

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 4 September, 2017.

Present: Councillor J. Thomas (Chairman), Councillor H. Jarvie (Vice – Chairman)
Councillors: B. Penrose, J. Bird, A. Parker, G. Kemp and G. Cox.

C58 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 31 July, 2017 be approved as a correct record.

C59 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C60 REVENUE MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 31 MAY 2017 (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Corporate Performance and Resources) on 20 July, 2017 considered the above report of the Managing Director.

The Scrutiny Committee was updated by the Head of Finance of progress relating to revenue expenditure for the above period. Progress in respect of specific budgets was set out below.

Learning and Skills

The Directorate was projecting a balanced budget with an anticipated use of resources. However, the Head of Finance indicated that there would still be pressure on the service in the coming year.

Schools – The delegated budget relating to schools was expected to balance as any under / over spend was carried forward by schools.

Achievement for All – This service was anticipated to outturn at budget after drawing down £200,000 from the School Placement reserve. The recoupment income budget continued to be under significant pressure and would be monitored carefully over the coming months.

Other Services – At this early stage in the financial year, all other services were anticipated to outturn within budget.

The Directorate had requested to vire budget between service headings. A virement of £520,000 was required from the Achievement for All budget to the overall Schools budget in respect of the transfer of the out of county income budget for enhanced placements at Ysgol Y Deri.

Due to the senior management restructure and the allocation of savings, there were a number of virements required within the Directorate. These are summarised as follows:

	Virement £'000
School Improvement	-1
Strategy and Regulation	-8
Strategy, Community Learning and Resources	-62
Achievement for All	+71
TOTAL	0

The Committee noted that the virements in respect of certain services anticipating drawing down funding from reserves was set out in the table of information at paragraph 3 in the report.

Provision had also been made within the budget to make unsupported borrowing debt repayments in relation to the Schools Investment Strategy of £598,000 per annum and any favourable variance on debt repayments would be directed into the Schools Investment Strategy.

Social Services

As it was very early in the financial year, the forecast for Social Services was shown as a balanced budget. However, there would be great pressure on the service in the coming year and this position may not be achieved.

Children and Young People Services – The major issue concerning this service for the coming year would be the pressure on the children's placements budget given the complexities of the children currently being supported. Work continued to ensure that children were placed in the most appropriate and cost effective

placements. However, 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 Looked After Children and / or the complexity of need. This budget would be closely monitored during the year.

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. At this early stage of the year, the outturn position was difficult to predict. Final negotiations regarding fee levels had yet to be concluded with service providers. The service also continued to be affected by the pressures of continued demographic growth 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. Welsh Government 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. Additional funding had been announced by Welsh Government recently. The Social Care Workforce Grant which totalled £10m across Wales had provided additional funding of £371,000 to the Council. A further £20m had also been announced by Welsh Government, however details as to the exact use and allocation to the Council had yet to be received.

Environment and Housing

It was early in the financial year, however, it was currently projected that this service would outturn within target at year end with an anticipated use of reserves.

Highways and Engineering – There was currently a £61,000 favourable variance against the profiled budget. The main reason was due to vacant posts currently within the department, however, key posts had recently been filled by Agency staff therefore it was currently projected that the budget would outturn on target.

Waste Management – There was currently an adverse variance of £16,000 to the profiled budget. The variance to date was due to overspends on staffing and transportation costs. The Waste Management budget had been reduced in 2017/18 for further vehicle savings however the department was unlikely to be able to achieve these in the short term due to the increased distance that had to be travelled as all waste disposal points were now situated in Cardiff. Due to this, £200,000 was set aside in the Visible Services Reserve at the end of 2016/17 to offset these

pressures in 2017/18. It was currently anticipated that the budget would outturn on target.

Leisure – There was currently an adverse variance of £15,000 to the profiled budget. The main reason was due to the high costs for vehicles during the start of the Grounds Maintenance season. It was anticipated that this would reduce over the winter months and therefore it was currently projected that the overall budget would outturn on target.

