

HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held on 4th December, 2018.

Present: Councillor K.F. McCaffer (Chairman); Councillor Mrs. R. Nugent-Finn (Vice-Chairman); Councillors Ms. J. Aviet, Ms. B.E. Brooks, G.D.D. Carroll, S.T. Edwards, K.P. Mahoney, L.O. Rowlands and N.C. Thomas.

529 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE -

This was received from Councillor Mrs. C.A. Cave.

530 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 6th November, 2018 be approved as a correct record, subject to it be noted that in relation to the Vale of Glamorgan Leisure Strategy, the reason for the Committee's recommendations to refer the Strategy back to Cabinet, was also because that some sections required clear explanations.

531 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

532 INITIAL REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2019/20 AND REVISED BUDGET 2018/19 (DSS) –

The Operational Manager Accountancy presented the report, the purpose of which was to allow the Committee to consider the initial revenue budget proposals for 2019/20 and to inform the Committee of the amended original budget for 2018/19 for services which formed part of the Committee's remit.

The Council's budget was determined largely by the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) settlement set by the Welsh Government (WG). The provisional RSG settlement was received from WG on 9th October, 2018, with the final settlement due to be received on 19th December, 2018.

Appendix 1 to the report set out the amended budget for 2018/19 for this Committee, together with the necessary adjustments to be made to the original budget.

The Council was required under statute to fix the level of Council Tax for 2019/20 by 11th March, 2019 and in order to do so, would have to agree a balanced revenue budget by the same date. To be in a position to meet the statutory deadlines and the requirements for consultation set out in the Council's Constitution, much of the work on quantifying the resource requirements of individual services needed to be carried out before the final RSG settlement was notified to the Council.

The following table compares the amended budget with the projected outturn for 2018/19. The forecast for Social Services was shown as a balanced budget. However, there would be considerable pressure on this service in the current year and this position may not be achieved and a drawdown from reserves may be required as shown in the table below.

Service	2018/19	2018/19	2018/19	Variance
	Original	Amended	Projected	(+) Favourable
	Budget	Budget	Outturn	(-) Adverse
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children and Young People	15,235	15,477	15,977	-500
Unplanned use of reserves to fund overspend	0	0	(500)	+500
Adult Services	46,644	46,271	46,271	0
Resource Management & Safeguarding	201	277	277	0
Leisure Services	1,324	1,349	1,349	0
Total	63,404	63,374	63,374	0

Children and Young People Services – The major issue concerning this service for the current year was the pressure on the children's placements budget given the complexities of the children currently being supported and the high cost placements some of these children require to meet their needs. Work continued to ensure that children were placed in the most appropriate and cost effective placements, however in the context of the complexity of need and the national challenges in identifying placements, it was currently anticipated that this budget would overspend. It should be noted that due to the potential high cost of each placement, the outturn position could fluctuate with a change in the number of children looked after and/or the complexity of need. The service holds a reserve that could be accessed at year end to fund high cost placements if required, however a drawdown from reserves of £500k was currently being shown.

Adult Services – The major issue concerning this service for the coming year would continue to be the pressure on the Community Care Packages budget. This budget was extremely volatile and was influenced by legislative changes such as the National Living Wage. The outturn position was difficult to predict. The service also continued to be affected by the pressures of continued demographic growth, an increase in the cost of service provision and the Community Care Packages budget would have to achieve further savings this year. The service would strive to manage growing demand and would develop savings initiatives which may be funded via regional grants. WG had continued to provide Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) grant to Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to allow collaborative working between

Health and Cardiff and the Vale Councils however the level of grant funding was not guaranteed on an ongoing basis.

As part of the Final Revenue Budget Proposals for 2018/19, a savings target of £6.298m was set for the Authority. Attached at Appendix 2 to the report was a statement detailing the projected progress against savings targets for 2018/19 for this Committee.

Each savings target had been given a RAG status. Green indicated that it was anticipated that the target would be achieved in full within the year, amber indicated that it was considered that the saving in the year would be within 20% of the target and red indicated that the saving to be achieved in year would be less than 80% of the target.

It was anticipated that at year end all savings for this Committee would be achieved.

The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2018/19 to 2021/22 was presented to Cabinet on 17th September, 2018 (Minute No. C411).

