

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 30th July, 2018.

Present: Councillor J.W. Thomas (Chairman), Councillor T.H. Jarvie (Vice-Chairman), Councillors J.C. Bird, G.A. Cox, G.C. Kemp, A.C. Parker and R.A. Penrose.

Also present: Councillors L. Burnett, Mrs. P. Drake, Dr. I.J. Johnson, N. Moore and L. O. Rowlands.

C374 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 16th July, 2018 be approved as a correct record.

C375 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

The following declaration was received:

Councillor J.W. Thomas	<p>Agenda Item No. 14 - Adoption of Supplementary Planning Guidance for Public Art and New Development; Travel Plans; and, Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development</p> <p>Reason for Declaration – He had a personal and prejudicial interest as he had an approved planning application with the Section 106 agreement currently under consideration.</p>
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C376 DRAFT PARKING STRATEGY REPORT (REF) –

The Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 12th July, 2018 considered the above report.

The Head of Service commenced by advising that the report was for consideration on the proposed consultation strategy and the Consultants' report which outlined the timetable for the consultation with proposals to be referred back to a joint Scrutiny Committee as a result. Cabinet had referred the draft Vale of Glamorgan Parking Strategy Report which had been prepared by consultants to the Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.

The Committee was also informed of the use of the Council's Constitution Urgent Decision Procedure in order that Town and Community Councils could be afforded the opportunity prior to the August recess in their respective Councils to give consideration to the contents of the Capita Report immediately following the meeting of Cabinet.

Capita had been appointed by the Council in Autumn 2017 to assist with the preparation of a Draft Parking Strategy for the Vale of Glamorgan. Capita had undertaken previous parking studies for the Council. In 2013 (updated in 2015) Capita produced a report in respect of proposals for off-street and on-street parking charges in Barry and Cowbridge. In addition, Capita prepared parking reports relating to Country Parks parking charges in 2016 and Leisure centre parking charges in 2017. None of the recommendations within these reports had been implemented by the Council.

This Commission required the preparation of a Draft Parking Strategy for the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan, including a review of the previous reports prepared, an update to possible charging tariffs, an evaluation of possible charging methods and infrastructure requirements as well as a review of what the impacts might be if parking charges were introduced. In addition, any Strategy needed to be in accord with the Council's Income and Commercial Opportunities Strategy 2017 - 2020 and contribute towards the Medium Term Financial Plan and Corporate Plan.

A Project Board consisting of the relevant Cabinet Members and Senior Council Officers was set up to provide direction to the Commission.

Attached at Appendix A to the report was the Draft Parking Strategy prepared for the Council by Capita (June 2018). The Draft Strategy examined the following areas:

- Town Centre Car Parks;
- Coastal Car Parks;
- Country Parks Car Parks;
- On-Street Car Parking in Town Centres and Coastal areas and Enforcement and Infrastructure options.

If the proposals for parking charges were implemented there would also be an associated cost for infrastructure and the day to day operation of the parking charges and enforcement. Committee was informed that the draft Parking Strategy report recognised that there were many different and emerging technologies to manage parking demand and it was expected that as this technology developed alternative methods of parking tariff collection and enforcement may be used. For ease of implementation the use of pay and display machines had been suggested and costed within the draft Strategy.

Given the nature of the proposals set out in the report, a comprehensive consultation programme was being prepared to ensure the wide range of stakeholders who had an interest in these changes could be effectively involved. This programme would be managed by a cross-directorate team and the timetable was appended to the report.

Following the Head of Services presentation of the report a member of the public who had registered to speak, made their representations to the Committee. Mrs. Ockerby commenced by querying the Council's overall aim for the charges and questioned who was going to monitor? Many residents did not have a disposable income to pay the charges and many had more than two cars. Who would monitor the cars when parking on streets?

Mrs. Ockerby referred to the fact that currently places such as Ogmores, the pay and display machines were not in operation and the Council, in her view, was losing a considerable amount of money that they could have been receiving as a result of this. She urged the Council to ask constituents for their views before they made a final decision.

