

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 9 October, 2017.

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

Also Present: Councillor V. Driscoll.

C79 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September, 2017 be approved as a correct record.

C80 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C81 JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM -

The minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting held on 3 July, 2017 were submitted.

Present: Councillor L.O. Rowlands, Mrs. J. Charles, S.J. Griffiths, A. Hampton and N.C. Thomas.

Also present: Councillor G. John.

Representatives of the Trade Unions: Ms. M. Canavan (NUT); Mr. D. Dimmick (NASUWT); Mr. R. Hughes (UNISON), Mr. G. Pappas (UNISON); Mr. S. Robertson (UNITE) and Mrs. G. Southby (UNISON).

Officers: Ms. S. Alderman, Mr. R. Bergman, Mrs. S. Clifton, Mrs. A. Davies, Mr. G. Davies, Mrs. P. Ham, Mr. H. Isaac, Mrs. E. Morgan and Mr. A. Unsworth.

(a) Appointment of Chairman –

The Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer sought nominations for the appointment of Chairman.

Having received nominations, Elected Members of the forum proceeded to vote, the outcome of which was that Cllr Janice Charles should be duly appointed. Following this, an Elected Member raised a query regarding the JCF's constitution and the process to appoint the Chair, with specific reference being made to whether the Trade Unions should be able to nominate a person. The Head of Democratic was subsequently asked to advise the forum, and he commented that there was an inference that the Chair should be appointed from the Elected Members and that the JCF's constitution probably could be made clearer.

AGREED – T H A T Councillor Mrs. J. Charles be appointed as Chairman for the duration of the Administration.

(b) Apologies for Absence -

These were received from Councillors Mrs. P. Drake and B.T. Gray, Mr. T. Greaves (GMB) and Mr. R. Hughes (UNISON).

(c) Notification from the Trade Unions of the Name of the Vice-Chairman –

AGREED – T H A T it be noted that Mrs. G. Southby has been appointed to the position of Vice-Chairman for the duration of the Administration.

(d) Minutes and Matters Arising –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February, 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to it being noted that for item k and face to face counselling, the number of requests should read the number of sessions.

There were no matters arising.

(e) Declarations of Interest –

No declarations were received.

(f) Trade Union Items –

No Trade Union items were received.

(g) Presentation – Care First Employee Assistance Programme –

Mrs. P. Garland-Smith provided an overview of the Care First Employee Assistance Programme.

Mrs. Garland-Smith advised that the Programme was launched in June 2016, the contract for which had been extended out to 2019. This followed an all-Wales tender, which meant, that Care First was the sole provider of counselling services throughout Wales.

Mrs. Garland-Smith then provided an overview of Care First's lifestyle website, which was an interactive online portal, where employees, managers and their families could access information, advice and answers to problems occurring as part of every-day life. Topics covered included issues from relationships, childcare and consumer issues through to stress, health and fitness. Mrs. Garland-Smith stated that there was a lot of information contained on the website, particularly in relation to mental health, for which, it was hoped that staff and managers would utilise before a referral was made to a counsellor.

Mrs. Garland-Smith stated that a large amount of work had been undertaken around management support, which could assist managers with difficult situations. An important element of the website would be the cognitive behavioural therapy information which managers had found very useful.

The Forum was also advised that shortly a survey around the use of the website would be undertaken across the whole of Wales, the findings of which would be reported back to the National Procurement Service. Mrs. Garland-Smith stated that any information that could be provided would be used in order to create a better service. Mrs. Garland-Smith also stated that to date, no formal complaints of the service had been received.

Mr. Pappas, in referring to the Care First website, stated that some of his Union members would not be able to access the internet and he stated that he had concerns that those staff would be under the "radar". In reply, Mrs. Garland-Smith stated that managers would be able to make referrals on behalf of their staff via the informal route. She also stated that most people had access to mobile phones and she referred to the Care First's Zest website which provided information and support around healthy living and wellbeing. Mrs. Garland-Smith also stated that 54 staff from the Vale of Glamorgan had registered to use this website. This was a downloadable app which allowed users to scan food products such as monitoring sugar content, which many people found easier than joining a slimming club.

Mrs. Southby stated this was a very good approach. A big issue would be Mental Health and although it was good that more people were becoming aware of this, it was important to recognise how important face to face contact was. In reply, Mrs Garland-Smith advised that face to face was still available. In addition, the Head of Human Resources stated that before the arrangements with Care First were in place, the Vale of Glamorgan had a contract with Cardiff Council, which was only available via face to face. The new service was now of a much wider scope and available to over 5000 staff members, although there was a recognition that the service could be more accessible.

In closing this item, the Chairman stated that it would be useful for an update on the take up and how well the service had been promoted.

AGREED – T H A T the update on the Care First Employee Assistance Programme be noted.

(h) Minutes of Directorate Consultative Groups-

The minutes of the following Directorate Consultative Groups were received:

Learning and Skills – 1st February, 2017
 Resources – 26th April, 2017
 Social Services – 3rd April, 2017
 Visible Services and Housing – 1st February, 2017
 Visible Services and Housing – 1st March, 2017
 Visible Services and Housing – 5th April, 2017
 Visible Services and Housing – 3rd May, 2017.

The Director of Learning and Skills, with regard to the minutes of the Directorate of Learning and Skills JCF meeting held 1st February 2017, advised that a report had been presented to the Council's Corporate Management Team and it had been agreed that EWC fees for support workers would be paid.

Mr. Dimmick raised a point regarding Co-education in Barry, and he stated that he was aware that an executive headteacher would be appointed with responsibility for both the Barry and Bryn Hafren sites. Mr. Dimmick commented that had this been included as part of the consultation process, then NASUWT would have responded and made representations.

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the Directorate Consultative Groups' meetings be noted.

(i) Dates of Directorate Consultative Group Meetings for Noting –

AGREED – T H A T the following dates for Directorate Consultative Group meetings as detailed below be noted:

- Learning and Skills – 12th April, 2017
- Resources – 20th July, 2017
- Social Services – 6th June, 2017
- Visible Services and Housing – 7th June, 2017.

(j) Minutes of Corporate Health and Safety – 19th June, 2017 –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Health and Safety meeting held on 19th June, 2017 be noted.

(k) Reshaping Services Update –

The Head of Performance and Development presented an update report on the implementation of the Reshaping Services programme.

The officer advised that the Reshaping Services programme aimed to address the unprecedented financial challenges by reshaping Council services to meet the future needs of the Vale of Glamorgan. The programme comprised three integrated work streams of projects as follows:

- Service specific work stream projects
- Corporate work stream projects
- Programme activity.

The officer provided the Forum with an update in regard to the progress of these work streams.

AGREED – T H A T the report be noted.

(l) Staff Engagement Strategy Update –

The Head of Human Resources presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an update on the Council's Staff Engagement Strategy.

The Head of Human Resources stated that progress continued to be made in implementing the five supporting actions and commitments within the Staff Charter. To date some seven out of the 15 commitments had been delivered with a further eight making good progress. A full summary of actions against each of the 15 commitments was given at Appendix A.

The Forum was advised that the third meeting of the CMT / Engagement Group had taken place on 10th May, 2017 and the Forum was advised that this was now a regular quarterly meeting. This was held in accordance with Staff Charter Commitment 8. The meeting was attended by employee nominated Charter Champions and the Council's Senior Management Team.

In addition, a newly designed staff appraisal scheme had been launched during September 2016 which was in relation to Staff Charter Commitment 2 and this had resulted in a 96% response rate in the first year. The scheme had since been relaunched for 2017/18.

The Forum noted that a new management competency framework had been launched in March 2017 in regard to Staff Charter Commitment 3. The framework was designed in consultation with a range of managers and Charter Champions with a focus for 2017/18 being to deliver a management development programme.

A newly formed Staff Editorial Team continued to meet and was shortly due to launch the new version of the Staff Bulletin. This would be delivered to office based staff via the StaffNet and to frontline staff via email to their personal addresses.

In addition, the Council's Leadership Café continued to be strengthened and was well attended by colleagues across all service areas. The next such event was an evening with the Corporate Management Team and it was anticipated that this would be well attended.

Finally, the Head of Human Resources stated that over the last three months a particular focus had been placed on development work in five particular work stream areas. Each work stream area was sponsored by a Chief Officer as follows:

- Management Development – Head of Human Resources
- Communications – Head of Performance and Development
- Skills Development – Head of Finance

- Recognition – Managing Director
- Innovation – Director of Environment and Housing

AGREED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

(m) Management of Attendance Update –

The Head of Human Resources presented the absence data for the period 1st April, 2016 to 31st March, 2017.

The outturn figures for 2016/17 at 8.80 days per Full Time Equivalent was below the annual target of 8.90 days per Full Time Equivalent and an improvement on last year's levels of 9.56 days per Full Time Equivalent.

The Forum was also advised that these rates were also the lowest reported by any of the other 21 Local Authorities according to data recently collected by the Welsh Local Government Association.

The majority of Directorates had improved their performance in comparison to the previous year. Corporately, the combined performance of all Directorates produced an improved reduction of 1.52 days absent per Full Time Equivalent compared to the previous year.

With regard to the management of attendance, the Head of Human Resources stated that a new approach had been adopted across all Directorates and was in accordance with the new Managing Attendance at Work policy. This was agreed with Trade Union colleagues in June 2017 and was hoped to provide a more consistent approach and a better balance between the management of long term and short term sickness.

The Forum was advised that a significant contributor to the improvement of absence figures in 2016/17 had been the strengthening of the approach to performance management and around regular monitoring. This would continue during 2017/18. In addition, the effective management of absence and delivery of outturn figures within target had been included in appraisal targets for all Directors / Heads of Service and was a key area of review at the end of the financial year.

In summary, the Head of Human Resources stated that with support of Trade Union colleagues and other stakeholders, this had led to an improved performance for 2016/17 which was under the Council's annual absence target. Although this was

encouraging, and highlighted the hard work undertaken across the Council, it was imperative that a sustained focus on this be maintained during 2017/18.

An Elected Member stated that absence rates in some Directorates appeared high, and with specific reference to levels of stress within Social Services, the Member queried what was in place to reduce this. In reply, the Head of Human Resources advised that within Social Services the level of sickness absence was 11.30 days per Full Time Equivalent, which was against an annual target of 11.60 days. This was an improving picture compared to previous years. He advised that although stress was having an impact on the overall level, other factors were also prevalent such as absences arising from manual handling and the physical nature of some posts.

In terms of actions to address this, the Head of Resource Management and Safeguarding advised that focus had been placed on staff within Care Homes, the structure of team meetings had changed and there was greater dialogue around the use of the Attendance Management Policy. In addition, because of the professional nature of Social Services, the same level of support and supervision was available to all staff, not just those with a professional qualification.

AGREED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

(n) Feedback on Policy Development –

The Human Resources Officer for Policy advised that the current position as at 8th June, 2017 on Human Resources policy development which was as follows:

- Further issues to be clarified prior to proceeding
Flexi scheme and special leave scheme
Violence and aggression at work
- Terms and Conditions
Regarding procedure
- Change Forum
Regarding procedure
Salary protection local agreement.

AGREED – T H A T the current position in relation to the Human Resources policy development be noted.

(o) Chairman's announcement –

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the HR Policy Support Officer for her 24 years' service with the Council and wished her well for her retirement.

In addition, Mr. Pappas asked if he could express thanks and gratitude to Mr. Dimmick, who was leaving the employment of the Council.

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RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the minutes.