It assumed a reduction in WG funding of 1% for the years 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22. This resulted in the requirement to find savings of £15.714m over this period, with £3.627m currently having been identified. There were therefore further savings to be identified of £12.087m over the three year period.

The latest Plan factored in a managed level of cost pressures, a notional increase in Council Tax of 2.5% each year, projected annual pay awards and limited non pay inflation.

The Council's provisional settlement was announced by WG on 9th October, 2018. The Council was currently in the process of responding to the provisional settlement and a report was being presented to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee which outlined a suggested response, with a reference to Cabinet for consideration on 19th November, 2018.

WG had advised the Council that its provisional SSA (Standard Spending Assessment) for 2018/19 was £226.748m. SSA represented WG's view of the relative resources needed to provide a standard level of service in each Local Authority in Wales and its primary use was to allocate RSG to these Authorities.

As part of these initial proposals, it had been necessary to revisit the cost pressures facing services in order to build up a complete and up to date picture of the financial position of the Council and an updated list for this Committee was shown in Appendix 3 to the report. These were not shown in any order of priority.

From April 2019 the National Living Wage would increase from £7.83 an hour to £8.21. The increase would have a significant effect on the services the Council commissioned from external organisations. The main area affected was Social Services and a cost pressure had been included to reflect this.

Details of the proposed areas for savings for 2019/20 to 2020/21 were attached at Appendix 4 to the report. The savings did not include the cost of any potential redundancies. Further work was ongoing to identify future projects that would realise savings for the Council via the Reshaping Service Tranche 4 process.

The base budget for 2019/20 for this Committee was attached at Appendix 5 to the report. This had been derived by adjusting the 2018/19 budget for items such as pay inflation and unavoidable growth, but did not include identified cost pressures or savings. These were shown as a note to the table and were further detailed in Appendices 3 and 4 respectively. Adjustments shown include the following:

- Asset Rents, International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 – Related to accounting items outside the control of services. They reflected charges to services for the use of capital assets and adjustments in respect of pensions to comply with accounting standards;
- Recharges / Transfers – Related to changes in inter-service and inter Directorate recharges;
- Budget Adjustment – There was a £330k increase in budget due to the change in the use of the Social Services Fund in 2019/20;
- Pay Inflation – This figure related to pay awards for 2019/20. The projection was based on the preferred option included in the report that was approved by Cabinet on 17th September, 2018 and was currently being consulted upon. Any further update would be included as part of the Final Budget Proposals report. Currently due to the level of the projected shortfall, no non pay inflation had been included for 2019/20.

Once the base budget for 2019/20 had been established, it would then be compared to the funding available to identify the extent of any shortfall. With a projected AEF of £151.923m and Council Tax at a current level of £69.573m, total available funding would be £221.496m. When compared to a base budget of £226.416m, this would result in a funding deficit for 2019/20 of £4.920m.

Members noted that if all identified cost pressures were funded, this would increase the shortfall to £14.164m. If all proposed savings were achieved, the shortfall would be reduced to £10.420m.

Further work would be undertaken by the Budget Working Group (BWG) in order to achieve a balanced budget for the final budget proposals for 2019/20. This would include a review of the use of reserves, a possible increase in Council Tax, a review of all cost pressures, possible changes to the approved saving targets, a review of the inflation assumptions and the current financial strategies.

The BWG would consider the results of the budget engagement process in determining priorities for future savings and service delivery.

Appendix 6 to the report set out the actual reserves as at 31st March, 2018 relating to this Committee and showed the estimated reserves balance for each year up to 31st March, 2022.

The Committee were then taken through each cost pressure by the Heads of Service, as outlined in Appendix 3.

The Head of Children and Young People Services began by stating that cost pressures for Children's Services related to external placements, legal costs and allowances for kinship foster carers. There was a relationship between the three cost pressures linked to increasing numbers of children looked after and increasing numbers subject to care proceedings before the Court, both with increasing levels of complexity. The Head of Service referred to an increase in demand and an increase in the complexity of cases which required more specialist placements and greater legal consideration and counsel.

The Head of Service added that these cost pressures had been talked about before with external placements being an area of greatest pressure in Children and Young People Services and the most unpredictable with a continuing increase in the numbers and complexity of need within the children looked after population. This created associated pressures on placements availability in-house and increased reliance on externally commissioned care, such as more bridging placements being made. The Head of Service emphasised that this was a national UK wide issue.

