RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Remote Meeting, 9th July, 2025.

The Committee agenda is available here.

The recording of the meeting is available <u>here</u>.

<u>Present</u>: Councillor J. Protheroe (Chair); Councillor E. Goodjohn (Vice-Chair); Councillors G.M. Ball, S. Campbell, G.D.D. Carroll, P. Drake, R. Fisher, C.P. Franks, E.J. Goodjohn, J.M. Norman and N.J. Wood.

<u>Also present</u>: Councillors A. Asbrey, L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources) and G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -

These were received from Councillors Dr. I.J. Johnson and B. Loveluck-Edwards.

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES-

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -

No declarations of interest were received.

AGENDA ITEM 4. Q4 SICKNESS ABSENCE REPORT (REF) -

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the contents of the Cabinet reference, the report and April 2024 to March 2025 sickness absence figures provided in Appendix A, be noted.
- (2) T H A T the following requests be forwarded to the relevant officers:
 - That Committee receives comparative data relating to employee stress levels comparing current levels to those of 10 years prior to now;
 - That Committee receives information regarding services supplied to the Council by Westfield Health;
 - That Committee receives information on the successes in efforts to assist staff back to work following longer periods of sickness absence.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the content of the reference and report, and to discussions at the meeting.
- (2) For the Committee's information.

AGENDA ITEM 5. CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25 (REF) -

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the Cabinet reference and the appended report on the Closure of Accounts 2024/25 be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet be recommended to lobby the Welsh Government around the timing of confirmation and receipt of their grant funding for Vale of Glamorgan Schools.
- (3) THAT the appropriate Officers organise a joint briefing for Members, as an update on work being carried out regarding overspends in Education, particularly regarding School Transport and Additional Learning Needs.
- (4) THAT the Resources Scrutiny Committee write a letter to the relevant Senedd Members highlighting the Committee's view that the education funding formula should be reviewed, as it is not benefitting Vale of Glamorgan schools, or children.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the content of the reference and report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) Due to the issues that delays in confirming and receiving such funds cause, for both the Local Authority and Vale of Glamorgan Schools, in being able to effectively manage budgets.
- (3) For Members' information.
- (4) To highlight the impact of financial pressures associated with the funding formula on Vale of Glamorgan schools.

AGENDA ITEM 6. CAPITAL CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25 (REF) -

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the Cabinet reference and appended report on the Capital Closure of Accounts 2024/25, be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the content of the reference and report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 7. TASK AND FINISH GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN'S PROCUREMENT POLICY, FUNCTION AND STRATEGY –

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) THAT the report on the Task and Finish Group on the Review of the Vale of Glamorgan's Procurement Policy, Function and Strategy, be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet, and for Cabinet to consider supporting the recommendations within it.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) In order for potential improvements to the Council's procurement function, identified by the Task and Finish Review Group, to be considered by Cabinet.

AGENDA ITEM 8. TASK AND FINISH REVIEW ACTIVITY REPORT (DCR) – RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the topic of 'The Council's Communications Strategy', as detailed in Appendix A (1) to the report, be agreed as the first Task and Finish Review topic undertaken.
- (2) T H A T the following Members of the Committee be appointed to the Task and Finish Review Group, subject to the agreement of those Members who were nominated, but not present at the meeting (indicated with * below):

Councillors B. Loveluck-Edwards*; E.J. Goodjohn; Dr. I.J. Johnson*; G.D.D. Carroll; S. Campbell; J.M. Norman and J. Protheroe.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the content of the report and Appendix A, and in order for the Committee's Task and Finish work to commence.