C82 VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL ACCESS FORUM -

The minutes of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum meeting held on 31 July, 2017 were submitted.

Present: Councillor E. Williams (Chairman); Mr. F. Coleman, Mr. J.J. Herbert, Ms. C. Lucas, Mr. H.S. McMillan, Ms. E. Nash, Mr. R. Simpson and Mr. G. Thomas.

Mr. J. Wyatt, Mr. S. Pickering, Mr. G. Teague and Mrs. S. Thomas (Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Ms. M. Miyata-Lee (Natural Resources Wales).

(a) Apologies for Absence -

These were received from Mr. R. Pittard and Mr. R. Traherne.

(b) Minutes -

AGREED - T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November, 2016 be approved as a correct record.

(c) Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) Grant Update -

Gwyn Teague indicated that the expectation was that ROWIP funding would cease

in its current form after the current financial year. He hoped that funding might become available in a slightly different form (e.g. part of Partnership Grant funding).

The project comprised a number of programme actions aiming to assist in the delivery of ROWIP objectives.

Ref	Location	Brief Details of Programme Action	Update
VG1	Cowbridge	Drainage scheme alongside Waitrose	Proposal to install new gully and connect to existing pipe. Complicated by properties connecting to pipe and discharging pollution. Lack of outfall into stream meant pipe had needed to be cleared. Awaiting Natural Resource Wales (NRW) to take enforcement against properties before constructing headwall and completing remaining works.

VG2	Countywide	Adopt a path coordination of works	Continuing to identify structure works and issue maintenance instructions on promoted routes via survey.
VG3	Countywide	Definitive Map anomalies - resolve long standing issues by order	Not yet confirmed.
VG4	30km of priority routes	Vegetation clearance	First round of annual clearance cuts complete.

VG1 provided for the design and implementation of a drainage scheme to relieve flooding of Footpath 6, Cowbridge, which led from Waitrose to the park and childrens play area.

VG2 would support the coordination and resolution of maintenance issues on promoted routes that were part of the Adopt a Path scheme.

VG3 would begin to address long standing issues identified during the quality assurance of the Definitive Map process. This was likely to be through a mix of orders, negotiations and/or enforcement where appropriate.

VG4 would support the annual clearance of inland routes.

(d) Coastal Access Improvement Programme: Background and Update -

The Coastal Access Improvement Programme (CAIP) was a scheme funded by the Welsh Government via Natural Resources Wales and delivered through Local Authorities.

Since the Wales Coast Path officially opened on May 5th 2012 the scheme, which initially ran from 2007-2013 had continued to fund the development and improvement of the route. Following completion of the initial project further funding was made available; this ran from 2013-2015.

The current programme was initiated by a ministerial announcement that committed £900,000 worth of funding per annum for the next 5 years to the path. The current scheme differed from previous in so much as funding was divided between improvements and maintenance, to reflect the maturing nature of the Coast Path.

CAIP Funding 2017-18

Offers of grant had been received and accepted for the improvement projects shown below. It was also anticipated that a further project at Sully Playing Fields would continue, though funding had yet to be confirmed for 2017-18 in respect of this

Code	Location	Details	Update
VG1601	Dimhole	Path close to edge requires cutting back into cliff and provision of level surface as it ascends from cwm.	Works complete.
VG1501	Ogmore Down	Conclude outstanding creation agreement on path, formalising	Order drafted.

		new alignment that avoids needs for road walking	
VG1502	Traeth Mawr	Missing link currently available on permissive basis only. Previously submitted as creation order, landowner has indicated willingness to revert to agreement	Agreement complete
VG1503	East of Nash Point	Rollback of path to mitigate cliff undercutting	Not yet commenced
VG1504	West of Tresilian Bay	Formalisation of rollback following coastal erosion	Geological study into rate of erosion and undercutting commissioned, returned in draft. Awaiting final issue before progressing.
VG1506	Summerhouse	legal orders to formalise clifftop rollback	Not yet commenced.
VG1507	Gileston	Creation of missing link. Agreement complete and works agreed. Creation order underway in respect of final part of land.	Scheme including surface, signage and improvement of furniture agreed. Discussion with landowner on materials ongoing. Creation order on outstanding section with legal.
VG1701	Monknash	Improvement of drainage, surface and crossing	Initial surveys undertaken and project plans

			agreed. Engineer to assist with scheme design appointed and due to meet on site shortly.
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In addition an allocation for coast path maintenance via grant and at 75% grant rate had been advised. In the Vale for 2017-18 this amounted to £19,230 of grant, to be matched by £6,410. It was anticipated that this would be issued each year over the life of the programme:

Code	Description	Details	Update
Maint	Maintenance Projects on VoG WCP	Vegetation cut back, maintenance of furniture and surfaces	Seasonal cuts complete. Report into cliff erosion commissioned near Rhoose.

(e) Maintenance Reports -

The Forum was provided with an update in relation to maintenance work carried out up to 21st July, 2017.

(f) Legal Orders and Evidential Modification Orders Updates -

The Forum was presented with an update on the Legal Orders and Evidential Modification Orders across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Gwyn Teague confirmed that the Legal Order No. 65, Bonvilston had now been confirmed, with the draft Modification order awaiting sealing. He also stated that, as far as Atlantic College was concerned, there was potential for the situation to be resolved without the need for a Modification Order.

(g) Performance Indicators Survey Returns 2016/17: Public Rights of Way -

10.08% (59.3 kms) of the Public Rights of Way (PROW) network was surveyed, split between Spring and Autumn surveys. The paths surveyed were chosen by random selection.

The survey was undertaken by volunteers who were members of the Local Access Forum and had many years of experience of undertaking the PI surveys (thereby providing valuable continuity).

The pass rate for 2016/17 - 59%

Compared to previous years:

- 2011/12 - 45%
- 2012/13 - 62%
- 2013/14 - 69%
- 2014/15 - 63%
- 2015/16 - 71%

The pass rate was lower than last year, with the average for the previous 5 years being 62%. The Autumn return was 62% and matched the previous 5 year 62% average. The Spring survey was undertaken in May rather than the usual April and this might have contributed to the slightly higher reporting of intimidating beasts/persons; livestock that would have been out of the barns.

The late Spring survey might also have contributed to the slightly higher reporting of ploughing/cropping issues. Although only 5 out of 52 paths failed due to ploughing, two of these were exceptionally long paths and directly dropped the Spring result from a 63% to 56% pass rate. An average Autumn return could not counteract the Spring result and pull-up the final yearly figure.

78 new issues were added to the maintenance database; the issues falling within Priority Levels 4 to 6.

A member of the Forum asked whether all Local Authorities used the same methodology and Gwyn Teague indicated that they did not (adding that the PI was no longer a mandatory one). He also confirmed (in response to a question) that there was no reliable overview available of the picture across Local Authorities.

(h) Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP): Initial Consultation -

The Vale of Glamorgan Council had given notice of its intention to review its Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) and was seeking comments on the process and timetable published, for the purposes of Section 61(1) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

In November 2007, the Vale of Glamorgan Council published its 'Rights of Way

Improvement Plan' (ROWIP). The purpose of the ROWIP was to provide a 10-year plan outlining how the Council would manage and improve its rights of way and access opportunities over the coming years. Now, almost ten years on from the initial production of the Vale's ROWIP, Local Authorities were required to make a new assessment, including reviewing their previous ROWIPs and deciding whether or not to amend them. Given the legislative changes in the last 10 years and economic challenges, it was expected that all Welsh Authorities would produce new ROWIPs and that these would be published between 2017 and 2019.

Members of the Forum received the Initial Consultation document, which contained the background, outline of process, terms of reference and user facing timetable relevant to the review.

The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 was the legal mechanism for the draft and review of ROWIPs. The review would be carried out by reference to the statutory and supplementary matters contained therein, i.e.:

Statutory Matters

- The extent to which local rights of way met the present and future needs of the public.
- The opportunities provided by local rights of way for exercise and other forms of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the authority's area
- The accessibility of rights of way to blind or partially sighted people and others with mobility problems.

Supplementary Matters

- The degree to which the previous ROWIP had been delivered.
- The present condition of the network and its record.
- The opportunities to contribute to Active Travel objectives, Well-being objectives and the delivery of other plans and priorities.

The review would comprise 7 stages:

- Stage 1 - Review Planning (March 2017)
- Stage 2 – Initial Consultation (July - August 2017)
- Stage 3 – Review of Current ROWIP (June - August 2017)
- Stage 4 – New Assessment (July - October 2017)
- Stage 5 – Prepare Draft ROWIP (November 2017- May 2018)
- Stage 6 – Publish Final ROWIP (September-October 2018)
- Stage 7 - Set Up Ongoing Monitoring Procedure (ongoing)

As part of its overall involvement, Gwyn Teague considered the Forum would have

an important role in Stage 4 of the process, which would include further consideration by the Forum at its next meeting (which would be arranged

AGREED – THAT the consultation process and timetable be noted.

(i) Consultation Paper: “Taking Forward Wales’ Sustainable Management of Natural Resources”

As part of the above document, a consultation exercise was underway in terms of Chapter 4 of the document – “Access to Outdoors”. In summary, Chapter 4 set out proposals relating to access to the countryside in terms of:

- Achieving consistency in the opportunities available for participation in different activities and how activities were restricted and regulated;
- Simplifying and harmonising procedures for designating and recording public access;
- Improving existing advisory forums and how access rights and responsibilities were communicated to all interests.

The Forum was asked to consider and provide any comments on a total of 18 Proposals (numbered in the document from 10 – 27) as follows (for ease of reference, the comments of the Forum are shown in emboldened text):

During the discussion, members of the Forum made a number of reference to the uncertainties and, consequently, their concerns regarding the resourcing and “policing” of certain of the proposals if introduced.

Proposal 10

To enable cycling and horse riding on footpaths to occur under the same conditions as those provided for cycling on bridleways under section 30 of the Countryside Act 1968. These provisions allowed for cycling without placing additional burdens of maintenance and liability on the local authority; and they prioritised the ordinary users of those paths. Whilst it would not place additional liabilities or maintenance burdens on local authorities, it would enable them to plan and implement surface and furniture improvements to routes that would add most value to the rights of way network. It would place the onus of checking the suitability of individual paths on users.

The Forum had strong reservations regarding the concept of a “blanket” provision and considers the risk factor (e.g. in terms of compatibility of users on paths) to be too high.

Proposal 11

To amend or revoke the following list of restrictions on access, provided in Schedule 2 (1) of the CRow Act 2000:

- (b) uses a vessel or sailboard on any non-tidal water;
- (c) has with him any animal other than a dog;
- (i) bathes in any non-tidal water; and
- (s) engages in any organised games, or in camping , hang-gliding or para-gliding.

During the discussion, one Member felt the current position to be too restrictive. However, the view was also expressed that it was better to have restrictions which could be relaxed , rather than wide freedom being sought to be restricted.

Proposal 12

To allow, with appropriate authority, organised cycle racing on bridleways in order to bring rules relating to bridleways into line with footpaths. We would welcome any further suggestions for change in relation to anomalous or unreasonable restriction on public rights of way.

The Forum considered the proposal to be acceptable, subject to such use for events being subject to authorisation by Welsh Government on each occasion.

Proposal 13

To extend CRow Act access land to the coast and cliffs.

The Forum expressed reservations regarding the breadth of what could become possible and alluded to the potential increase in use by “opposing forces” and the increased risk attached to such.

Proposal 14

To extend Part 1 of CRow Act access land provisions to rivers and other inland waters

Agreed.