Transportation – There was currently a favourable variance of £11,000 against the profiled budget. Staffing costs within the division were lower than budgeted to date. There was also a slight underspend within the supported buses budget which was assisting the current favourable position. As it was early in the year, it was currently anticipated that this service would outturn on budget for 2017/18.

Visible Services Reshaping Services Savings Target – In 2017/18 there was a savings target of £525,000 allocated to Visible Services from the current Reshaping Services programme. The proposed means of achieving this saving had been approved by Cabinet on 24th April, 2017 and was through the introduction of a new target operating model for the service. This savings target had yet to be allocated to specific services and was being held centrally within the Visible Services budget pending the implementation of the new service model which was anticipated to commence from September 2017 onwards.

Regulatory Services – The allocation of £2.1666m represented the Vale of Glamorgan's budget for its share of the Shared Regulatory Service (SRS). A separate set of accounts was maintained for the SRS and periodically reported to the Shared Regulatory Service Joint Committee. At this stage in the year it was anticipated that the SRS would outturn on target.

Council Fund Housing – At this early stage of the year, it was anticipated that this budget would outturn on target.

Public Sector Housing (HRA) – The HRA was expected to outturn on target and any underspends in year would be offset by additional contributions to Capital Expenditure thus reducing the reliance on Unsupported Borrowing.

Managing Director and Resources

It was early in the financial year, however, it was currently projected that this service would outturn within target at year end.

Resources – It was anticipated that this service would outturn within budget.

Regeneration – This budget covered the Countryside, Economic Development and Tourism and Events functions. There was currently a favourable variance of £21,000 against the profiled budget due in the main to staff vacancy savings whilst awaiting for re-appointments to be made. At this stage it was anticipated that this service would outturn on target.

Development Management – There was currently a £27,000 favourable variance against the profiled budget for May, mostly due to staff vacancies and higher than anticipated Building Regulation fees to date. As it was early in the financial year it was anticipated that this service would outturn on target.

Private Housing – As it was very early in the financial year there was currently no variance to the profiled budget.

General Policy – It was anticipated that this service would outturn within budget.

2017/18 Savings Targets

As part of the Final Revenue Budget Proposals for 2017/18, a savings target of £4.017m was set for the Authority. Attached at Appendix 1 to the report was a statement detailing all savings targets for 2017/18. Some services were in the process of finalising options prior to full implementation. Updates on progress would be provided to Members during the year.

It was anticipated that the £244,000 Transport Review savings for Visible Services would not be achieved in full this year. As detailed earlier in this report, funding had been ringfenced in the Visible Service Fund to cover the projected shortfall for the service, of which £144,000 related to this savings target.

A Member, in referring to various factors of the report and in particular to Appendix A and savings proposals, expressed disquiet at the ongoing reduction of staff and queried the implications for services. Separately, he was also concerned at the reduction of corporate grants available to various organisations and the resulting impact on those organisations to undertake their various work aspects. In response

and referring to savings in particular in Adult Services, she indicated that a Budget Board had been established to have oversight of the various saving requirements to be made by the service and discussions were currently ongoing regarding how these savings could be achieved and she anticipated that a further report would be available in time for the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee. In regard to the Corporate Budget and in relation to the Corporate Centre savings in the sum of £1.4m were required to be found, she was confident that £800,000 of this amount would be achieved in the current financial year with a further £600,000 to be found in the next financial year. In relation to staff reductions, these related to service establishments' vacant posts and these would now be used to offset the savings required to be found in the current and next financial year.

In regard to grant support to third sector organisations, she referred to a recent report submitted to the Council's Community Liaison Committee with Town and Community Councils and the Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee following the approval by the Cabinet earlier in the year of new arrangements for grant funding built around drawing together existing funding streams including Section 106 funding and would now be called the "Stronger Communities Grant Fund".