In terms of the number of children looked after, the Committee was advised that the numbers in residential care were now 14, four in residential schools and ten in children's homes. There had been an increase of three in the number of children's home placements since the start of the year, a 21% rise. In addition, one child was placed in a secure placement and one was in remand placement. Both of these were payable by the Local Authority.

With regard to the number of Independent Foster Agency placements, Members were advised that this now stood at 39 which was an increase of six since the start of the year, a rise of 15%. The Head of Children and Young People Services stated that in the overall context of increasing children looked after numbers, this now stood at 261 compared to 244 at the start of the year and this represented a 7% increase.

The Head of Service then referred to the Council working within a national commissioning framework delivered by 4Cs. She also referred to demand outstripping supply and that the service was currently experiencing a provider market and the costs were increasingly opaque.

In providing a breakdown of costs, the Head of Service outlined that the weekly costs for non-secure residential placements were on average £3,618 per week, and were increasing. Weekly costs for secure residential placements were between £4,500 and £9,065. With regard to the highest cost placements, there was one Young Person in an enhanced secure unit with a cost of £9,065 per week and another placement in an enhanced residential facility with 2:1 staffing that was required while the service sought to identify a secure placement. Costs for this were £3,500 per week with additional staffing at a cost of £4,340 per week. The Head of Service then provided a breakdown of costs for enhanced secure placements, with care staff being 82% of the total, education equalling to 15% and health making up the remaining 3%. With regard to enhanced residential, the Head of Service advised that the weekly cost of £3,500 was in addition to enhanced staffing at 2:1 costing

£500 per day which doubled the weekly cost to £7,000 per week. In addition there were night staff costs at £120 per night which brought the total to £7,840. The breakdown of an average residential placement was staffing being 62% of the costs, non-staffing equalling 38% which included mortgage / rent, activities, utilities, food, building maintenance, with education on top of these costs at £145 per day.

The Head of Service then referred to cost pressure projections which were based on a high likelihood of increasing demand and complexity of need, and the limited placement provision on a national basis. 2019/20 calculation worked on the basis of the current end of year forecast plus conservative costs for one additional residential placement and two additional independent foster agency placements, and the same increase in the following two years. She added that these costs could be higher if the number of external placements required was greater than forecast, and if the individual costs of these placements were higher given complexity of need.

A Committee Member then raised two points. His first was a query in relation to the weekly costs for residential placements and the 2:1 staff support. The Member also referred to the annual cost for one child that approached £500k stating that this was something that the Council could not afford. He went on to state that costs of these placements had to be looked into and he referred to Local Authorities lobbying the UK and Welsh Government. The Member's second point was why had Local Authorities not set up their own specialist facilities on a partnership basis which was something that the UK and Welsh Governments should have pushed for. In reply to weekly staffing costs, the Head of Service advised that it was important to bear in mind that some packages were bespoke based on the individual needs of the child, and that some smaller providers had to rely on agency staff when working above establishment, which was more costly.

The Head of Service added that on a national basis there were various tenders and a key aspect of which was concerned with attracting more providers to the market. With regard to secure accommodation, WG had determined that there was enough provision within Wales, but acknowledged there may be an issue with children from outside of Wales being placed in Wales. In addition, she referred to integrated care funding through which Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan had been awarded monies to scope the potential for a small two to three bed facility for children at the edge of secure accommodation, but this would be the maximum size as children had very complex needs that needed to be carefully matched. The Head of Service stressed the importance of placement decisions being based on children's needs and not just on resources.

In terms of lobbying Welsh Government, the Head of Service stated that representations had been made by the Council and also by the Wales Local Government Association and through the Association of Directors of Social Services. This was a national challenge and was why nationally Children's Services were keen to attract new providers into the market.

The Head of Service then clarified S2 Legal Costs and she outlined that this related to an increase in Court Orders for more complex cases. With regard to S3 and allowances for kinship carers, the Head of Service stated that there had been an increase in the number of children placed with relatives. This accounted for 45% of

the total children looked after population. The service provided assistance to relatives which had associated costs, with relatives also entitled to an allowance.