Proposal 15

To establish NRW as the authority responsible for:

- identifying appropriate access and egress points;
- implementing measures to promote responsible use, including the use of river level indicators; and

- mediating between the different user interests to facilitate user access agreements.

The Forum agreed, subject to clarification as to whether funding would follow from NRW.

Proposal 16

To establish a statutory caveat on all users to behave responsibly whilst exercising their right to participate in recreation on access land, inland water and on public rights of way.

Agreed.

Proposal 17

To enable temporary diversions and exclusions to be applied across all accessible land and water where circumstances require them and after the safety and convenience of the public had been considered.

Agreed.

Proposal 18

Dogs to be on a short fixed length lead in the vicinity of livestock at all times of the year. In all other circumstances they would be subject to “effective control”, a legally defined term already used in England under Schedule 2 paragraph 6A of the CRow Act. Exceptional circumstances relating to safety and the protection of nature conservation would be identified and guidance provided by the access code

Agreed.

Proposal 19

To enable the development of one statutory map of accessible areas and green infrastructure. Layers of mapping would initially include CRow access land (including water), public rights of way and designations, including, National Trails. Legislation would need to allow further layers to be identified and added.

Agreed.

Proposal 20

To amend technical provisions relating to procedures for creating, diverting and extinguishing public rights of way; and the recording of amendments to the definitive map and statement.

Agreed.

Proposal 21

To introduce provisions to allow flexibility in relation to stock control measures on public rights of way.

Agreed.

Proposal 22

To amend the requirement for a decadal review of access maps to a process of continual review.

Agreed.

Proposal 23

To create a requirement on local authorities and National Park Authorities to develop integrated access plans to take effect anytime up to the date of the next review in 2027.

Agreed.

Proposal 24

To repeal the Cycle Tracks Act 1984. In doing this create a new type of public right of way, 'cycle paths', prioritising cycling and walking (and subject to proposal 10 above) to be recorded on the definitive map and statement. All existing cycle tracks designated under the 1984 Act would be recorded as cycle paths.

As with Proposal 10, the Forum had strong reservations regarding the concept of a "blanket" provision and considers the risk factor (e.g. in terms of compatibility of users on paths) to be too high.

Proposal 25

To repeal unwanted provisions in the CRoW Act. In particular those relating to the 2026 cut-off date for historical routes under sections 53 – 56 of the CRoW Act.

Agreed.

Proposal 26

To develop a statutory code for access to the outdoors for recreation similar to that already in place in Scotland under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

The Forum considered the proposal to make sense, in principle. In practical terms, it was felt that its effectiveness would, in essence, depend on the conduct of people themselves.

Proposal 27

To review the regulations and guidance relating to local access forums with a view to updating and clarifying their role and membership.

(j) Member Briefing: Protecting the Network -

It was agreed that the planned briefing for Members would be deferred until the next meeting.

(k) Next Meeting –

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place at 17.30 on Wednesday 1st November 2017.

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RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Access Forum meeting be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the minutes.

C83 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES 2016-2017 - CHALLENGE VERSION (REF) –

The Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Living and Social Care) on the 11 September, 2017 considered the above report of the Director of Social Services.

The Director of Social Services presented the report the purpose of which was to allow Elected Members to contribute to the challenge process of the Director's Annual Report and to agree the future priorities for the service.

The Director advised that this was an important report for the people of the Vale of Glamorgan, Members of the Council and Council partners, both statutory and in other sectors. The Annual Report outlined the current context within which Social

Services were operating and detailed proposed priorities for improvement. A Challenge Version of the Director's report was attached at Appendix 1.

He added that unlike previous years, separate service area reports by Heads of Service had not been produced. For this year, the format had changed as part of a transition to a new format required by Welsh Government through regulation from 2018/19. The Directorate had utilised this transition year to allow the new Director's report to have closer alignment with the Council's Corporate and Service Plans.

The report represented the views of the Director and other managers in Social Services and was not policy at this stage. The Social Services' performance Quarter 4 (end of year) overview report, attached at Appendix 2 was used to supplement the Director's report.

As part of the challenge process, the report was presented to provide Elected Members with an opportunity to contribute their views. This was regarded as a key milestone in finalising the report because of the crucial role this Committee had in providing consistent oversight and monitoring of Social Services.

The final report would be presented to Cabinet for approval of the priority objectives and then circulated widely. It would then be made available via the Council's website.

The Director advised that for the new format, the report had been split into the six Wellbeing Objectives. The Director then provided a brief summary of the key achievements and the priority areas going forward for the six Objectives. The six Objectives being:

- Wellbeing Standard 1 - Working with people to define and co-produce Personal Wellbeing Outcomes that people wish to achieve.
- Wellbeing Standard 2 - Working with people and partners to protect and promote people's physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- Wellbeing Standard 3 - Taking steps to protect and safeguard people and reduce common neglect or harm.
- Wellbeing Standard 4 - Encouraging and supporting people to learn, develop and participate in society.
- Wellbeing Standard 5 - Supporting people to safely develop and maintain healthy, domestic, family and personal relationships.
- Wellbeing Standard 6 - Working with and supporting people to achieve greater economic wellbeing, having a social life and living in suitable accommodation that meets their needs.

Around Wellbeing Standard 1 and the production of personal wellbeing outcomes, the Director referred to the successful launch of Dewis Cymru. The Director alluded to the improvements around the Family Information Service and the Families First advice line, which had increased focus on early intervention and prevention in order to reduce the need for costly and intrusive interventions at a later stage for children and young people. He also outlined changes to the assessment and planning process for individuals which had greater focus on “what matters to me”. In addition, the Director also highlighted work aimed at better integration of the Information Advice Service for people with autism. In terms of priorities for 2017/18, the Director advised that there was an aim to pilot an outcome focussed case management and measurement system for domiciliary care and to undertake a pilot citizen engagement panel for people with care and support.

With regard to Wellbeing Standard 2, and the need to promote people’s physical and mental health, the Committee was advised that a key part of the Council’s work had been around the child and adolescent mental health service. In addition, through the use of the intermediate care fund a programme to deliver service reform had been devised. Improvements had also been made in reducing the rate of delayed transfers of care and there had been further developments to improve access to preventative and early intervention services. The Director advised that 2017/18 priorities were to develop a joined up care package approval process with the University Health Board to further enhance the integrated discharge service and to work with partners to plan services in response to the Population Needs Assessment.

For Wellbeing Standard 3, around protection and safeguarding, the Director advised that an evaluation of the increase in the number of looked after children had been undertaken. Following this, a new intense approach to support families had been piloted. For child sexual exploitation, the service had also responded to findings that had come out of Operation Jasmine. Priority areas for this year, included improvements to safeguarding procedures with providers of nursing, residential and domiciliary care and to ensure that staff and potential referrers were aware of the requirements under statutory guidance regarding duties to report safeguarding concerns.

In terms of Wellbeing Standard 4 and encouraging people to learn, develop and participate in society, the Director stated that a review of the Council’s approach to Corporate Parenting had been undertaken with a new Corporate Strategy and Action Plan for children who need care and support developed. The Council had also looked at how young people leaving care accessed training and opportunities for

learning. There was one priority for this standard, which was to procure a Children and Adult Advocacy Service.

In relation to Wellbeing Standard 5 regarding people developing and maintaining personal relationships, the Director advised that there was now better co-ordination of services for children and young people, particularly around the Family Information Service and the Families First Advice Line. The Council had also looked at how it was meeting the support needs for care leavers. For 2017/18, the priorities were to increase the use of Reablement Care, conclude the pilot Therapeutic Fostering Scheme and to extend the pilot for direct family support to promote the prospects of children remaining with their families.

With regard to Wellbeing Standard 6 and the need to support people achieving economic wellbeing, having a social life and to live in suitable accommodation, the Director referred to a review of options for accommodation to care for older people. He also referred to the adult placement scheme and the opening of a reablement unit at Ty Dyfan. In addition, the Therapeutic Fostering pilot had supported placement stability and funding had been set aside for the building of new Council homes in the Vale. There was one priority for 2017/18 which was to further develop the use of direct payments with a particular emphasis for clients with a learning disability.

A Committee Member queried whether mention should have been given to the Youth Offending Service. In reply, the Committee was advised that this service area came under the responsibility of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee. In addition, due to the change in the structure of the report, specific service teams were no longer referred to and Welsh Government had required for the report to concentrate on the six Wellbeing Outcomes. However, the Director stated that this was an area that could be looked at for next year's report.

The Committee subsequently

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the improvement priorities for Social Services as set out in the Director's Annual Report for 2016/17 - Challenge Version be endorsed.
- (3) T H A T the Director's Annual Report be referred to Cabinet for its consideration.

Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Following consideration of the contents of the report and the improvement priorities for Social Services for 2017/18.

(3) In order to provide Cabinet with an opportunity to contribute to the challenge process for the Director's Annual Report 2016-2017.

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Living and Social Care)

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the Challenge Version of the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To endorse the contents of the report.

C84 REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT 2016-2017 (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Living and Social Care) on the 11 September, 2017 considered the above report of the Director of Social Services.

The Director of Social Services presented the report, the purpose of which was to update the Scrutiny Committee on the Chief Inspector's Annual Performance Evaluation of the Vale of Glamorgan's Social Services Department for 2016/17.

The Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) inspects all Local Authorities regarding the way in which they deliver their statutory Social Services functions. The inspection and review activity covers all aspects of social care within a Local Authority, i.e. adult and children services. It was informed by and helped to validate the annual self-assessment of services undertaken by Directors of Social Services in accordance with the Annual Council Reporting Framework (ACRF).

The report containing the overall evaluation of the Council's Social Services performance by CSSIW had been published and was attached at Appendix 1. This

provided evidence about what Inspectors identified as areas of progress and areas for development.

In their findings, Inspectors reported positive progress in a number of key areas. It was recognised that the review of the structure of Social Services would make the authority more responsive to the change in business needs and the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act.

Progress with regard to the implementation of the Social Services Wellbeing Act was also recognised as the service moved towards an outcome focussed approach. It was recognised that Council staff had undertaken training in better conversations to support the provision of information, advice and assistance in both children and adult services.

The report also acknowledged that there was good partnership working with the University Health Board and Cardiff Social Services Department. Also it acknowledged that the Local Authority had invested additional resources to reduce delayed transfers of care from hospital.

The report also set out the considerable progress made in areas for improvement following last year's evaluation. There were also new areas of challenge which included the impact of the National Living Wage and competition from neighbouring authorities which had made the domiciliary care market difficult to manage,

It was also highlighted that there had been an increase in the number of people using direct payments which had helped meet demand and improve outcomes and choices for people.

The CSSIW concluded that there was a good understanding of the Authority's safeguarding responsibility and all Members had been provided with training as part of their induction.

In 2017/18, the CSSIW aims for inspection, engagement and performance review were as follows:

- support provided for people with mental health needs with a focus on Community Mental Health teams
- placement decisions for Looked After Children.

Having considered the report, the Committee

RECOMMENDED -

(1) T H A T the key messages to emerge from the evaluation, including areas of progress and areas for improvement be noted.

(2) T H A T the key messaged to emerge from the evaluation, including areas of progress and areas for improvement be referred to Cabinet for its consideration.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) To ensure that Elected Members are kept informed about outcomes from independent evaluation of Social Services performance in the Vale of Glamorgan.

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Living and Social Care)

RESOLVED – T H A T the key messages to emerge from the evaluation, including areas of progress and areas for improvement be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C85 IMPROVING STRATEGIC TRANSPORT FOR DINAS POWYS (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) on 14 September, 2017 considered the above report.

