

July 2026

Project Zero Bi-Annual Report

Progress: October '25 to March '26

Place Scrutiny Committee



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Project Zero

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- Progress across the Council from October '25 to March '26 against the Climate Change Challenge Plan
- Resources
- The work of the Public Services Board
- Appendices:
 - Progress against the 18 Challenges and 80 steps
 - Progress against 25/26 Performance Measures
 - New 26/27 Performance Measures

Take forward work to improve the green infrastructure in the Vale and to promote sustainable food systems.	
Project Zero: Challenge 5 Protect and enhance green and blue space, biodiversity, and ecosystem resilience and improve understanding of the importance of our natural environment.	
Step	Q 3 & 4 RAG rating
PZC5.1. Develop and implement a Green Infrastructure including a survey of all trees in the Vale and an assessment of the current infrastructure.	On track
PZC5.2. Implement the biodiversity forward plan and raise awareness about the importance of nature and wildlife.	On track
PZC5.3. Replace lost trees and promote tree planting across the Vale including working with owners of large areas of land.	On track
PZC5.4. Improve existing and create more green and blue spaces through Council led schemes, s.106 funds and new transport schemes.	On track
PZC5.5. Work with local communities to increase the number of allotments and community garden space.	On track
Highlights	
	Over the period, a consultation on the Green Infrastructure Strategy was undertaken alongside the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP). The new Biodiversity and Ecological Resilience Plan for 2026 – 2029 has been approved by SLT and will be considered by Cabinet in July. A draft proposed allotment agreement has been completed and will be consulted on.
	Tree planting is continuing at pace across teams. In the period, the Countryside team planted almost 15,000 trees across the Vale. The Restore the Thaw project planted almost 14,000 working with 25 landowners along the Thaw Catchment, including new hedgerows on local farms. This will boost biodiversity by providing food, shelter, and corridors for wildlife; improve soil health and water quality by reducing erosion and filtering pollutants; combat climate change through carbon sequestration; and provide advantages to local farms like livestock shelter, pest control, and extended growing seasons. In addition, the Local Nature Partnership planted over 350 trees working with seven
landowners / groups, and in Porthkerry Country Park almost 500 trees were planted across the site, with children from Ysgol Y Deri and Romilly Park schools planting out trees that they had grown from seed.	
At the Everyone's Garden project on Margaret Avenue, Barry, a polytunnel for food growing was installed in November 2025, funded by the National Garden's Scheme. Community groups have transformed the site into a community garden for local tenants, residents, community groups and school children.	
In addition, work has progressed on the creation of a new beaver enclosure at Amelia Trust Farm , providing training for the local community on monitoring beavers – ready for the expected release of a new beaver family in 2026/27.	

Project Zero - a joined-up approach



Demonstrate strong leadership: Challenges 1-4

Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board Climate Change Risk Assessment

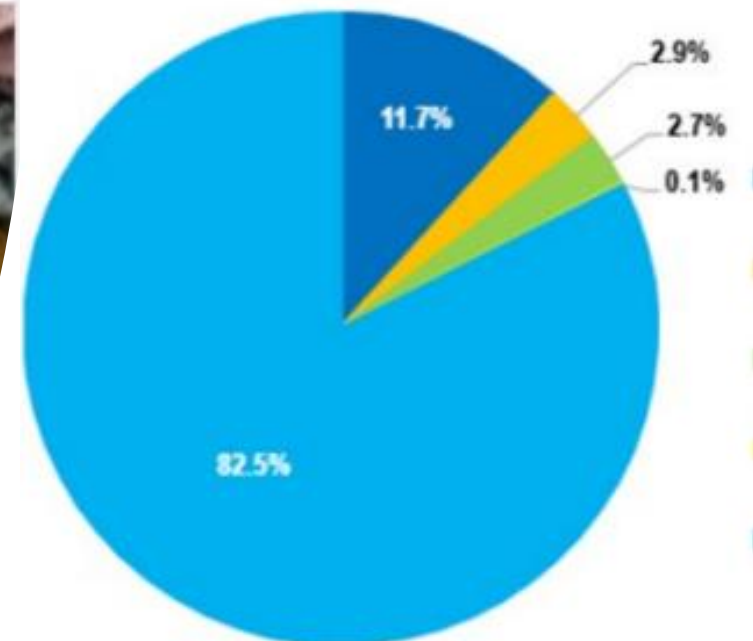
Final Report - March 2026

Report - March 2026

pop up near you: <https://repaircafewales.org/locations/> See less



10 1 12



Fulfil our
responsibility to
current and future
generations:
Challenges 5-12



Make a difference now: Challenges 13-18

Step 1: Think before you buy

Before you start any procurement, whether you are buying office furniture or for a school, it is important that you have read An Introduction to Buying Responsibly and consider the following:



CHALLENGE WHAT YOU ARE BUYING

Before starting any procurement process, you must challenge what you are buying and whether you even need to buy it.



USE IN-HOUSE OR EXISTING CONTRACT

You need to check the Supply Directory to see if there is any in-house provision or an existing contractual arrangement that can meet your requirements.



CONSIDER THE WELLBEING IMPACT

You need to consider the environmental, social, economic, and cultural impact of what you buy and how it is delivered.



Overall progress against the 80 steps

RAG categories	Number of steps
Business as usual	25
On track	44
Slower than expected progress	5
No progress	2
Completed	2
No planned action	2

Resources

Gwasanaeth Y
Energy Servi



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Public Services Board



Performance Measures: 2025/26 and 2026/27

Appendix B – 2025/26 Performance measures as relevant to Project Zero

Corporate Resources

Performance Measures	Q4 2024/25	Q4 2025/26	Target 2025/26	RAG Status	Direction of Travel	Commentary	Alignment to CP Well- being Objectives	Indicator Type
Citizen Perspective								
CPM/216/ Corporate Plan Measure: Percentage of residents who agree that the council is doing enough to address the climate emergency.	16%	18.8%	16%	Green	↑	This measure reflects residents' perceptions captured through the latest Let's Talk survey. While the percentage agreeing that the Council is doing enough to address the climate emergency remains relatively low, this mirrors national survey findings (e.g. YouGov public survey on attitudes to climate change, 13 % say government is getting the right balance in combating climate change) and reflects the scale and complexity of the challenge as experienced by residents. Importantly, the result should be viewed alongside the significant programme of action being delivered through Project Zero, including decarbonisation of the estate, fleet transition, biodiversity initiatives and partnership working through the Public Services Board. Work is ongoing to strengthen how	Respecting and Celebrating the Environment	Citizen Perspective