Another Member referred to the proposed arrangements set out in paragraphs 5 and 8 of the report and acknowledged the issues facing the Achievement for All budget and questioned the virement of £520,000 from the Achievement for All budget to the overall Schools Budget and considered it to be more appropriate to put this virement sum into a reserve whereby schools could draw down additional funding but under the expectation of providing a business case to do so. The Head of Finance indicated that the proposals to vire this amount to the Schools Budget would be closely managed, however once the virement had been made, it would be difficult to claw back the funding at a later date. The Member also referred to paragraph 14 of the report and made reference to the Community Care Budget and requested that an update report be provided on the position in regard to residential fees as soon as practicable. The Member also touched on the savings target required to be made by Visible Services and sought clarification regarding the amount of savings to be achieved relating to the Transport Review savings. The Head of Finance, in responding to this point, clarified the position indicating that Visible Services would be required to find £244,000.

The Chairman, in referring to the Out of County income budget for enhanced placements at Ysgol y Deri, expressed the view that officers should monitor the situation very closely and concurred with the suggestion of the Member regarding the placement of the proposed virement of £520,000 from the Achievement for All budget to the overall Schools Budget would be better managed by creating a reserve

fund where schools could draw down additional funding but with the expectation of providing an appropriate business case to receive funding.

Having regard to the contents of the report and the above discussions, it was

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the position with regard to the Authority's 2017/18 Revenue Budget be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet be requested to give consideration to creating a reserve for schools to draw down from for additional funding in regard to the proposed virement of £520,000 from the Achievement for All budget.
- (3) T H A T the virement of £71,000 to the Achievement for All budget with a reduction of £1,000 from the School Improvement budget, £8,000 reduction from the Strategy and Regulation budget and £62,000 from the Strategy, Culture and Community Learning and Resources budget be noted.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To apprise Members of the projected revenue outturn for 2017/18.
- (2) To request Cabinet to put appropriate arrangements in place regarding the establishment of a reserve to ensure that schools made a business case when drawing down additional funding and to allow the budget spend to be appropriately monitored.
- (3) To align the budget with organisational changes.

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Cabinet having considered the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee
(Corporate Performance and Resources)

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the request to create a reserve of £520,000 for schools to draw down from for additional funding is not appropriate at this current stage in the

financial year and the virement of £71,000 to the Achievement for All budget, as originally proposed be agreed. This situation is to be reconsidered as part of the 2018/19 budget setting process.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the contents of the report.
- (2) Given the timing and position within the financial year.

C61 HIGHWAY RESURFACING THREE YEAR PLAN 2017 TO 2020 (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) on the 13 July, 2017 considered the above report of the Director of Environment and Housing.

The Committee was pleased to receive the report as it had been requested within its work programme, with the Head of Visible Services and Transport highlighting that the local highway network within the Vale of Glamorgan was a valuable asset to the community for which the Council was responsible. The way it was managed and maintained had a direct impact on residents, businesses and visitors who used it on a daily basis.

The Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan was attached at Appendix A to the report and identified carriageways requiring treatment to prevent further surface and structural deterioration. The carriageways listed within the Plan for “surfacing” (page 2 of Appendix A) had been assessed in accordance with a “Carriageway Resurfacing Prioritisation Scoring System” which was attached at Appendix B.

The “Carriageway Resurfacing Prioritisation Scoring System” identified several criteria and data factors which enabled a score to be derived and the prioritised Three Year Plan for surfacing works to be established. Surfacing works were more costly and this form of treatment generally related to major and heavily trafficked routes.

Delivery of the Plan was dependent on receiving appropriate funding. Roads that would receive surfacing works in the financial year would be selected from the prioritised list. Committee noted that the roads scoring 390 had been prioritised for surfacing this year. All the routes on the list required attention, however with the limited funding available, it was suggested that remaining funds be utilised to undertake the other forms of treatment identified. One of the benefits of doing this

was that a greater length of highway could be treated. Those roads on the surfacing list which would not receive works in the year due to budget constraints would automatically follow through into the following year's Plan. The Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan was reviewed annually.