Following introductions the Chairman advised all present of the procedure to be followed in considering the report as below:-

- departmental Officer to present the report
- representative from ARCADIS Ms. Janice Hughes - presentation on the Consultant's report
- three members of the public who had registered to speak
- Elected Members of the Council not on the Committee
- Cabinet Member
- Members of the Committee who would consider all evidence presented.

The Principal Transport and Road Safety officer informed all present that the report had been referred to the Scrutiny Committee by Cabinet on 31st July, 2017 for consideration who had made the following:

- (1) T H A T the report be referred to the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) for consideration.**
- (2) T H A T subject to resolution 1 above, the contents of the report and accompanying appendices be noted and agreed.**
- (3) T H A T subject to resolution 1 above, a Stage 2 Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) Report be undertaken for Dinas Powys for the Stage 1 short listed options of Do-Minimum, Multi Modal and Bypass.**
- (4) T H A T subject to resolution 1 above, the Stage 2 Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) Report, once completed, be presented to Cabinet and the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) for consideration in Spring 2018.**
- (5) T H A T the Review Group established to guide the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) process should include local business representatives, to be agreed by the Director of Environment and Housing and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport.**

Cabinet had been requested to agree the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) Stage 1 Report undertaken by Arcadis Consulting UK Limited (Arcadis) on Improving Strategic Transport for Dinas Powys. Arcadis had been commissioned by the Council in early 2017 to develop and appraise potential options for improving the strategic transport network for Dinas Powys including transport corridors from Biglis roundabout, Barry, through Dinas Powys to Cardiff via Leckwith, Cogan and Penarth. Appendix A to the report provided a map of the study area. The appraisal options were in accordance with Welsh Government's latest version (June 2016) of the WelTAG and the report highlighted that all transport schemes in Wales needed to go through the WelTAG process to be put forward for Welsh Government funding and accepted schemes for transport funding needed to demonstrate value for money.

The study had been required because of the high traffic flows experienced in the area with frequent traffic congestion causing delays and poor journey time reliability. Furthermore, public transport in the area was at capacity during peak periods of travel and there were limited walking and cycling opportunities.

Janice Hughes, representing Arcadis Design and Consultancy informed Committee that in undertaking the study, consultation had been undertaken with key stakeholders on Tuesday, 7th March, 2017 at the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys. Stakeholders included key employers, public organisations, transport providers and the Local Authority. At the consultation the concept was discussed and problems identified, together with opportunities and constraints and the setting of objectives being identified and potential transport options discussed. A public meeting also took place on Monday, 13th March, 2017 again in the Parish Hall, with the public being afforded the opportunity to provide feedback on identified options, opportunities and constraints, as well as consideration and suggestions for the objectives and potential transport options.

Following the consultation 95 feedback forms had been received with the key issues raised being reported as:

- Need for a bypass (44%)
- Larger trains with more capacity / frequency (43%)
- Improve footpaths / cycle infrastructure (34%)
- Improve road safety for cyclists and pedestrians (21%)
- More reliable / frequent bus services (19%).

Ten problems were also identified:

Identification of Problems

- Poor quality bus stops with limited facilities
- Poor interchange facilities at railway stations (including poor parking opportunities)
- Overcrowding on peak rail services
- Overcrowding on peak bus services
- Poor infrastructure and local connectivity by walking and cycling
- A4055 creating severance within the community (e.g. access to schools and other facilities/ services)
- High local traffic flows leading to congestion, capacity issues at junctions, environmental impacts (air quality and noise pollution) and unreliable journey times
- High use of the car for local and regional trips (e.g. journeys to work)
- Occurrence of accidents along key strategic routes, especially the A4055
- Residential land use development within Vale of Glamorgan will compound existing traffic issues and increase pressure on public transport services.

With regard to opportunities and constraints the following had been identified :-

Opportunities

- Proximity to major employment and services means large volume of transport movements to and from Cardiff, from Dinas Powys and Barry and Vale
- Significant facilities and services in close proximity with potential for access by sustainable modes
- Dinas Powys has good potential accessibility by non-car means
- Metro improvements, including more frequent rail services
- Bus priority and service enhancements
- Walking and cycling improvements
- Highway junction / off-line capacity improvements
- Road safety improvements
- Interchange improvements in services and facilities
- New Wales rail franchise
- Park and Ride facilities
- Promotion and marketing of all modes
- Reduce the adverse environmental impacts of the transport system
- New development to be accessible by sustainable modes.

Constraints

- Traffic issues related to being on strategic corridor and difficult to solve alone from measures in Dinas Powys
- Policy context (which was also an opportunity)
- Potential need for third party land to deliver improvements
- Funding availability
- Location of existing services and facilities within Dinas Powys (which was also an opportunity).

The strategic outline case document set out the strategic case for change and assessed each of the intervention options to examine how they would meet the objectives together with the identification of key risks, adverse impacts, constraints and dependencies. The transport objectives for the study that were agreed were reported as follows:

- Objective 1 – Support sustainable connectivity in Cardiff City region
- Objective 2 – Facilitate and support economic growth
- Objective 3 – Improving health and wellbeing
- Objective 4 – Improved safety and security
- Objective 5 – Benefits and minimised impacts on the environment.

As a result of the evidence seven options were assessed as follows:

- Do minimum
- Enhanced rail services and interchange
- Improved bus services and infrastructure
- Enhanced walking and cycling connectivity
- Online highway improvements
- By-pass
- Multi-modal option.

Committee was informed that the options appraisal to assess the long list of options, included considering how the option tackled the identified problems, how the option met the objectives, assessment of risk, consideration of any adverse impacts, constraints and any dependencies.

The report recommended three options to be taken forward to WelTAG Stage 2 :

- Do minimum
- By-pass
- Multi-modal option.

The main impacts of “do minimum” were reported as:

- Adverse effect at meeting the objectives, due to the modest levels of funding currently able to be invested in transport infrastructure and public transport services.
- Background increases in population and traffic growth exceed investment provision to mitigate increasing impacts and pressure on the existing transport network.
- A negative impact on the environment is forecast as the traffic levels through Dinas Powys would continue to increase.

The impacts in relation to the “by-pass” were:

- Could improve local journey times for drivers and public transport, depending on time savings on the route compared to existing. Given that route would still be subject to delays at key junctions to the east, this may not be significant.
- Improved air quality and noise benefits for residents along Cardiff Road and potentially road safety benefits, depending on level of traffic that uses the new link.
- Environmental impacts on landscape, ecology, heritage etc. of new link through countryside.

- Very high cost and delivery issues.
- Requires traffic analysis and further consideration of environmental issues.

The main impacts for “multi-modal” were reported as :

- Potential to improve accessibility.
- Improved road safety and journey time reliability.
- Benefits for health and wellbeing of walking and cycling measures.
- Neutral environmental impact.
- Moderate to high cost and deliverability issues if need third party land.
- Need for further analysis on options and impacts.

In conclusion Ms. Hughes advised that the next steps were to undertake the Stage 2 study and to further consider the recommended options, which required additional evidence and consultation to support decision making.

Following the above presentation the first registered public speaker was afforded the opportunity to make their representations to the Committee. Mr. Rod Harrod commenced by advising that the Committee had three options for consideration and that some people may wonder why the multi-modal option did not include a by-pass. He stated that this was because Arcadis, at page 19 of the report, stated that it would “combine to create a high cost option and may potentially detract from the rail investment elements of the package by improving car journey times”. Mr. Harrod stated that without the by-pass this option would not improve journey times or reduce congestion for Dinas Powys and that in any case the extra passenger benefit from rail investment would be constrained by the Dinas Powys’ stations inadequate platform length and land available for car parking. He stated that 78% of the commuters in Dinas Powys used a car, van or motor cycle to go to work with 22% combined use by bus, train, cycle or walking. He stated that of course non-car travel options were desirable, but that did not mean they would magically work regardless of increasing traffic congestion. A total of 4,000 homes at Barry Waterfront, 450 in Dinas Powys and over 1,500 properties in adjoining settlements without improving the highway infrastructure had meant something had to give and he further stated that by-passes had been built around every other settlement on the Vale’s strategic highway corridors except for Dinas Powys. Mr. Harrod further stated that a by-pass would benefit residents throughout the Vale and it could easily include park and ride facilities, cycle paths and walkways but, in his view, the report did not examine these possibilities. It could also improve access between communities along its path, but instead in his view individual options had been put together to form an ineffective multi-modal. In referring again to page 19 of the report, he stated that this referred to a single route for the southern part of a by-pass although alternative routes were

possible and may offer greater benefits if considered at the outset of Stage 2. Information, he stated, that “do minimum” was not a solution, the multi-model would be ineffective unless traffic congestion was first reduced and that the by-pass could be improved by adding sustainable elements such as a park and ride facilities, cycle tracks and walkways.

Mr. Roger Pattenden, in making his representations to the Committee, stated that he did not see how the three options shortlisted in the report could be compared as they were, in his view, unequal. Again, in his view, only the by-pass would significantly reduce traffic congestion and improve vehicle journey times including the buses. Without a by-pass there would be insufficient long term economic employment, social and environmental benefits. In referring to the public consultation held on 13th March, he stressed that the majority of respondents had identified the need for a by-pass and requested weight and speed restrictions on the A4055 through Dinas Powys. During that consultation they drew attention to the juggernauts and HGVs that polluted and endangered the lives of children at the local junior school on the road. However, Arcadis he stated had noted that such restrictions were not possible while the road remained an A road, however a by-pass could become the A road turning the Cardiff Road through Dinas Powys into a B road with restrictions.

The Arcadis report also referred to a review group created by officials to oversee and guide the study work. Although a number of representatives were included, 78% of local communities who travelled by caravan were not yet represented on the group.

It was accepted that any option must include increasing the capacity of the critical Merrie Harrier junction and Mr. Pattenden also hoped that another would be considered at Stage 2, being the safety improvements on the route through Dinas Powys Old Village along Pen-y-Turnpike to Leckwith as there had recently been a three car pile-up on this narrow road and the road itself had fast become a “rat run”. He feared that the current short list for Stage 2 may not allow investigation of combinations for a by-pass with sustainable improvements and urged the Committee to consider asking Cabinet to review the scope of Stage 2 to cover investigation of the various proposals and combinations mentioned.

Mr. Edward Jenkins BEM referred to previous proposals for a by-pass in 2008 and the public consultation that had been held at that time including a major developer who had agreed to underwrite the by-pass and he advised that there was no element in the Arcadis report referring to these proposals from 2008 and hoped that the work that had been done previously would be shared with Arcadis. In referring to the frequent reference to the A4055, he stressed that this certainly needed to be looked at together with traffic management throughout Dinas Powys.

Councillor Robert Crowley, not a member of the Committee, was granted permission to speak and raised concern as to how the options had been short listed and scored. The scores for the by-pass he stated appeared pessimistic and at odds with the statements quoted in the Arcadis report and that if buses were being stuck in traffic jams he could not see how the option was being rated as good and that the multi-modal option had received the highest score, but the by-pass had not. In conclusion Councillor Crowley commented that it was important to consider the economic and environmental future of the Vale and that as a result, different options should be considered at Stage 2.

Ms. Hughes, in response, advised that currently there was no evidence available and that proper traffic modelling needed to be done to assess the benefits. Stage 2 was meant to look at more options to provide the evidence base to assist decision making. The Principal Transport and Road Safety Officer advised that the Council did need to look at the by-pass as one option and that if there was a perceived then this could be addressed at Stage 3. The officer also referred to page 20 of the report which advised the main impact of multi-modal main was to improve road safety and journey time. It was important, she stated, that all options were looked at.

