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## **ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2022.

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

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

Present: Councillor S.D. Perkes (Chair); Councillors J. Aviet, I. Buckley, C.E.A. Champion, P. Drake, V.P. Driscoll, A.M. Ernest, M.J. Hooper, C. Iannucci, I.A.N. Perry and S.T. Wiliam.

Also present: Councillors L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources) and M.R. Wilson (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services).

### 54 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chair 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”.

### 55 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR –

RESOLVED – T H A T Councillor J. Aviet be appointed Vice-Chair for the current Municipal year.

### 56 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

### 57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

### 58 INTRODUCTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –

To mark the first meeting of the Committee following the 2022 Local Government Election, the Director of Environment and Housing and the Director of Place presented a PowerPoint presentation to apprise members on the following matters:

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- The Council's overarching vision and Corporate Plan Objectives most closely aligned to the remit of the Committee,
- How the work of the Committee was aligned to contributing towards the Wellbeing Goals for Wales which are part of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and how effective scrutiny was enhanced by the Act via the five ways of working,
- The 4 well-being outcomes of the 2020 – 25 Vale of Glamorgan Corporate Plan and subsequent key themes of the 2022 – 23 Annual Delivery Plan,
- The scope of the Committee and its role as a council function to ensure an environmentally responsible and prosperous Vale of Glamorgan, and
- Future challenges and key service priorities going forward for the two Directorates.

Following a brief introduction to the work of the Directorates, Committee Members were invited to ask questions.

Councillor I. Buckley queried the Council's transport plan and road improvement programme, particularly issues caused from utility companies. In reply, the Director of Environment and Housing stated that utilities had the legal right to open carriageways, but sometimes the road repair work was not up to the required standards. Therefore, the Council had a team of officers that could go out to inspect the work and issue a financial penalty if it was below standards.

In response to a question from Councillor J. Aviet about the installation of dropped kerbs, the Director of Environment and Housing advised that the Council installed them at locations with known issues, for example to gain access to shopping areas. However, the Council was not always aware of where they were needed, so he encouraged Elected Members and members of the public to get in contact so that the Council could investigate.

Councillor A. Ernest, queried progress with the Council's tree strategy, referring to issues in Penarth from trees damaging roads and pavements. In reply, the Director of Environment and Housing stated that a draft strategy was nearly complete which was tied to the green infrastructure work being undertaken by colleagues working under the Director of Place. This strategy would be presented to the Scrutiny Committee later on this municipal year.

Councillor I. Perry referred to issues of overgrown vegetation and debris affecting roads and walkways in his Ward of St Nicholas and Llanccarfan. The Director of Environment and Housing stated that the Council's Neighbourhood Manager - Highway Maintenance had been out to inspect and there maybe issues from flooding and run off from farmers fields. The Director asked Councillor Perry to make contact with the officer to discuss the issues in more detail.

The Committee subsequently

**RECOMMENDED – T H A T** the contents of the presentation be noted.

No.

Reason for recommendation

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

59 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION TRACKING 2021/2 AND PROPOSED ANNUAL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME SCHEDULE (CX) –

The purpose of the report was to report progress on the 2021/22 Scrutiny recommendations and to confirm the Committee's proposed Annual Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2022/23.

The report advised Members of progress in relation to the Scrutiny Committee's historical recommendations and the proposed Annual Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2022/23:

- Appendix A – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter recommendation tracking January to March 2022;
- Appendix B – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter recommendation tracking October to December 2021;
- Appendix C – 2020/21 Uncompleted recommendations;
- Appendix D – 2019/20 Uncompleted recommendations;
- Appendix E – Cabinet Annual Forward Work Programme 2022/23; and
- Appendix F – Scrutiny Committee's proposed Annual Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2022/23.

The Chair directed Members of the Committee through Appendices A to D, and the Committee agreed to the statuses as listed. The Committee also agreed to a change in the Forward Work Programme at Appendix F, with the report titled Neighbourhood Services and Transport – Condition Inspection Regime list on page 2 to be changed to 'Temporary Highway Trading Licensing' and the purpose of the report to be changed to read – "To consider a proposal an extension to a number of temporary highway trading licences and proposals for public consultation on the longer term external trading arrangements for the Penarth Esplanade area".

Subsequently, it was

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the status of the actions listed in Appendix A and D to the report be agreed.
- (2) T H A T the Cabinet Annual Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 attached at Appendix E, in the context of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Annual Forward Work Programme 2022/23 content, be noted.
- (3) T H A T the Committee's proposed Annual Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2022/23 as attached at Appendix F to the report be approved and uploaded to the Council's website subject to the following amendments:

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- The report titled Neighbourhood Services and Transport – Condition Inspection Regime list on page 2 of the Forward Work Programmed be changed to ‘Temporary Highway Trading Licensing’ and the purpose of the report to be changed to read – “To consider a proposal an extension to a number of temporary highway trading licences and proposals for public consultation on the longer term external trading arrangements for the Penarth Esplanade area”.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To maintain effective tracking of the Committee's recommendations.
- (2) To align with section 7.6 of the Cabinet and Scrutiny Roles and Responsibilities Protocol.
- (3) Having regard to the contents of the draft Forward Work Programme and subsequent discussion at the meeting.