Based on the estimates shown, there was insufficient funding available to complete all the routes indicated on the micro asphalt and surface dressing lists, however officers would seek to undertake as much of this work as was possible, with any routes not addressed moving to the programme for 2018 / 2019.

The Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan provided the foundation for delivering a well-maintained and managed highway infrastructure. It ensured levels of service were optimised and that the highway infrastructure asset was managed wherever practicable, in the most efficient manner to meet the expectations of all highway users.

It was noted that there was currently no road maintenance grant funding available from the Welsh Government and that the funding available to deliver the programme of resurfacing works would be taken from the Council's capital budgets. It had been requested that £500k from the 2018/19 budget be brought forward to the 2017/18 capital budget to enable works to be undertaken as soon as possible. This would provide a total budget of £1.3m for 2017/18 against an estimated total cost of £3.683m for the full Three Year Programme.

The Head of Service advised Members that the delivery of the Plan depended very much upon funding and, as outlined above, the roads to be resurfaced were selected from a priority list. Surface dressing works had already been done to date, taking advantage of the recent good weather and the contractors' programme.

Following a query as to whether Members were notified when works were being undertaken in their area, the Head of Service's response was that Members would be notified when works requiring Road Traffic Orders were required.

Following queries regarding the scoring system, the Head of Service advised that this was an established scoring system used generally for resurfacing, with the request that the complete scoring matrix be made available to the next meeting of the Committee. In response, the Head of Service advised that although she could bring the details to Committee, she was unsure as to how informative the information would be bearing in mind its factual and contained engineering detail.

In referring to car parks and how they fitted into the resurfacing scheme, the Head of Service stated that if there were particular instances where Members knew there were issues, that they be reported to the Department for investigation.

Councillor L. Burnett, (not a member of the Committee) with permission to speak, referred to the road classifications and the scoring system, in particular noting that a tremendous amount of roads were scored at 390 but which she stated did not actually meet the criteria. Her concern was whether the matrix was the right one going forward and urged the Committee to receive more information in relation to how the scores were applied and in particular to whether they had been applied correctly. The Head of Service stated that amendments to priorities of roads being changed would reflect on others being placed lower down the list and that it was important to consider the professional engineer's advice in view of potential for insurance claims.

The Cabinet Member's main concern was the need to ensure that the scoring system was used and that Members' undue influence was not placed on officers.

Councillor N. Moore, (not a Member of the Committee) with permission to speak, also reiterated that he did not understand how some of the roads could achieve the 390 scoring and he urged the Committee to receive details of the scoring system used. He also referred to the alphabetical list noted in the programme and suggested that a priority assessment be introduced. Councillor Moore further queried a number of statistics, particularly the A48 Pentre Meyrick and a number of surface dressing works, in particular the paintball area reported as £27k but which was now £27,900, advising that there were three references in the report to the same function.

Councillor Moore agreed to email the areas in question for consideration to the Head of Service.

In conclusion, the Head of Service advised that it was important that the road works identified in the programme commence in order that some of the routes could be delivered.

All Members agreed that it was a difficult task for the service area in view of the limited resources, but that it was important that all Members understood the Resurfacing Plan and the resurfacing treatments and as such it was subsequently.

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T arrangements be made for site visits to be undertaken by the Committee, prior to the next meeting on 14th September, 2017, to a number of stretches of road in the Vale and that a presentation on resurfacing be provided to the Committee at the meeting on 14th September, 2017 to include details of the science behind the scoring system used.

(2) T H A T, notwithstanding Recommendation (1) above, the highways resurfacing works detailed in the report planned for 2017-2020 be noted.