A Member of the Committee advised that he could see the reasons why the options needed to be separate, but it was more logical in his view that they be combined and that it was important that the multi-modal and by-pass be considered together.

Following a further query as to clarity regarding where the by-pass would commence, the officer advised that the original by-pass investigated in 2008 commenced at the Biglis roundabout rather than the Merrie Harrier, although other options could be considered. A local Member referred to a previous option known as the Northern Line and reminded Members of the potential for significant building development that could be undertaken which could also exacerbate the problem. The Managing Director advised if a by-pass came out as a favoured option, the Council could look at what had been suggested in the past and assess the relevance of that evidence for today. As one of the key issues of the new road would be where it would start and end any work / evidence from the in the past would be relevant. The Managing Director further commented that paragraph 17 of the report made it clear that no route had yet been specified, although the Arcadis report assumed a line similar to the UDP.

The Cabinet Member, with permission to speak, advised that he had made the point to Cabinet recently that it was not just a by-pass for Dinas Powys, it would improve transport links in the south eastern part of the Vale.

The Chairman advised that his concern was that the way the Arcadis report was written, the multi-modal option was so far ahead that the by-pass did not rank high enough to be pursued through to Stage 3. Consideration of the by-pass with the multi-modal model was, in his view, the best option and suggested that rather than just considering them in isolation, could they both be added together at Stage 2 in order that aspects of the multi-modal could be considered with the by-pass suggestions.

The Director of Arcadis advised that there was no reason that they could not be combined but that further evidential work needed to be undertaken at Stage 2 in order to make the recommendations to Stage 3. It was however, important to note that the by-pass would need walking, cycling and bus service improvements as well.

The Managing Director advised that in any event notwithstanding what outcomes could be made at stage 2 there could in effect be a suite of measures recommended.

A Member of the Committee stated that they welcomed the report as an attempt to address the issues in a holistic approach. He believed that there was a major agreement for a by-pass and queried the hopes for funding as to whether it would be 50:50 Vale of Glamorgan and Welsh Government and also queried the details of the plans for bus and rail and cycle path timeframes.

The Principal Officer advised that the Vale franchise was currently being considered at the moment but would not be known until March 2018. The bus services had undertaken quite a few studies to look at the corridor and there were plans in place for the Merrie Harrier and Cogan areas with funding to undertake a study. For walking and cycling, Biglis roundabout at Dinas Powys was the major route and there had been a number of studies completed in relation to this. Currently the Council had funding for J34 and once all the studies were complete, they would be reported to Members for consideration.

A Committee Member from Dinas Powys commented that more detail, he hoped, would come through the Stage 2 process, as he stated that he was not sure where the 44% figures referred to had arisen from and anticipated that the Stage 2 process would provide a cost benefit analysis on the impact on the economy of the congestion. The Principal Officer advised that an analysis would be undertaken at that stage.

In acknowledging that the report appeared to be weighted in favour of organisations such as the rail service and not road users and motorists the Chairman considered

that there was a need for greater community representation and that an invitation should be extended to a representative to be nominated by the Community Council.

The Principal Officer advised that the Road Haulage Association and Freight Transport Association had recently been engaged as part of the group and that officers would have no objections to a representative nominated by the Community Council.

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T Cabinet be requested to consider the appointment of a representative by Dinas Powys Community Council of their choosing to sit on the review group.

(2) T H A T Cabinet be requested to consider an additional fourth option to the three proposed of a “bypass and multi modal” at Stage 2 of the process as below:

- Do minimum
- By-pass
- Multi-modal option.
- **By-pass and Multi-modal**

Reasons for recommendations

(1) To ensure that a local voice is represented on the review group.

(2) To ensure that both models are considered together.



After presenting this item, the Cabinet Member for Neighborhood Services and Transport noted that the representative appointed by the Dinas Powys Community Council did not necessarily have to be one of its own members.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T Dinas Powys Community Council be requested to appoint a representative to sit on the review group.

(2) T H A T an additional fourth option to the three proposed of a “bypass and multi modal” at Stage 2 of the process as below be explored:

- Do minimum
- By-pass
- Multi-modal option.
- **By-pass and Multi-modal**

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that a local voice was represented on the review group.

(2) To ensure that both models were considered together.

C86 VALE OF GLAMORGAN AGRICULTURAL SHOW 2017 – BUSINESS BREAKFAST: FEEDBACK REPORT (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) on 14 September, 2017 considered the above report of the Managing Director.

The purpose of the report was to provide Committee with an update report on issues discussed during the Business Breakfast on the topic of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal held at the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show on 9th August, 2017. The delegate feedback report was attached at Appendix A to the report.

The Business Breakfast had been attended by representatives from Cardiff Capital Region Councils, business representatives as well as those presenting, further and higher education, the airport and Enterprise Zone. The event had been hosted by the Council and included contributions from Councillor John Thomas, the Leader of the Council, Rob Thomas, the Managing Director, and the Rt. Hon. Alun Cairns MP, Secretary of State for Wales.

The Chairman welcomed the report and thanked the Managing Director for the opportunity afforded for the Business Breakfast to take place, acknowledging that on his table members of the public were present and a number of key issues as outlined on the last page of the document were discussed. These which included strategic transport, the need to resolve ongoing congestion around Newport and the Brynglas Tunnels, the need to secure local infrastructure improvements to support new housing development, the role of the region in providing sustainable green energy and improving skills and training.

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the success of the Council’s Business Breakfast be noted.
- (2) T H A T delegate feedback report on the Business Breakfast held on 9th August attached at Appendix A to the report be endorsed and issued to all delegates.
- (3) T H A T the recommendations of the Committee be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To note the success of the event.
- (2) To allow feedback to delegates who attended the event.
- (3) In recognition of the success of the event and to seek Cabinet approval.



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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the success of the Business Breakfast event be noted.
- (2) T H A T the delegate feedback report on the Business Breakfast held on 9th August attached at Appendix A to the report be endorsed and issued to all delegates who attended.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To acknowledge the success of the event.
- (2) To allow feedback to delegates who attended the event.

C87 CALL-IN: PROCUREMENT OF REFIT WORKS FOR COUNCIL BUILDING ASSETS (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee (Corporate Performance and Resources) on the 21 September, 2017 considered the above report.

The above matter had been subject to Cabinet consideration at its meeting held on 4th September, 2017 (Minutes No. C63 refers).

Councillor Dr. Johnson had called-in the matter for further consideration by the Scrutiny Committee and to receive additional information on and, be satisfied with regard to:

- (1) The possible eligible projects for which ReFit Cymru can be used, and which have been identified by Cabinet as appropriate for implementation – and the basis on which these decisions have been made
- (2) The anticipated costs and savings of these proposals
- (3) The appropriateness of the procurement mechanisms in securing local benefits for Vale of Glamorgan based companies as first tier contractors or sub-contractors.

Councillor Dr. Johnson also referred in addition to the above and sought further information included in the scheme and details in regard to the procurement exercise that would be undertaken. He noted that 28% of the Council's schools had not taken up the opportunity to be involved with the scheme and enquired the reasons for their non-participation.

In response, the Head of Finance tabled for the consideration of the Committee details of the ReFit Programme and, in particular, the types of work that could be funded via this programme.

The Leader of the Council, who was in attendance as the portfolio holder, reminded the Committee that the initiative was a Welsh Government scheme with the purpose of accelerating energy efficiency within public buildings. He also reminded the Committee that he was unable to answer Councillor Dr. Johnson's question regarding the eligible projects given that contractors would be responsible for vetting schemes directly. With regard to the contractors appointed under the national procurement framework for undertaking the initiative, there were a total of 16 national contractors. The appointed contractors would be responsible for assessing the business case for each building and for the introduction of energy efficiency

initiatives. Energy efficiency savings were anticipated in the region of £240,000 in the first year with contractors responsible for delivering the predicted savings.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of including an appropriate clause in the contract specification to ask how these contractors would sub-contract local contractors to deliver the Council's schemes.

The Head of Finance indicated that 25 Council buildings had been identified of which 10 were schools. The scheme had been widely promoted across all schools within the County, however, it was likely that not all schools had engaged in the initiative due to financial considerations. She also indicated that it was normal practice within the invitation to tender process to ask contractors a range of questions including how they would utilise local contractors, promote local employment and create apprenticeships. This had been done as part of other Council projects and referred to projects such as the Penarth Learning Community project where such arrangements had been implemented. She also indicated that she would circulate via email details of the companies on the national procurement framework for this work.

A Member of the Committee referred to information in relation to the companies participating in the scheme which was available on the relevant website.

Further discussion centred around the Committee's preference for the inclusion of an appropriate clause in the invitation to tender for the contract. The Committee, having given due consideration to the matter,

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the procurement of ReFit works for Council building assets be supported and that the Cabinet be asked to give consideration to the inclusion of an appropriate clause in the invitation to tender for the contract to require how the main contractors would utilise local contractors, local employment and support apprenticeships to deliver the scheme.

Reason for recommendation

To ensure that the local community benefitted from the contract during its delivery.

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee
(Corporate Performance and Resources)

RESOLVED – T H A T an appropriate provision be inserted in the invitation to tender for the Procurement of Refit Works for the Council Building Assets Contract to encourage the main contractors wherever possible to utilise local subcontractors, local employment and support apprenticeships to deliver the scheme.

Reasons for decisions

To ensure that the local community benefits from the contract during its delivery wherever possible.

C88 QUARTER 1 (2017-18) CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ALL) -

Cabinet was presented with quarter 1 performance results for the period 1 April to 30 June, 2017 for all service areas.

As part of the review of its Performance Management Framework, the Council had adopted a new Corporate Plan (2016-20) which reflected the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and identified 4 Well-being Outcomes and 8 Objectives for the Council.

Following the changes to the Council's Performance Management Framework, since May 2016 Committees had received performance information linked with the Council's Well-being Outcomes. In addition, Corporate Health priorities were considered by the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

The Quarter 1 performance reports for 2017-18 were attached at Appendix 1 to the report. Focus on the progress made towards achieving the Council's Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities were outlined in the Corporate Plan 2016-20.

Good progress had been made this quarter towards delivering the key outcomes as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2016-20, giving an overall RAG status of AMBER.

3 out of the 4 Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes were attributed an overall RAG status of GREEN with the remaining Outcome (An Environmentally Responsible & Prosperous Vale) reporting an AMBER status. An overall AMBER status had been attributed to Corporate Health reflecting the positive progress made to date in integrating our business planning practices and in promoting a 'one Council' approach, to maximising limited resources to deliver the Council's Well-being Outcomes. These developments had contributed to the achievements reported at






quarter 1 and in the long term to achieving improved outcomes for Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

Of the 74 Corporate Plan actions, 68 were attributed a Green performance status, 5 were attributed an Amber status and a RAG status was not applicable for 1 action. The action that was not attributed a RAG status related to (AC6) Implement the Youth Service National Outcomes Framework to ensure young people (11-25) could access quality youth support services. Work to progress this action would be undertaken and concluded during quarter 3.

The Corporate Performance Measures Framework (CPMF) for 2017-18 included 169 performance indicators enabling the Council to demonstrate how well it was delivering services or activities and how these contributed to the overall community-wide impact. A RAG status was applicable for 50 performance indicators at end of year, of which 31 were Green, 6 Amber (within 10% of target) with the remaining 13 missing target by more than 10%. Data was currently unavailable from Welsh Government for the national Well-being performance indicator set and these measures had been marked as not applicable (N/A) within the report and commentary provided to that effect.