The Committee then considered cost pressures for Adult Services, with Members noting the following:

- S4 Demographic Changes, there was an ongoing increase in the number of people over 65 that would be eligible to receive services;
- S5 Increase in fees to meet providers' costs, pressures included the National Living Wage, sleep ins, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Regulations re Travel Time, auto enrolment of pensions and increased burden of registration costs for care workers;
- S6 Support Living Contracts, pressures related to additional investment to sustain supported living accommodation and following a reduction in the Supported Living Grant;
- S7 Legal Costs, Adult Services had noted a rise in the number of cases that were proceeding to Court for mediation, this was therefore identified as a cost pressure and was reflective of the complex and challenging cases the division now supported;
- S8 Joint Equipment Store, this was a regional service which was subject to a review, and so there was a potential increase in the funding required by the Council on the basis of activity.

In terms of Resource Management and Safeguarding, the only cost pressure for this service related to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (S9). The Head of Service advised that this related to the ongoing process of assessment and the associated legal costs. In order to meet demand, the service had added additional capacity in order that assessments could be moved on through the process more quickly.

In terms of Leisure Services, the Operational Manager stated that V9 Reduction in Sports Wales Grant Funding related to 2020/21.

A Committee Member, referring to pressures within Adult and Children's Services, stated that each of these divisions had fixed costs that were going to increase at a time when there was significant pressure on the Council's budgets. This meant that the Council had to do more with less and that this had to be acknowledged through a Committee's formal recommendation. The Member added that there had to be some easing of the pressures, which had to be considered and applied. The Member also referred to an increase in demand for older people's services and the increase and level of complex cases coming into the department. These pressures had to be fully acknowledged with the department's budgets reflecting the cost pressures. The Committee agreed that the Member's comments would be reflected in the Committee's recommendation.

Subsequently, it was

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the amended revenue budget for 2018/19 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

(2) T H A T the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee pass on to Cabinet the Committee's comments regarding acknowledgement of the increase in demand for services for Adults and Children and the pressures on the service's budgets, and a call for an easing of the cost pressures that needed to be fully considered and applied.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) To advise Committee of amendments to the 2018/19 budget.

(2) In order for Cabinet to consider the Committee's view that acknowledgement should be given to the cost pressures and demands placed upon Children and Adult Services and the call for these services to be fully funded.

533 INITIAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2019/20 TO 2023/24 AND CAPITAL MONITORING 2018/19 (DSS) –

The Operational Manager Accountancy presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an update on the progress of the Capital Programme for 2018/19 and to consult on initial capital proposals for 2019/20.

Appendix 1 to the report detailed financial progress on the Capital Programme as at 30th September, 2018.

Appendix 2 set out the Initial Proposals for the Capital Programme between 2019/20 and 2023/24 for this Committee.

The Welsh Government (WG) announced the provisional 2019/20 General Capital Funding on 9th October, 2018. The 2019/20 Capital Settlement was a flat lined capital settlement which for the Vale of Glamorgan Council equated to General Capital Funding (GCF) of £5.489m which was made up of £2.077m General Capital Grant and £3.412m Supported Borrowing. The General Capital Funding for 2018/19 was £5.505m therefore there was a reduction of £16k between years.

There was no indication as to the level of funding likely beyond 2019/20 and therefore in line with the approach adopted in the Medium Term Financial Plan, the proposals assumed a reduction of 5% for each year of the Programme after 2019/20.

The Council would seek to mitigate the projected deteriorating funding situation by looking to progress only those schemes which were deemed to be a key Corporate Priority and made a clear impact to the Wellbeing and Future Generation priorities. The Council would seek assurances that schemes included in the Capital Programme could be delivered on time and within budget.

New capital bids were invited for return by 28th September, 2018 and the number of bids received was in line with previous years since the five year Capital Programme was introduced (1 from Learning and Skills, 11 from Environment and Housing and 7 from Managing Director and Resources). Departments were requested to rank and

assess their own bids in order of importance before submission and bids from each Department were forwarded to the Insight Board for evaluation.

In previous years, only those schemes assessed as Corporate Priority 1 or higher and medium risk or higher were included in the Capital Programme. In addition, successful bids had also contributed to at least three Wellbeing and Future Generations outcomes and should have had a scheme priority factor of either A/B/Ci/Cii/Ciii. Usually bids that did not meet these criteria were excluded from consideration.