(3) T H A T, the report detailing the highways resurfacing works planned for 2017-2020 be referred to Cabinet.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) In order that Members can be apprised of the road network within the Vale and the scoring mechanism used to address the situation.

(2) In order that the necessary works can be completed as planned and to apprise Members.

(3) In order that Cabinet can consider the Highway resurfacing works planned for 2017 to 2020.



Cabinet having considered the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration)

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the comments of the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) be noted.

(2) T H A T the Highway Maintenance 3 year resurfacing plan attached at Appendix A to the report of the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) be agreed.

(3) T H A T the Director of Environment and Housing Services be authorised to amend the plan, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, should other highway routes deteriorate such that

their priority for repair becomes greater than those currently indicated in the plan.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the views of the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration).
- (2) To ensure that important highway resurfacing and treatment work could continue without further delay.
- (3) To allow the programme to be varied, without recourse to Cabinet, should any highway route deteriorate such that its repair becomes of greater priority than those routes currently indicated in the plan.

**C62 CABINET QUARTERLY WORK PROGRAMMING AND MONITORING (L)
(SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – ALL)**

Cabinet was presented with a progress update against the last Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme from June 2017 - July 2017, and agreement was sought for the next Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme of the Cabinet / Council for the period September to December 2017.

The Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme attached at Appendix A to the report set out matters that were included in the Strategic Work Programme as well as other specific items that the Executive and Full Council were planning to consider during September to December 2017.

Appendix B as attached to the report provided an update on the previous Quarterly Work Programme June 2017 to July 2017, and highlighted those reports that were not submitted to Cabinet with the reasons for non-submission. The appendix also highlighted the timescale to consider those items that had not to date been reported.

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 progress against the last Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme from June to July 2017 attached at Appendix B to the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Quarterly Work Programme of the Cabinet / Council for the period September to December 2017 attached at Appendix A to the report be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1&2) To comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2000, subordinate legislation and the Council's Constitution.

C63 PROCUREMENT OF REFIT WORKS FOR COUNCIL BUILDING ASSETS (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

Approval was sought for the Council to procure works for all phases of Refit Cymru which were expected to exceed a total value of £300,000.

Refit Cymru was a Welsh Government promoted scheme that aimed to accelerate the energy efficiency improvement of all public sector buildings in Wales. Measures such as energy efficient lighting upgrades, boiler system upgrades and fabric insulation were some of sixty three potential measures that could be included within Refit. Loans could be made available for Refit phases that included measures with an overall 8 year simple payback through the guaranteed energy savings. It was the appointed contractor that guaranteed the savings, over the loan term. The monitoring and verification (M&V) report that they provided alongside their saving predictions specified an agreed methodology for how the savings were going to be measured. If there was an under performance then the contractor would make payments to the Council against the guarantee. The loans had to be repaid by the Council through the savings over what could be up to a maximum term of 10 years.

Refit would be delivered in two or three phases for approximately 72 of the buildings identified as being in scope over a three year programme.

The Refit scheme had been positively received by the Council's Insight Board (15 February, 2017) and the Corporate Management Team (1 March, 2017). Also, following presentations on 12 January and 13 January, 2017 to school head teachers, 72% of those asked for a response were very positive about the scheme.

The Council formally approved participation in the Refit Cymru programme on 24 April, 2017.

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 delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance to approve the issue of tenders for each phase of the Refit scheme.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council to award a contract to the winning bidder of the tendering process for each phase of the Refit scheme.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services to execute the Refit contracts.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-3) In order that works associated with the Refit programme could commence and that the Vale of Glamorgan Council could start to benefit from the potential improvements.

**C64 ANNUAL REPORT – SECTION 106 LEGAL AGREEMENTS 2016-17 (RP)
(SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -**

Cabinet was informed about the progress on Section 106 (Planning Obligation) matters that had arisen in the last financial year (April 2016 - March 2017).