Full details of the Council's performance in relation to the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes including the key achievements and challenges would be reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committees for their consideration.

The table below provided an overview of progress for each of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes at end of year. The RAG performance status attributed to the four Well-being Outcomes and our Corporate Health priorities allowed an overall conclusion to be drawn on progress in relation to the delivery of year two priorities (2017-18) as outlined in the Corporate Plan.

					
	Well-being Outcome 1	Well-being Outcome 2	Well-being Outcome 3	Well-being Outcome 4	Corporate Health
Overall RAG Status	GREEN	AMBER	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER
Objective RAG	1: GREEN	3: GREEN	5: GREEN	7: GREEN	N/A
	2: GREEN	4: AMBER	6: GREEN	8: GREEN	N/A
Overall Delivery: Year 2 Corporate Plan Outcomes *			AMBER		

A detailed report outlining the progress at quarter 1 towards achieving the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities could be viewed via the following link:

[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/ Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2017/17-10-09/Appendices/Q1-Corporate-Plan-Performance-Report-Appendix.pdf](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2017/17-10-09/Appendices/Q1-Corporate-Plan-Performance-Report-Appendix.pdf)

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 progress made during Quarter 1 in achieving Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2016-20 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the performance results and remedial actions to be taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified in the report be noted.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure the Council clearly demonstrated the progress being made towards achieving its Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes aimed at making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.
- (2) To ensure the Council was effectively assessing its performance in line with the requirement to secure continuous improvement outlined in the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 and reflecting the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act that it maximised its contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.

C89 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2017 TO 31ST AUGUST 2017 (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ALL) -

Cabinet was advised of the progress on the 2017/18 Capital Programme for the period 1 April, 2017 to 31 August, 2017.

Appendix 1 attached to the report detailed the financial progress on the Capital Programme as at 31 August, 2017.

For all schemes where it was evident that the full year's budget would not be spent during the year, the relevant officers were required to provide an explanation for the shortfall and this would be taken to the earliest available Cabinet.

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 progress made on the 2017/18 Capital Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority as outlined below be noted:
 - Vire £15k from Cogan Primary School Boiler Renewal scheme to the Sully Primary School Boiler Renewal Scheme.
 - Vire £25k to Holton Primary Electrical Rewire Phase 1, £20k has been vired from the Albert Primary Drainage Renewal scheme and £5k from the Dinas Powys Primary Drainage Renewal Scheme.
 - Vire £73k from Barry Regeneration Partnership Project Fund to:-
 - Holton Road Grant Programme £32k
 - Cemetery Approach £7k
 - Colcot 3G Pitches £5k
 - Harbour Road Car Park Cycleway Scheme (Phase 5) £2k
 - Barry Island Western Shelter Lighting £2k
 - Barry Town Centre Gateway Regeneration £25k
 - And to classify £19k as revenue.
- (3) T H A T the use of Emergency Powers as outlined below be noted:
 - Approve the inclusion of a £105k Welsh Government Small Scale Works Grant to the Flood Risk Management budget
 - Approve the inclusion of a £149k Welsh Government Grant for ENABLE - Support for Independent Living 2017/18.
 - Approve the inclusion of £60k s106 monies into the High Street/Broad Street Traffic Management scheme budget.
 - Approve the inclusion of a £30k Natural Resources Wales Grant for Rights of Way Improvement Plans.

- Approve the inclusion of £80k for Coastal Access Improvement Programme to be funded by £69k grant from Natural Resources Wales and £11k match funding from the countryside revenue budget.
- Vire £65k from Castleland Renewal Area to the Tackling Poverty scheme.

(4) T H A T the following changes to the 2017/18 Capital Programme be approved:-

- Barry Comprehensive School Internal and External Refurbishment Works - Reduce this budget by £350k.
- Oakfield Playing Fields - Vire £63k from this scheme to the Education Asset Renewal Contingency scheme.
- St Richard Gwyn R/C Comprehensive High Window Renewal Phase 1 - Increase this budget by £33k to be funded by a contribution from the school.
- St Andrews Major CIW Primary Fencing - Reduce this budget by £46k.
- Eagleswell Demolition - Vire £118k to Education Contingency Budget.
- Education Asset Renewal Contingency - Reduce this budget by £150k.
- 91 Salisbury Road Boiler Renewal - Increase this budget by £3k to be funded from a Social Services revenue contribution.
- Residential Homes Refurbishment - Vire £10k from the Residential Homes, Internal Refurbishment scheme to this scheme.
- Parks and Grounds Maintenance Asset Renewal - Increase this budget by £9k to be funded from s106 monies.
- Romilly Mess Room - Vire £14k from Parks and Grounds Maintenance asset renewal to Romilly Mess Room.
- Collaborative Change Programme Grant - Include a new budget of £75k to be funded by Welsh Government Grant.
- Vale Enterprise Centre (VEC) - Increase this scheme by £26k, to be funded from the Regeneration Reserve.
- Llandough Cycle Stands - Include a new scheme for £20k funded from s106 monies.
- Causeway Improvement Scheme - Include a budget of £18k, to be funded from the Visible Services Reserve.
- North Penarth Open Space Improvements - Increase this budget by £483k to be funded from s106 monies.
- Fford Y Millenium Footway/Cycle Link - Include a new scheme for £20k funded from s106 monies.
- Barry Regeneration Partnership - Vire £4k from Parks and Grounds Maintenance asset renewal to Barry Regeneration Partnership.

- Dinas Powys Sustainable Transport Improvements - Include a new scheme for £70k funded from s106 monies.
- St. Athan Sustainable Transport Improvements - Include a new scheme for £152k to be funded from s106 monies.
- Badgers Brook Public Open Space Enhancement - Include a new scheme for £50k to be funded from s106 monies.
- Fferm Goch Sustainable Transport Improvements - Include a new scheme for £70k to be funded from s106 monies.
- Space Project Reduced Office Accommodation - Amalgamate the named scheme with the Civic Offices Rewire scheme and the Civic Offices Network Rewire scheme and to rename the scheme Civic Offices Rewire/Space Project Reduced Office Accommodation.
- ICT Allocation - Reduce this budget by £25k.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note progress on the Capital Programme.
- (2) To note the use of Delegated Authority.
- (3) To note the use of Emergency Powers.
- (4) To approve schemes to proceed in the current financial year.

C90 REVENUE MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST AUGUST 2017 (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ALL) -

Cabinet was advised of the progress relating to revenue expenditure for the period 1 April to 31 August, 2017 and the anticipated achievement of the approved savings targets for the year.

The forecast for the 2017/18 Revenue and HRA budgets was for an outturn within target, however, some services were anticipating drawing down funding from reserves.

Directorate/Service	2017/18 Budget £000	2017/18 Projected Outturn £000	Variance Fav (+) Adv (-) £000
Learning and Skills			

Schools	82,957	82,957	0
Strategy, Culture, Community Learning & Resources	11,735	11,662	+73
Strategy and Regulation	235	235	0
Achievement for All	3,841	4,048	-207
School Improvement	1,121	1,073	+48
Additional Savings to be found	0	(86)	+86
Social Services			
Children and Young People	15,124	15,124	0
Adult Services	41,910	42,910	-1,000
Use of Reserves	0	(1,000)	+1,000
Business Management	267	267	0
Youth Offending Service	701	701	0
Environment & Housing			
Visible Services	19,914	19,914	0
Transportation	4,841	4,841	0
Building Services	0	0	0
Regulatory Services	2,166	2,166	0
Council Fund Housing	1,126	1,126	0
Public Sector Housing (HRA)	(131)	(131)	0
Managing Director & Resources			
Resources	728	728	0
Regeneration	2,091	2,091	0
Development Management	968	968	0
Private Housing	11,003	11,003	0
General Policy	15,692	15,692	0
Total	216,289	216,289	0

Met from General Reserve	(700)	(700)	0
Authority Total	215,589	215,589	0

Learning and Skills - The forecast was showing an overspend of £86k after an anticipated use of reserves however the Directorate was requested to look at ways of mitigating the position to deliver an outturn within budget at year end.

Social Services - The forecast for Social Services at year end was a potential overspend of around £1m due to pressure on the Community Care budget.

Environment and Housing - It was currently projected that the service would outturn within target at year end with an anticipated use of reserves.

Managing Director and Resources - It was currently projected that the service would outturn within target at year end. Resources - was anticipated that the 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 had been set for the Authority. Attached at Appendix 1 to the report was a statement detailing each saving target with an update of progress. Currently it was projected that there would be a shortfall of £584k in the achievement of the years target.

Medium Term Financial Plan

The latest Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2017/18 to 2020/21 was presented to Cabinet on 18 September, 2017. The authority needed to review the assumptions on which the plan was based on a regular basis, throughout the year, to ensure that they were still reasonable. Any significant change needed to be highlighted and the impact on the financial projections needed to be assessed.

The current MTFP assumed a reduction in Welsh Government funding of 3% for the years 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. This resulted in the requirement to find savings of £20.941 over this period, with £9.326m currently being identified. There was therefore further savings to be identified of £11.615m over the 3 year period. The latest Plan factored in a managed level of cost pressures, a notional increase in council tax of 2.6% each year, price inflation of 0.5% and annual pay awards of 1.6% each year from 2018/19.

Details of the initial budget settlement for 2018/19 would be received from Welsh Government in late October 2017 and initial proposals would be brought to Cabinet on 20 November, 2017 that would assess the impact of the actual change in funding for 2018/19.

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 position with regard to the Authority's 2017/18 Revenue Budget be noted.
- (2) T H A T the amendments to the way in which savings targets would be achieved in 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix 1 attached to the report be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the projected revenue outturn for 2017/18.
- (2) To enable savings targets to be achieved in 2017/18.

C91 PROPOSED REFINEMENT OF THE SINGLE STATUS GRADING STRUCTURE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

Approval was sought for a refinement of the Council's pay structure for those employees on Single Status terms and conditions of employment.

A report presented to cabinet on the 18 September, 2017 set out a proposal for the removal of the lowest two pay points within the Single Status pay structure from 1 December, 2017. If approved this would mean that £7.90 would be the lowest hourly rate for such employees.

The proposal was supported in principle by Cabinet on 18 September, 2017 subject to consideration by the Schools Budget Forum on the 20 September, Scrutiny

Committee (Corporate Performance & Resources) on the 21 September and continued consultation with the trade unions.

The referral and consideration process had now been completed and the report noted that the proposal had received full support and endorsement from each of the committees and groups. Subject to final approval by Cabinet, arrangements could therefore be made to implement the pay structure changes from 1 December, 2017.

A copy of the Equalities Impact Assessment to support the change to the pay structure was attached at Appendix 2 to the report and was referenced in the original report. The change would have a positive impact on a proportionately higher number of female and part time employees at grades A, B and C of the pay structure and in doing so would help reduce the gender pay gap. Of the 1280 employees who would be affected, some 1060 (82.7%) would be female employees and 220 (17.3%) would be male employees.

This was a matter for Executive decision

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the refinement of the Council's Single Status pay structure as initially considered by Cabinet on 18 September, 2017 and as set out at Appendix 1 attached to the report be approved.

Reason for decision

To ensure that pay levels for employees on Single Status terms and conditions of employment were maintained at a sustainably higher level than the National Living Wage and that they move incrementally closer to the Foundation Living Wage.

