

## HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Remote Meeting, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

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

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

Present: Councillor A.M. Collins (Chair); Councillor B. Loveluck-Edwards (Vice-Chair); Councillors J. Aviet, G. Ball, S. Campbell, S.J. Haines, S.M. Hanks, W.A. Hennessy, S. Lloyd-Selby, M.J.G. Morgan and S.D. Perkes.

Also present: – C. Ireland (Citizens Advice Cardiff and Vale Representative), G. Doyle, D. Dutch and V. John (Representatives from Tenant Working Group / Panel); Councillors G.D.D. Carroll, G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing) and E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health).

### AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from H. Smith (Representative from Tenant Working Group / Panel).

### AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 be approved as a correct record.

### AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

### AGENDA ITEM 4. FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024/25 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the Cabinet reference and the appended report be noted.

#### Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of both the Cabinet reference and report on the Financial Strategy 2024/25.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DRAFT CAPITAL STRATEGY 2024/25 AND INITIAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the Cabinet reference and appended report be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of both the Cabinet reference and report.

AGENDA ITEM 6. DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT 2022/23 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the following comments of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee be passed to Cabinet:

- To consider producing a “bite size” version of the report, in order to provide a shorter version for Elected Members and residents. This would build upon and enhance the “easy read” aspect of the document already in place.
- As part of the introduction to the report, it should clearly outline that it will be addressing those areas and services that the Council said it would do, as well as highlight the Council’s need to prioritise essential services, particularly those for the most vulnerable in the Vale of Glamorgan. It was important to highlight the Council’s achievements, particularly in terms of those areas and services which it had said it would do. Consideration should also be given to include a statement around the Council’s ambitions and aspirations, but this needed to be coupled with the inclusion of a realistic, honest and sober assessment of the current challenges and pressures that the Council faced in providing services, such as the impact caused by the cost of living crisis.
- It was important to encourage Vale of Glamorgan residents to participate and engage in the self-assessment process, and to ensure the Council was a “listening Council” with the emphasis on wanting to hear from residents about the issues and services that mattered to them, as well as where they felt resources should be focussed. As part of this, it was vital for the Council to communicate to the public about the services it provided and what it could and could not do due to the current economic and other pressures that it faced. This would help to ensure that the Council could manage residents’ expectations on the services and other areas of support that they expected the Council to provide.
- To look to ensuring that the report and the means of engagement with the self-assessment process itself were provided in as many different formats as possible, which would enable greater accessibility and engagement with the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan in this process.

Reason for recommendation

In order for Cabinet to consider the comments raised by the Committee prior to the final Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment Report being considered by the

Governance and Audit Committee, Cabinet and thereafter presented for endorsement by Full Council.

AGENDA ITEM 7. ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the Cabinet reference and appended report be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of both the Cabinet reference and report.

AGENDA ITEM 8. QUARTER 1 REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24 (DEH) –

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the position with regard to the Authority's 2023/24 Revenue Budget be noted.

(2) T H A T the virements included as part of the report as set out in Table 1 be noted.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9. CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 (DEH) –

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the progress made on delivering the 2023/24 Capital Programme within the remit of the Committee as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

(2) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority within the remit of the Committee, as set out in paragraph 2.4 of the report, be noted.

(3) T H A T the use of Emergency Powers within the remit of the Committee, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

(4) T H A T the changes to the 2023/24 and future years' Capital Programme within the remit of the Committee, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report, be noted.

Reason for recommendations

(1-4) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 10. ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT:  
QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE 2023/24 (DEH) –

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the Quarter 1 performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2023/24 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives within the remit of the Committee be noted.

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

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.