The report summarised the Council's progress on negotiating, monitoring and implementing planning obligations through Section 106 agreements, for the last financial year.

In the 12 months between 1 April 2016 and 31 March, 2017 a total of 23 planning permissions had been granted, which had been subject to Section 106 agreements. A list was attached at Appendix A to the report. The value of the financial contributions totalled £9,794,952.16 and related to a range of developments

A summary of income and spend on each Section 106 agreement between April 2016 and March 2017 was attached at Appendix B to the report, along with an update on progress between April and August.

£1,437,773.02 was spent on Section 106 schemes during 2016/17 on a number of schemes, with enhancements to public transport, walking and cycling, new school places, open space enhancements, children's play areas and improvements to community facilities. Photographs of schemes which had been implemented could be found in Appendix C attached to the report.

In addition to financial contributions, the Council had also worked with developers to deliver 'in kind' obligations on the development sites.

A total of 217 new build affordable housing units were delivered in 2016/17 via Section 106 Agreements in 2016/17, from major developments such as The Grange, Wenvoe; ITV Studios, Culverhouse Cross; the former caravan park and residential centre in Ogmore by Sea; St. John's Well, St Athan; and the land to the rear of St. David's Primary School, Colwinston. This was the highest recorded number of affordable housing units delivered via section 106 agreements (2015/16 – 111 units; 2014/15 – 57 units; 2013/14 – 12 units).

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 progress made on Section 106 matters between April 2016 and March 2017 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be circulated to all Councillors and the Clerks of all Town and Community Councils for information.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the progress made on Section 106 matters between April 2016 and March 2017.
- (2) To inform Members and Town and Community Councillors of the progress made on Section 106 matters between April 2016 and March 2017.

C65 VALE STREET, BARRY – PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS’ PARKING PLACE – OBJECTION REPORT (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION)

Cabinet was asked to consider an objection received to the proposed installation of a disabled persons’ parking place at Vale Street, Barry and to propose any appropriate action.

Attached at Appendix B to the report was the plan reference T/17/08/WS which showed the proposed location of the disabled persons’ parking place for information.

A letter of objection was received during the statutory consultation period which was attached at Appendix A to the report for consideration.

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 objection to the disabled persons' parking place in Vale Street Barry be rejected for the reasons contained in the report and that the disabled persons’ parking place be installed.
- (2) T H A T the objector be advised of the decision.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made and implemented.
- (2) To confirm the Council's position.

C66 EVERARD STREET, BARRY – PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS’ PARKING PLACE – OBJECTION REPORT (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

Cabinet was asked to consider an objection received to the proposed installation of a disabled persons’ parking place in Everard Street, Barry and to propose any appropriate action.

The applicant met the current criteria as detailed in Council Policy for disabled persons' parking places and a map of the location of the disabled persons' parking place was attached at Appendix A to the report.

A letter of objection was received during the statutory consultation period and was attached at Appendix B to the report for consideration.

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 objection to the disabled persons' parking place in Everard Street, Barry be rejected for the reasons contained in the report and that the disabled persons' parking place be installed.
- (2) T H A T the objector be advised of the decision.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made and implemented.
- (2) To confirm the Council's position.

C67 SECTION 180 – VOLUNTARY FUNDING FOR HOMELESSNESS OUTCOMES (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) -

Cabinet was provided with details of the outcomes achieved by Council funded voluntary sector homelessness schemes which assisted the Authority to prevent homelessness and to discharge its statutory duties.

Given the continuing introduction of Welfare Reform measures and the introduction in April 2015 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, homelessness presentations were increasing. This was due to the duty on the Council to provide advice, assistance and support to all eligible households who had a housing need and who may be homeless or threatened with homelessness within 56 days of their presentation. Therefore the Council increasingly needed to explore alternative delivery models to

assist in discharging its duties which included developing and continuing partnerships with the voluntary sector.