C92 THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: ELECTORAL REFORM IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT (RLS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

During consideration of this item, the Managing Director and Head of Legal Services declared an interest in this matter as the Welsh Government Consultation Document discussed their roles as part of Electoral Reform in Local Government. Therefore they left the room and took no part in any discussions that took place on this item.

Approval was sought for the proposed response to the Welsh Government's consultation paper on Electoral Reform in Local Government in Wales. (which could be viewed via the following link):

https://consultations.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultation_doc_files/electoral_reform_-_a_consultation_document_v2.pdf

Subsequent to the National Assembly elections in May 2016, Welsh Government changed its stance on the merger of Councils. The most recent White Paper "Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed" set out proposals for regional working between Councils and how that might work in practice. It also covered issues related to local democracy and Councils performance and governance, Community Councils, elections and voting. The White Paper was published in January 2017 and the Council responded through Cabinet in April this year.

The current consultation commenced on 18 July, 2017 and closed on 10 October, and followed earlier rounds of consultation on reforming local government (as set out above.)

The consultation document sought the views on modernisation of the local government electoral system and covered 6 main areas of voter eligibility, registration, the actual voting system, the process, standing for elections and the role of Returning Officers.

Appendix A attached to the report detailed the responses to a list of questions on reform in response to the Consultation Paper.

At the meeting the Cabinet Member for Regulatory and Legal Services noted that as the closing date for the Welsh Government Consultation was the 10th October, the Council's response would be submitted following this meeting prior to the deadline with the proviso that if this item were to be Called-In, any further changes to the response would be submitted as supplementary information.

After this item had been presented, the Leader stated that he had received an email from Cllr Ian Johnson with concerns about the timing of the consultation response to Welsh Government. The Leader commented that the timing for the response was tight, however he noted that this was not unusual as it took some time to draw up a response to the consultation.

The Leader further commented that he sent an email with a link to the consultation paper to all members of the Council on 18 September, 2017 which included Cllr Johnson, advising that individuals could also respond. In that email the Leader indicated that the intention was to report this matter to Cabinet in early October, so this report should not have come as a surprise to Cllr Johnson.

Finally, regarding the response itself, the Leader stated that the response form indicated that this would be from the Cabinet Member for Regulatory and Legal Services as portfolio lead, and the Leader had no issues with clarifying that this response was on behalf of the Cabinet.

This was a matter for Executive decision

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the proposed response on the consultation paper on Electoral Reform in Local Government attached at Appendix A to the report be submitted to Welsh Government.

Reason for decision

To apprise Welsh Government of the Cabinet's views on the matters included in the Consultation.

C93 LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2016 (RLS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

Approval was sought for the 2016 Local Air Quality Management Annual Progress Report (LAQR) to enable its submission to Welsh Government.

The LAQR provided detail on the ratified data for the air quality monitoring undertaken in 2016. The Report confirmed that air quality within the Vale of Glamorgan met relevant air quality objectives, including the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) on Windsor Road, Penarth.

There were no monitoring sites with nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations above 60µg/m³ in 2016 anywhere in the Vale of Glamorgan. This indicated that it was unlikely that the hourly NO₂ objective would be exceeded at any location in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The report detailed that monitoring within the Windsor Road AQMA, showed continued compliance of the Air Quality Standard of 40 µg/m³ for NO₂. Welsh Government Policy Guidance indicated that where compliance within an AQMA occurred over a period of 3 years or more then the local authority should consider revoking the need for the continued presence of the AQMA.

As such, the Cabinet was asked to agree that a supporting report accompany the Annual Progress Report highlighted the continued compliance and recommended the formal revocation of the AQMA on Windsor Road.

The final decision to revoke the Windsor Road, Penarth AQMA would be taken by Welsh Government following a review and consultation with the local communities affected.

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 Local Air Quality Management Annual Progress Report (LAQR), attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved for submission to Welsh Government.
- (2) T H A T the submission of a request to remove the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) covering Windsor Road be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To fulfill the requirements of the statutory Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) process. The LAQR was part of The Vale of Glamorgan Council's sixth round of Review and Assessment for Local Air Quality Management and contains results of air quality data captured in 2016.
- (2) To request removal of the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) covering Windsor Road.

C94 EXTERNAL FUNDING: FAMILIES FIRST (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) -

Cabinet was informed of the Welsh Government grant allocated to support the delivery of the Families First Plan in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Families First Plan was initially developed in 2012 and focussed on a support network of provision and services aligned to a team around the family approach. Families First funded the co-ordination and support of services, the provision of a dedicated family support service (FACT - Families Achieving Change Together) and a range of bespoke projects that supported the long term aims to improve the life chances of children and young people from disadvantaged families.

All Local Authorities were informed early in 2017 that they would need to make additional changes to their Families First programmes, based on emerging priorities that would be made clear within the new Families First Programme Guidance launched in April 2017. All Local Authorities would also have a transitional year (April 2017- March 2018) in which to make the step change.

The new Families First Programme Guidance reaffirmed the requirement to maintain a Team Around the Family model and to maintain services within the criteria for the Disability Focus. It highlighted a step change within its priorities for the commissioned services; the move was away from a range of bespoke services to a clear focus on parent support services and support for young people.

The Families First Management Board sought stakeholder involvement through an event held on 4 May, 2017. The event highlighted the change in direction of Families First and linked this to the locally developed needs assessment and the Adverse Childhood Experiences Report. The event allowed stakeholders to shape ideas, suggestions and changes going forward.

The report proposed the funding was utilised to deliver the following existing and distinct projects:

- Team Around the Family project (FACT) - internally commissioned and delivered via Social Services;
- Disability Focus - internally and externally commissioned (potentially on a regional basis);
- Young Carers - externally commissioned.

The following three projects were also to be funded from April 2018, subject to Welsh Government approval.

- Wellbeing Youth Mentoring Service (to absorb both the Youth Support Programme and the C-Card projects). Internally commissioned and delivered via Learning and Skills.
- Parent Support Project (to absorb Putting Families First, the Partnership for Young Parents and to incorporate some element of the Flying Start parenting service).
- Families First Advice Line (to build on an existing pilot). Internally commissioned and delivered by FACT (Social Services).

These projects responded to the requirements of the Families First Guidance to focus on parent support services and support for young people, and absorbed existing projects that met this criteria. The Raising Awareness of Welfare Rights was the exception to this, having already ceased in March 2017 as it no longer fell within scope for Families First funding.

The proposals for the use of Families First funding were in line with the well-being objectives in the Public Services Board's draft Well-being Plan, in particular the well-being objective 'to give children the best start in life'. The proposals were also consistent with work being undertaken by the Cardiff and Vale Integrated Health and Social Care Board to address the priorities identified by the Population Needs Assessment.

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 Council continues to act as lead body for the Families First grant with grant oversight undertaken by the Families First Management Board.
- (2) T H A T the utilisation of the Families First grant be noted and supported.
- (3) T H A T authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services and the Head of Children and Young People Services to negotiate and execute appropriate contractual arrangements with delivery partners, including where re-tendering was required, to ensure the provision of the Families First Plan.

- (4) T H A T the employment of appropriate personnel takes place in accordance with the Council's approved recruitment and selection policy to ensure the delivery of the Families First Plan.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the continued financial and legal responsibilities undertaken by the Council as grant recipient body in partnership with the Families First Management Board.
- (2) To note how the grant was being used to deliver Families First in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (3) To enter into appropriate contractual arrangements with delivery partners in furtherance of the Families First Plan.
- (4) To ensure necessary recruitment to achieve delivery of the Families First Plan.

C95 SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICE PROVISION – EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH VARIATION (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) -

Cabinet was informed of the current situation within the Social Services Directorate regarding the Supported Living Service Provision for people with Learning Disability, Physical Disability, Sensory Impairment and Autistic Spectrum Conditions.

In 2012 a tender process was undertaken for the provision of care and housing related support services to adults with learning disabilities and/or physical/sensory impairment in properties throughout the Vale of Glamorgan. The care and support service was provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in accordance with the assessed needs of individual service users. Contracts for a period of five-years (plus two year extension options) were awarded to three domiciliary care agencies which commenced service delivery from 8 October, 2012.

Legislative changes to National Minimum Wage (under 25 years) and National Living Wage (25 years plus) alongside the latest HMRC definition of working time (sleep in duty and travel time) and auto enrolment to pensions continued to put significant pressure on supported living service provider budgets and their organisations' reserves. The legislative costs were likely to increase until the end of the

recommended contract extension period 30 September, 2019 and beyond until conclusions were drawn from the central government review relating to welfare reform, which was planned for implementation 2020. For the latter half of financial year 2016/17 additional funding totalling £164k was agreed to offset these cost pressures, and ensure the Council's contracted service providers continued to be compliant with their regulator and HMRC guidance.

The intention had been to re-tender for the service provision. However, due to uncertainty regarding the future resources envelope it was considered to constitute an unmanageable risk to accommodate at this time. As the existing arrangement expired on 7 October, 2017 the Managing Director had used his emergency powers to allow an exemption from procurement/contract regulations in relation to the extension of contracts as recommended in the report for the period up to consideration by Cabinet and subsequent conclusion of contractual matters.

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 current supported living service provision be noted.
- (2) T H A T the additional investment required across the requested extension period to ensure that Supported Living Accommodation providers were able to comply with changes to National Living Wage and Sleep-In arrangements, be noted.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Social Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Leisure to extend the current arrangements for a period of two years from 8 October, 2017 until 30 September, 2019 with existing providers as set out in the current contract options.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services to complete and sign the necessary documentation to effect the extension to the contract.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-2) To ensure that the Authority met the requirements of the Welsh Government's Learning Disability Strategy 2004 and the Authority's Community Strategy 2011-2021.
- (3-4) To comply with the requirements of Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules.

C96 BARRY ISLAND 10KM ROAD RACE – SUMMER 2018 (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ECONOMY AND REGENERATION) -

Approval was sought to stage a 10km road race in Barry on Sunday 5 August, 2018 in partnership with Run 4 Wales.

The Council had been approached about the possibility of staging a major road race in the area by Run 4 Wales who were the organisers of the highly successful Cardiff Half Marathon and the Cardiff 10K. There had been various proposals considered and the latest proposal would bring a mass participation 10km road race based around Barry Island to the area which would be promoted as part of the summer programme of activities at Barry Island with the aim of bringing more visitors to the area.

It was proposed to stage a 10km road race, to be known as the Barry Island 10k, on Sunday 5 August, 2018 which would start mid-morning to minimise disruption to local residents. By staging a 10km road race there was the opportunity to have a significant number of competitors (hopefully 3,000+) but to have a fixed time period for any required road closures limited to around a maximum of approximately 2 hours. An exact route was still under discussion but attached at Appendix A to the report was the current suggested indicative route with the likely times that roads would need to be closed clearly marked.

The Event would be managed and promoted by Run 4 Wales, who had proven expertise in organising such events and who had a significant database of runners to make the event a success. They would also undertake significant communication with both businesses and residents on the proposed route. As a minimum all residents on the route would receive 2 letters advising them of the event and providing contact numbers should any emergency issues arise.

At the meeting, the Leader commented that an email had been received from the Baruc Ward Members regarding this matter which stated that: "I have previously discussed this issue in depth with Dave Knevet and am happy to confirm that both myself and my ward colleague Cllr Nic Hodges are both supportive of the event."

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 a 10km road race be staged in Barry on Sunday 5 August, 2018 in partnership with Run 4 Wales.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing Services, in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health and Leisure, to finalise arrangements for the event.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide the necessary authority for a 10km road race to take place in Barry as part of the Barry Weekenders events for 2018.
- (2) To ensure the event was managed effectively.