The value of capital bids received for the Council as a whole totalled £5.096m in 2019/20 and £19.116m over the five year period. While the evaluation process had been carried out this year for all capital bids in the normal manner, the difference between the GCF previously projected for 2019/20, when the five year Programme was set for 2018/19, compared to the actual GCF for 2019/20 was an increase of £259k. Any increase in the five year Programme over and above £259k would require further use of reserves or capital receipts. It was therefore proposed that at this point, due to the low level of funding available, that the £259k be not allocated to a particular scheme but held on the All Services Asset Renewal budget line. It would be allocated by the Budget Working Group as part of the final budget setting process once the final settlement figures were received and the full impact on reserves and capital receipts could be assessed. A list of the capital bids received that related to this Committee were shown in Appendix 3 to the report.

The next stage was for the estimates to be submitted to Scrutiny Committees for consultation. Each Scrutiny Committee would be asked to first consider the Initial Capital Programme proposals as shown in Appendix 2 and to make any recommendations for changes. If changes were requested, the reasons for these changes needed to be recorded in order to assist the Cabinet and the Budget Working Group (BWG) in drawing up the final proposals. Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee was the lead Scrutiny Committee and would consider both the Initial Capital Budget Proposals and any recommendations that other Scrutiny Committees had made. The responses of Scrutiny Committees needed to be made no later than 13th December, 2018.

Managers would be asked to revisit the schemes included in Appendix 2 and to confirm final costs and spend profile prior to the final proposals being presented to Cabinet.

Currently, the approved timetable required Cabinet to approve the final budget proposals by no later than 18th February, 2019 and that Cabinet's final Capital Programme proposals would be considered by Council at a meeting to be held on 27th February, 2019 to enable the Council Tax to be set by 11th March, 2019.

The capital receipt balance for Social Services had been ring fenced for Social Services capital expenditure. Whilst options were being explored by the Council, it had been assumed that the full capital receipt of £1.339m would be utilised for older persons' accommodation in 2020/21.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the changes to the 2018/19 Capital Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the initial capital proposals for 2019/20 be agreed.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Following consideration of the changes to the Capital Programme for 2018/19 as outlined in the report.
- (2) Having considered the initial capital proposals for 2019/20.

534 REGIONAL COMMISSION STRATEGY FOR ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY (DSS) –

The Committee considered progress of a Regional Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability and were provided with an opportunity to comment on the draft Strategy document. For this item, the Committee welcomed the Operational Manager Adult Services.

At the 21st September, 2017 Learning Disability Regional Partnership Board meeting, it was agreed that a joint Regional Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability would be developed across Cardiff and Vale Councils and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB). The Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership agreed to provide project management support to assist the project steering group which comprised of Learning Disability Operational Managers from both Cardiff and Vale Councils, Cardiff Council's Strategic Commissioning Officer and Cardiff and Vale UHB Commissioning Manager.

The Regional Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability (the 'Strategy') would be developed to follow on from previous separate commissioning strategies that had covered the period from 2012-2017 in both Cardiff and the Vale Councils and this would be the first Learning Disability specific Commissioning Strategy for the Health Board.

A Project Outline Document (POD) was drawn up in November 2017 which, in broad terms, set out the aims and objectives of the Strategy. In summary the POD explained the intention of partner organisations to use the Strategy as a “living document” to assess progress against stated aims leading directly to service and culture change.

The draft Strategy had been developed in line with the principles outlined in the National Commissioning Board's “Commissioning Services for People with a Learning Disability; Good Practice Guidance” (October 2017, IPC) and in accordance with the four commissioning principles of Cardiff and the Vale Integrated Health and Social Care Regional Partnership Board

- What matters to me
- Home first
- Sustainable and prudent use of resources
- Avoiding harm, waste and variation.

The draft Strategy set out how the three organisations together would meet the needs of adults with a learning disability within the context of Welsh legislation, national guidance, wider regional and local plans, and identified resources.

Across the region the Council's aim was to build and expand on previous successes and continue to transform services that impact on the health and well-being of adults with learning disabilities and their carers. The Council would achieve this through planning and commissioning services that empowered people to meet their personal outcomes, make their own decisions and ultimately, to live full and active lives within their communities, rather than just being present in it.

