

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 9TH JULY, 2025

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 3RD JULY, 2025

“C40 CLOSURE OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – RESOURCES SCRUTINY) –

The Leader presented the report as the accounts were complete and the report was to inform Cabinet of the provisional financial position of the Council for the 2024/25 financial year.

It had been a challenging year on a number of fronts with persistent financial pressure in Social Services, most notably in Children and Young People’s services, and an unprecedented rise in placement spend driven by both demand and cost. Another key area of pressure was Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and the impact on school transport budgets. There were also pressures across front line Neighbourhood Services in respect of Road Maintenance, Waste, Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing.

School spending was a concern with some schools spending in excess of their in-year resources. Whilst a number of schools were able to recover the deficit position in-year, the Council ended the year with 28 of the 53 schools in deficit with a net deficit of £4.138m, and the Council having to underwrite that position from within its own reserves.

A review of reserves was undertaken when setting the budget and also when closing the accounts, especially important for 2024/25 given the spending pressures and the unplanned use of reserves.

The report was proposed to be referred to the Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Leader looked forward to the conversation at that meeting.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the report and the financial measures taken and proposed be approved.

(2) T H A T the allocation of overall Council surplus as set out below be approved.

- £2.1m transfer to reserve to offset school deficits on a provisional basis at year end.
- £353k to Reshaping Assets Reserve to offset general pressures.
- Education - ALN Reshaping and Youth £275k.
- Place - Community Place Making and Country Car Parks £486k.
- Overall Surplus of £45k transferred to the Council Fund.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and for any recommendations to be referred back to Cabinet for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To approve the report and the financial measures taken and proposed.
- (2) To approve the allocation of the 2024/25 surplus to support the delivery of schemes supporting key priorities identified by the Council.
- (3) To enable the Scrutiny Committee responsible for finance to review the year end position.”