Tabernacle Baptist Church Home Access was first established in 1993 and continued to provide valuable housing advice to potentially homeless households. This excellent work was also recognised and supported by Welsh Government. In 2016/2017 the project received 97 new referrals for housing assistance and continued to support a further 105 existing clients. Throughout the last financial year 84 bonds were being managed of which 12 were new bonds issued during the year, 3 were for households with children, 7 were to single households and 2 were to couples without children, thus further relieving the demands on the Council's Housing Solutions Service and resources.

Since 2005/06 the Council had provided Llamau with a grant of £12,000 per annum in support of their JIGSO Project which provided mediation and support to young people and families in crisis. Historically, the Council had also provided £6,000 annually towards a furniture scheme which assisted the Vale's homeless young people to access basic home furnishings in order to set up their new home.

The continued support of these organisations and services helped prevent additional caseloads for Council staff and provided specialist, bespoke advice and support services to residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

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 outcomes achieved by the projects managed by the Tabernacle Home Access Team and Llamau be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Director of Environment & Housing be authorised to pay Section 180 funding to the Tabernacle Home Access Project (£5,000) and Llamau's JIGSO Project and Supported Lodgings Project (£18,000) for the financial year 2017/18.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the important role these projects played in supporting the Council's homelessness service.
- (2) To ensure the continuation of the Section 180 schemes detailed within the report.

C68 KEY STAGE 3 PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT (PRU) AND EDUCATION OTHER THAN AT SCHOOL (EOTAS) (LC) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – LEARNING AND CULTURE) -

Cabinet was informed of the educational changes required to ensure children and young people educated other than at school (EOTAS) could prosper and achieve attainable outcomes.

The Local Authority provided EOTAS provision to enable students to access an alternative to mainstream school. This was required for pupils who were medically unfit to attend school and those requiring an alternative to mainstream schooling because of their additional learning needs. In July 2016, 108 young people were recorded as receiving EOTAS in the Vale of Glamorgan. At that time this was the fifth highest in Wales.

EOTAS provision could be organised by the school, via a range of alternative providers, or by the Local Authority through placements at the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), known as Ysgol Y Daith.

Many schools in the Vale of Glamorgan choose to use EOTAS as a method of broadening horizons but also as a means of engaging young people in vocational skills. The Council had brokered support from local training providers and colleges to support schools in making arrangements for pupils. This allowed students to experience other forms of education on a day release basis whilst still preparing for GCSE subjects at their school. Schools also used EOTAS to offer a respite for students from the school environment and as a way to control behaviour and improve attendance.

The Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) offered learners with social emotional and behavioural difficulties an alternative to mainstream school. Currently the provision was split according to key stage. Key stage 3 (KS3) provision, for 12-14 year olds, was located at Amelia Trust Farm (ATF) and Key stage 4 (KS4) provision, for 14-16 year olds, was located at the Old Magistrates Court in Cowbridge. Transport to and from each venue was provided. Student numbers were currently 36 in KS4 and 20 in KS3. Students were dual registered and in most cases were on roll at both their home

school and the PRU. Attendance was monitored closely and students were supported by the Education Welfare Service should attendance fall below the standard required. The Council acknowledged these were the most challenging students and behaviours could be confrontational and sometimes violent.

A recent performance review of the PRU conducted by the Central South Consortium raised some important issues for the Council to consider. These related to the effectiveness and appropriateness of the curriculum delivered at KS3. The Consortium identified issues relating to low attendance, limited breadth of curriculum and poor outcomes. Concerns had also been expressed over the suitability of the environment and associated safeguarding and health and safety concerns. The current categorisation of the school was Improvement Capacity 'C' and Support Category 'Amber'. The PRU, like a number of educational establishments, was required to maintain standards in accordance with legislation pertaining to education, and as such was subject to inspection by Estyn. The proposals would be of significant assistance in ensuring that these obligations were met and that the PRU met the standards required by Estyn.