C97 TENANT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) -

Approval was sought for a draft Tenant Engagement Strategy for public housing as a working document for further consultation.

In 2007 the Welsh Government set out a requirement for all social landlords to develop their own local Tenant Participation Strategies. The first Vale Strategy was published in 2008 and led to an improvement in tenant participation; albeit from a fairly low base. Two years later, the Vale published a further strategy with more ambitious objectives designed to drive further improvements which also included outcome focussed objectives for the first time.

It had been seven years since the last strategy was published and the current version aimed to pick up any gaps which had come to light and also incorporated feedback from more recent tenant consultation. A number of priority areas identified included: a need to involve a broader cross section of tenants; the need to develop the range of methods used to engage tenants (beyond the traditional tenants association type approach); the need to develop the capacity of tenants groups to

play a bigger role; and lastly ensuring tenant views fed into the strategic decision making process, for example: shaping new services, developing new policies and deciding spending priorities.

The priorities informed the new strategy and the outcomes focus had been retained in order to maximise the impact of the actions and initiatives which had been identified.

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 draft Tenant Engagement Strategy attached at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed as a working document for further consultation.
- (2) T H A T the draft Tenant Engagement Strategy be referred to the Scrutiny Committee (Homes and Safe Communities) for consideration.
- (3) T H A T the draft Tenant Engagement Strategy be subject to a broader consultation with all Vale Council tenants and existing Residents' Boards.
- (4) T H A T the Tenant Engagement Strategy be referred back to Cabinet for finalising upon receiving the views of the Scrutiny Committee (Homes and Safe Communities) and feedback from the broader tenant consultation exercise.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that tenant engagement was at the heart of the decision making process and a broad range of tenants had the opportunity to take part in a variety of different ways.
- (2) To provide an opportunity for Scrutiny to make any comments.
- (3) To give the wider tenant population an opportunity to comment and suggest changes to the draft strategy.
- (4) To agree the final Strategy document.

C98 MINOR UPDATES TO THE HOMES4U HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) -

Cabinet was apprised of the public consultation undertaken on the draft Homes4U Housing Allocation Policy and its approval sought for the changes required.

The Council's Homes4U Housing & Allocation Policy was last formerly reviewed in full in 2011 with only minor changes made since that date. The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 however brought a number of amendments to the legislative framework for housing allocations, which required the Council to review the Homes4U Policy to ensure it was compliant with the new Act.

A Member's seminar was held on 27 April, 2016 to obtain feedback on what they would like to change if there was a review of the Policy. Members confirmed that the policy should be updated to reflect the legislative changes, feedback from the Homes4U users and registered housing association partners, though it was noted that the existing policy was working well.

A formal 28 day public consultation exercise took place between 5 June, 2017 & 4 July, 2017. Officers considered the responses received resulting in the finalised version for adoption. The Council's Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners and relevant Council departments commented on the draft Policy as well as seventeen individuals. The consultation was promoted through the Council's social media channels, Twitter, and was seen by over 6,000 people on Facebook.

The minor changes made to the policy as a result of the introduction of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, including the amendments arising from the consultation exercise were as follows;

- All new homelessness duties recognised and reflected within the current banding structure of the policy.
- Armed Forces personnel including Reservists and their families to be awarded additional preference in recognition of their services to the Country.
- Foster Carers now recognised as a priority category.
- Overcrowding criteria clarified.
- Under-Occupancy category now included.
- Shared Accommodation included as a housing option.
- Applicants with former housing debts now required to seek support to reduce debts to enable the allocation of accommodation through the scheme.

- Applicants residing in temporary Supported Accommodation resources including Domestic Abuse Refuges (not restricted to the Vale of Glamorgan) to be awarded additional preference in recognition of the need for appropriate and timely 'move-on' to a permanent home.

As these were only minor changes to the policy, they were not required to be approved by Full Council.

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 contents of the report be noted and the responses to the representations made on the draft Homes4U Housing & Allocation Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the finalised Homes4U Housing & Allocation Policy attached at Appendix 2 to the report be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide a summary of the public consultation undertaken on the draft Homes4U Housing & Allocation Policy and to endorse the responses and changes proposed to the finalised Policy.
- (2) To ensure the Policy was compliant with the Housing (Wales) Act 2014.

C99 DISPOSAL OF DREDGED MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF HINKLEY POINT C POWER STATION (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT) -

Cabinet was informed of the position related to a proposal to dispose of dredging material arising from the construction of Hinkley Point C power station at the Cardiff Grounds disposal site and a course of action proposed that was aimed at addressing the significant public interest to the proposal as it stood.

Cardiff Grounds was a licensed disposal site for materials arising from marine dredging. The location was shown in Appendix 1 attached to the report and was the

closest licensed disposal site to the area of proposed dredging. As part of the construction of the Hinkley Point C power station, marine dredging was required in the location of the new cooling water intake and outfall sites and to enable provision of a temporary jetty.

Following an application made in August 2012, a Marine Licence (12/45/ML) was granted in July 2014 by NRW to NNB Genco, a subsidiary of EDF Energy, to dispose of the dredged materials arising from the above works. The Licence was attached at Appendix 2 to the report. The Licence was valid until 4 March, 2019 and it permitted a quantity not exceeding 304,885 tonnes to be deposited at the Cardiff Grounds site. The Licence was valid until 4 March, 2019.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council was consulted, as Local Planning Authority by Welsh Government, on the application in September 2012. The application at that time was for 200,000 metres cubed of material and the conclusion of planning officers was that without detailed expertise, and in the limited timescale for making comments, it was difficult to make an informed conclusion of the application and hence no objection was raised. It was however noted that it 'appeared' that the major issues of concern to the authority and of wider interest had been the subject of detailed research, conclusions of which seemed to indicate that the proposal could be carried out without significant impact.

As part of the application a full radiological assessment was undertaken which concluded the proposal was acceptable and this was further reviewed by internal experts in Natural Resources Wales (NRW) who agreed with that conclusion. The radiological assessment was attached at Appendix 3 to the report.

No material from Hinkley Point had been deposited at the Cardiff Grounds site so far, and due to the time that had elapsed since the licence was granted, a further radiological assessment had to be undertaken before this could occur. The assessment would be based on a new set of sediment samples taken as part of a structured sampling programme agreed by NRW and would include all relevant radiological determinants.

There had been concern expressed by individuals about the adequacy of the radiological assessment that was undertaken and the potential health implications of the proposed deposit of material. There was an open e-petition to the Welsh National Assembly calling for NRW to suspend the Licence pending a Public Inquiry, a full hearing of independent evidence and a Public Consultation. The text of the e-petition was included in Appendix 4 attached to the report. In addition the report noted that the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs had issued a written

statement on 29 September, 2017 setting out the proposal, the timeline and the existing position. It set out the nature of the marine licence and the conditions for sampling of materials. A copy was attached at Appendix 5 to the report.

The radiological assessment that accompanied the Licence Application was undertaken by CEFAS (Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science) an executive agency sponsored by DEFRA and a recognised expert in the field. It had been reviewed by the regulator, NRW, who had agreed with the conclusion that there was no objection to the material being dredged and dumped.

The new radiological assessment being undertaken would be based on a methodology agreed in advance by NRW. As the Licence issued runs until March 2019 there was no legal requirement for NRW to consult with the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the findings of the assessment and the local authority played no formal regulatory role. Officers remained however in dialogue with NRW on this issue and would be able to update Cabinet on the conclusions of the assessment. Due to the specialised nature of this field of work, no internal Council expertise existed to critique the findings of the radiological assessment or the conclusions of the regulator.

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 contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Leader of the Council writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs and the Chief Executive of Natural Resources Wales (NRW), expressing this Council's concerns to the proposal to dispose of dredged radioactive material at the Cardiff Grounds disposal site, given the time that has elapsed since issuing of the licence in July 2014.
- (3) T H A T within the letter referred to in resolution 2 above, consideration is requested to be given to the methodology to be used for the new radiological assessment of the material, suggesting greater sampling of the material, to full excavation depth and over the entire excavation area.

- (4) T H A T within the letter referred to in resolution 2 above, NRW be requested to formally consult this Council on the details of the new, more thorough, radiological assessment prior to any disposal works progressing.
- (5) T H A T the Leader of the Council seeks a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs, the Chief Executive of NRW and the Leaders of all neighbouring authorities along the Severn Estuary to seek the necessary support for a review of the position by Welsh Government and NRW as detailed in resolutions 2 to 4 above.
- (6) T H A T the report be referred to the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) for further consideration and discussion.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the existing position with the dredging and disposal position of the material associated with the construction of Hinkley Point C power station.
- (2-5) To demonstrate the concerns of Vale of Glamorgan residents to the proposal as it stood, to reflect the passage of time since the issuing of the licence in July 2014 and to ensure that all the necessary safeguards were in place to protect public and animal health should this disposal arrangement progress.
- (6) To enable further consideration of the issue by the Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration), given the significant public interest.

C100 A4226 FIVE MILE LANE ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MAIN WORKS (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

An update was provided regarding the tendering process of the main works contract for the A4226 Five Mile Lane Highway Improvement Scheme ('the Scheme').

The Scheme main works contract was tendered via the Welsh Government's Sell2Wales site on 28 April, 2017 and interested parties were invited to submit tenders for the work (Minute C52 refers). In light of the potential contract value, an OJEU notice had also been publicised and the deadline for the submission of tenders was 28 July, 2017.

Under the tender process, bidders were required to provide as part of their tender submission and in accordance with the tender guidance, both a technical submission

and a commercial submission. The tender submissions were subsequently evaluated on the basis of 50% price and 50% quality by separate and independent technical and commercial groups resulting in a tender assessment report which was appended to the Part II report to be considered later on the agenda. The tender assessment report provided details of the evaluation and appraisal of the bids submitted.

This was a matter for Executive decision

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted, the details of which were the subject of a Part II report which follows later on the agenda.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report and allow the matter to be dealt with under Part II.

C101 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC -

RESOLVED - T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

C102 A4226 FIVE MILE LANE ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MAIN WORKS (NST) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPH 14) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

Approval was sought to award the main works contract for the A4226 Five Mile Lane Highway Improvement Scheme ('the Scheme') (subject the Welsh Government approval) and for associated officer delegations in connection with the administration of the contract.

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 main works contract for the delivery of the A4226 Five Mile Lane Highway Improvement Scheme be awarded in line with the report submitted to Cabinet.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Housing Services, the Managing Director, the Leader, and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport to enter into an NEC 3 Engineering and Construction Contract (Option C) with the successful tenderer and in advance of that contract, to enter into a letter of intent to enable early mobilisation of the works to site and to deal with Welsh Government funding requirements under the Scheme.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Housing Services, the Managing Director, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, to agree the initial short term spending on the Scheme in compliance with the terms and conditions of Welsh Government grant funding agreement for the Scheme
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Housing Services, the Managing Director, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport to agree the details of the Project Bank account required under the terms of the contract.
- (5) T H A T the use of Article 14.14 of the Council's Constitution (urgent decision on procedure) be authorised in respect of resolutions 1 - 4 above.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the contract award.
- (2-3) To have an appropriate contract and delegated authorities in place to commence and deliver the Scheme including compliance with the terms and condition of Welsh Government funding agreement for the Scheme.
- (4) To ensure that the Project Bank account was correctly put in place.

- (5) In order that the works contract may be awarded immediately following the completion of the standstill period, as set out in the Public Contracts Regulations, and in order that works could progress in accordance with the prescribed programme.