The Council therefore needed to ensure that the services it commissioned were delivered to the right people, at the right time, in the right way, focus on what mattered to the people it served, and to ensure the Council spent its money effectively.

The information gathered from the consultations and activities undertaken, had enabled identification of eight key priorities for adults with a learning disability and their carers:

- Information – Accessible and easy to understand.
- Choice and Control – Listening to the person and carer's views.
- Right care at the Right Time – Early, crisis and respite support.
- Day opportunities, Volunteering and Work – Person centred, accessible and part of the community.
- Transition – Joined up and planned well.
- Health and wellbeing – Feeling good, having fun and a social life, being active.
- Having my own home – Being independent, with friends, near family, using technology better.
- Collaboration and Co-production – Working better together.

The draft Strategy outlined “What is happening now”, to meet each of the eight priorities and also “What we will do” over the next five years.

It was anticipated that following consultation and any required amendments resultant from that exercise that the Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability would be finalised by January 2019 and considered for formal approval by Cabinet.

A Committee Member asked for clarification regarding advocacy for adults with a learning disability that were residing in a specialist home. In reply, Members were advised that consultation had been carried out with advocacy groups operating across the region. A number of comments received from the groups around more

individual co-production of strategies. Members noted that these groups were being kept informed of progress, but it was important to recognise that the Strategy was a high level document and the key was in ensuring that the Strategy was implemented correctly. In addition, advocacy groups had also commented on the need to make the document accessible and easy to read. This had meant that certain words and phrases had been added. Overall, Members were advised that the groups were pleased with the eight key priorities.

A Member then queried how the Strategy would be filtered down to operational staff. In reply, the Operational Manager Adult Services stated that an implementation plan would be devised that would include key objectives, and a working group would be established to monitor progress. In addition, it was planned to publicise the Strategy when it was launched.

In terms of current successes, the Operational Manager Adult Services advised that this included the development of the Support Plan Role that had been piloted in Cardiff and had now been expanded to the Vale. This had meant that there were better opportunities being provided to service users, and this was something that had been recognised by Welsh Government.

In referring to the development of the implementation action plan, a Committee Member requested more information. In reply, Members were advised that a key part of this was the mapping of services in order to see where there were any gaps. Services were currently provided by the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board, so the Cardiff and Vale Health Board would need to work with them and also Cwm Taff Health Board. The Committee was advised that the Strategy would remodel and modernise services, around which Local Authority staff would work in collaboration with Health in order for more intensive support to services to be available in the community. This would result in services being provided in a more timely manner.

Subsequently, it was

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the work undertaken by the Regional Commissioning Strategy Project Group be noted.
- (2) T H A T the draft Regional Commissioning Strategy for Adults with a Learning Disability be endorsed.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Following consideration of the draft Commissioning Strategy and the work undertaken by the Project Group.

535 QUARTER 2 (2018-19) PERFORMANCE REPORT: AN ACTIVE AND HEALTHY VALE (DSS) –

The Committee received performance results for Quarter 2, 1st July to 30th September, 2018 for the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 4, “An Active and Healthy Vale”.

The report advised that an overall Green RAG status had been attributed to Well-being Outcome 4. At Quarter 2, 96% of the 49 Corporate Plan actions attributed to this Well-being Outcome were on track to be delivered giving an overall Green performance status for actions.

Of the 31 performance measures aligned to this Well-being Outcome, only two measures could be allocated a RAG status. These measures where a RAG status was applicable had exceeded target resulting in a Green status being attributed to them.

A detailed report outlining the progress for this quarter towards achieving Well-being Outcome 4 was provided at Appendix A.

In commenting on the high number of measures for which information was not available, the Director advised that progress had been made with the new system used to capture information. This meant that information could now be extrapolated but there was still a need to verify that the data was reliable.

Having considered the report, it was

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving key outcomes in line with the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 4 – “Residents of the Vale of Glamorgan lead healthy lives and vulnerable people are protected and supported”, be noted.

(2) T H A T the performance results and remedial actions to be taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified be noted.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) To ensure that the Council clearly demonstrated the progress being made towards achieving its Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes that were making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

(2) To ensure the Council was effectively assessing its performance in line with the requirement to secure continuous improvement as outlined in the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 and reflecting the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to ensure that the Council maximises its contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.