Currently the KS4 PRU operated on a part time basis. Learners spent part of their learning timetable at the PRU studying GCSEs and the remaining time with the training providers. It was proposed that a similar model would be delivered at KS3. This would involve students receiving 25 hours of tuition per week, part of which would be delivered at the PRU and the remainder on placements with various other internal and external providers. The changes proposed in the report focused on the location and operating model of the KS3 provision. It was anticipated that at some stage in the future, the KS3 and KS4 provision would be delivered from a single location. During the interim period, continual efforts would be made to identify and exploit the synergies and opportunities that arose between the key stages.

In addition to some of the performance issues identified at the current KS3 PRU provision, the physical environment was also considered to be a limiting factor for the service. The Council's Health and Safety team assessed the provision in October 2015 and raised significant concerns. Subsequently, the trade unions had made representations to management about staff safety on the site. Therefore, to ensure and safeguard the safety of students and staff, it was proposed that the services currently provided from Amelia Trust Farm should be relocated to Llantwit Major Youth Centre. This would provide a more manageable site from which services would be delivered from January 2018. The current lease arrangement with Amelia Trust Farm was due to expire at the end of July 2017. The Council was required to give 3 months' notice to terminate the lease arrangement.

Work had been undertaken previously relating to the future use of Llantwit Major Youth Centre. The conclusion of this work in 2015 was that Cabinet declared this building surplus to requirements. It was proposed that the relocation of the PRU to this site would be on an interim basis until the new co-educational school in Barry was completed. Upon completion, the Youth Centre site in Llantwit Major would be surplus and options for the future operation of the premises could be reconsidered.

To accommodate the PRU at the Llantwit Major site, a number of minor modifications would be required to the building to create the appropriate classroom environment and ensure the security of the site.

The current use of the premises by the Youth Service would be unaffected as these were operated at different times of the day. Members would also be aware of the ongoing discussions with voluntary organisations about the WVIC site (adjacent to the Youth Service building) and the potential to co-locate Youth Services with a community group.

Pupils were currently transported to and from their home location to the PRU site at Amelia Trust Farm. The report proposed that transport would continue to be provided to students to and from the new location.

The report proposed that the relocation of the service would take effect from January 2018. In order to deliver the revised operating model, a procurement exercise would be required to produce a framework of potential suppliers that would be accessed to provide appropriate learning packages for students.

Potential framework suppliers would include youth support services and training providers. The learning packages would consist of a mixture of national curriculum learning such as literacy and numeracy, personal and social education and vocational opportunities. Providers would offer full time places for an academic year. These places could then be utilised to satisfy the needs of the student on either a full or part time basis as was the case with the current KS4 arrangements.

As part of the procurement process and on-going contract management arrangements, providers would be regularly monitored with quality assurance processes being put into place. Monitoring outcomes on a contractual basis gave the Local Authority the assurance that students would achieve. If a provider did not maintain the required quality of provision, the Council would have the option to cease the provision and develop another option with an alternative provider.

In order to comply with the Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules, the contracts were proposed to commence in January 2018 following a tender process based on a series of lots designed around the different types of provision required.

To achieve the change to the operating model described, a series of staffing changes would be required and were detailed in the Resource Implications section of the report.

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 proposals as set out in the report be approved in principle as the basis for referral to Scrutiny Committee (Learning & Culture) for consideration and consultation with service users, their families, staff and trade unions prior to reaching a final determination.
- (2) T H A T a further report be submitted to Cabinet for final determination following completion of consultation activities.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the Council to take a strategic approach to the provision of education services for young people within the resources available and to enable consultation with Scrutiny Committee (Learning & Culture), service users, families, staff and the trade unions to be undertaken prior to reaching a final determination.
- (2) To ensure the on-going process of required consultation and engagement work with Trade Unions, staff and other stakeholders was undertaken efficiently and effectively in line with Council policies and procedures.