at Full Council?

Response from the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources

Thank you for your question. Members will be aware that the Council appoints Elected Members to a wide range of external bodies each year, supporting joint working, providing local accountability and enabling Members to contribute their skills, knowledge and expertise to a variety of organisations. It is important to note that these formal appointments represent only a small proportion of the partnership activity undertaken by the Council, and Vale 2030 now includes a Partnership Statement which sets out how we will work collaboratively with others to deliver our collective ambitions.

The organisations to which Members are appointed vary considerably, from national professional bodies and third sector organisations to statutory partnerships and Joint Committees, and given the volume and diversity of these appointments, it would not be proportionate or practical for every appointed Member to report back formally to Council Committees.

Supplemental

Councillor Ernest asked when we should expect nominees to give a full and comprehensive overview of representations to Scrutiny Committees, to which the Leader advised that this would not be possible as it would clog up Council business given the volume, and that Cabinet receives a six-monthly report of minutes of key joint work arrangements, partnerships and committees.

(x) Question from Councillor W.A. Hennessy

Will the Leader please outline the processes followed by the Council when it produces reports on consultations it has carried out?

Response from the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources

As the Council's Public Participation Strategy sets out there is no one size fits all approach to engaging citizens in decision making. Instead, we share the outcome of our consultation and engagement work in many different ways depending on the nature of the project.

Any significant piece of consultation or engagement work will be hosted on the Council's Participate Vale website. This is linked from the homepage of the Council's website. In most cases results reports would be published on Participate Vale once an exercise has concluded.

If the consultation was initiated by a report to Cabinet, the results would be reported back to Cabinet along with recommendations for action. Formal consultation reports are often published as appendices to formal report to Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees, and Full Council.

Wherever possible the results are also reported back directly to those who have participated in an activity. This is why we usually ask people for contact details when responding to a consultation.

We are always working to find new ways to encourage citizens to participate in decision making and to share the outcome of such work and so I would encourage all Members to share such material with their constituents wherever they can.

(xi) Question from Councillor W.A. Hennessy

How many individual reports of potholes or road defects have been made to the Council within the past six months?

Response from Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services (provided by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places)

Over the past six months, the Council has received 2,431 individual reports of potholes and road defects. The monthly breakdown is as follows:

- **September 2025** – 91 reports
- **October 2025** – 97 reports
- **November 2025** – 221 reports
- **December 2025** – 352 reports
- **January 2026** – 703 reports
- **February 2026** – 967 reports.

As these figures show, there is a clear increase in defect reports during the winter period. This pattern is consistent year on year and is largely due to the impact of wet and cold weather on the highway network. Water penetration, followed by cold weather conditions, significantly accelerates the deterioration of road surfaces and leads to a higher number of potholes forming during these months.

However, Neighbourhood Services continues to work with its appointed contractor to mobilise as many resources as practically possible, to prioritise and repair defects, at the earliest opportunity during this challenging period. The Council will continue to look at different operating models to manage our network more proactively especially within the current financial context and is grateful to our residents who let us know where there are issues.