536 LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – YEAR 6 PERFORMANCE REPORT (DEH) –

The Operational Manager for Leisure presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide the Year 6 Annual Report from Legacy Leisure. For this item and representing Legacy Leisure, the Committee welcomed Mr. R. Oaten and Ms. C. Tumelty.

The Council's Leisure Management Contract was awarded to Parkwood Community Leisure and commenced on 1st August, 2012 for a period of ten years. The award of the contract followed an extensive procurement process and set out to significantly reduce the revenue cost to the Council of its Leisure Centres operation. The contract was subsequently sub-contracted to Legacy Leisure, a not for profit charitable organisation, in October 2014 that provided the opportunity for further savings to be made. Cabinet recently granted permission for this to be extended by a further five years subject to successful negotiations being concluded with Parkwood / Legacy on a number of issues that had arisen since the commencement of the contract. These negotiations were currently ongoing.

Attached at Appendix A to the report was the Executive Summary from the Year 6 Annual Report from Legacy Leisure. The Annual Report followed the format of the monitoring checklist discussed previously, which highlighted parts of the contract and specification that Legacy Leisure were required to report on. The Council's new team approach to monitoring the contract had now also been fully established utilising specific officers within the Finance Section, Property Section and, when required, the Human Resources Section, in addition to officers from Neighbourhood Services and Transport.

The Annual Report highlighted a number of successes achieved during the year including paid visits to the sites which were in excess of 750,000 (Barry and Penarth Leisure Centres continue to be the most visited indoor facilities owned by the Council), over 5,000 fitness members (an increase of 5.5%) and maintaining swimming lessons numbers at the previously reported high numbers. Continuing efforts were also made to improve the environmental efficiency of all buildings, although larger gains were expected in the coming year with plans for PV units at Cowbridge and new more efficient plant associated with the changing room works in Barry and Penarth. One incident relating to Health and Safety was reported via the RIDDOR process within the number of accidents falling by 9.88%.

Staff training continued to be a priority for Legacy Leisure in areas such as lifeguarding, first aid, and health and safety. Facility upgrading saw new equipment introduced into a number of gym facilities, more spinning opportunities delivered and the roll out of new technologies, including an online system that allowed parents and children to track progress on swimming lessons. Several new initiatives were already underway this year, notably the upgrading of the changing areas, improvements to the fitness offer at Cowbridge and replacement of the roof at Cowbridge complete with added PV panels.

A Member asked what were the main reasons for an increase in membership. In reply, Mr. Oaten advised that this was mainly as a result of increased retention, with Legacy Leisure reporting a 7% increase in membership retention year on year.

The Chairman queried whether Legacy Leisure had a marketing plan in place. In reply, Ms. Tumelty confirmed that there was, and that this was being overhauled in order to make it more strategic, such as by looking at online bookings. She also referred to the role of the Regional Marketing Officer who was required to look at the marketing of all Leisure Centres. This would be progressed during January of the New Year, with the role looking at what key programmes should be marketed as a priority. The Committee agreed that an update on the marketing strategy would be provided early next year.

A Committee Member asked whether Legacy Leisure would consider arranging open days. In reply Members were advised that they would.

For the rest of the discussion of the report, the Committee agreed to enter into Part II with the press and public excluded. This included Mr. Oaten and Ms. Tumelty. This was in order for the Committee to consider commercially sensitive information in pursuance of Section 100A(4) of The Local Government Act 1972 as amended by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 on the ground that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A, paragraph 14.

It was

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the performance of Legacy Leisure be noted.
- (2) T H A T a Year 7 Annual Report be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in December 2019.
- (3) T H A T an update on Legacy Leisure's marketing strategy be provided when available.

Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Following consideration of the Year 6 Annual Report.

(3) In order for the Committee to consider the marketing strategy developed by Legacy Leisure.

537 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

RESOLVED – T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined

in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

538 CLOSURE OF ALLIED HEALTH CARE (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPH 14) (DEH) –

The Committee received an update regarding the impact following the closure of Allied Health Care.

The Committee noted that it was expected that the existing care arrangements would transfer to a company called CRG. Allied Health Care expected that all their current staff would continue to remain in post and so continuity of care should be maintained.

The Director of Social Services agreed to keep Members updated as the situation unfolded.

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

Reason for recommendation

To updated Elected Members.