The Head of Service advised that the purpose of this report at this meeting was to seek Committee's views on the consultation strategy and a number of drop in sessions had been included in the timetable. No decisions had yet been made on the implementation of car parking charges and Committee was requested to consider the consultation process contained as at Appendix B to the report.

Councillor Mahoney, not a Member of the Committee but with permission to speak, considered that the Council needed to look at the views of the public in detail and referred to the fact that in his view, Cosmeston Park should not be part of the proposals. He stated that Cosmeston Park was an open space that provided a number of benefits for the general public and it was his view they should not have to pay Council Tax and have the imposition of charges. He stated "that if people did not have driveways, then that was their fault".

Councillor Mrs. Perkes, not a Member of the Committee but with permission to speak, stated that she was concerned about the parking charges on Holton Road and the effect on small businesses. She also urged the Council to undertake public meetings in order for all members of the public, local retailers and stakeholders to be able to raise issues. Councillor Mrs. Perkes referred to the 2017 petition regarding the car parking charges at that time and queried whether this would be taken into account under the new consultation. The Head of Service, in response, advised that a number of drop in sessions would be made available for members of the public. These were considered to be more effective than public meetings where, on occasions, public meetings had been taken over by one or two people and the remaining members of the public were not able to get their views aired. The Head of Service referred to the number of ways that the Council would be engaging with the public and referred again to the timetable attached to the report. The Council would also be taking comments via e-mail and social media etc. With regard to the 2017 petition, she said the current proposals were fresh proposals and the Council would be seeking views on these proposals. The previous consultation that had been undertaken had been in relation to car parking charges only for Cowbridge and Barry, the current proposals were county wide.

Councillor Burnett, with permission to speak, advised that she did not feel the current Draft Parking Strategy should go ahead as, in her view, it was not a Draft Parking Strategy it was a Charges Strategy and, in particular, the Strategy needed to be inclusive to the area of visitors and residents. Consultation should also be

undertaken in the form of public meetings and residents of the Vale should be asked to provide solutions for the Council and be part of the process in that way. The report, in her view, also did not mention the use of destination resorts, it appeared that charging residents was an easy target. In her view the report was flawed, the assessment of parking was incomplete and she urged the Committee to ask Cabinet to reconsider and undertake a full and comprehensive consultation when any future report was presented.

Councillor King, with permission to speak, stated that he too was in favour of public meetings and that in his view the consultation exercise was very sparse. He also urged the department to explain to the public in more detail the enforcement that would be required and that a full explanation be made available.

A number of Committee Members stated that they were disappointed with the report and requested that the report be re-thought. It appeared in their view that it was the residents who would suffer not visitors. For example, in referring to the proposals for charging from 8.00am to 8.00pm they stated that visitors were not going to be arriving at 8am only residents. It was also important to listen to the retailers.

A Member raised concern to the fact that the consultation had appeared on the website before any briefing had been given to Members of the Council and that this had caused concern within their Wards. They had received an apology from the officer but that had been too late as the "cat was truly out of the bag" by then.

A number of Members also stated that they considered public meetings were vital to the consultation process and were unhappy about the consultation being rolled out in the August month when a number of people would be away and that this was a really inappropriate time to undertake any consultation. The Head of Service stated that she found in the past that the drop in sessions were more productive than public meetings, but was aware of the Members' concerns and that the whole idea of bringing the consultation proposals to the Scrutiny Committee was to allow Members' consideration of the matter.

Reference was also made to the need to have specific traders' meetings based on geography. It was also suggested that if a member of the public was walking their dog the first two hours should be free of charge to encourage people to remain in the resorts where they would spend money as they would be likely to remain for two hours and do a bit of shopping. The effect on retailers was an issue as well as the effect on residents.

In referring to future-proofing, it was suggested that a multi-storey car park be provided for Barry Island and in looking at residents parking, where there were streets with houses only on one side for example, residents parking permits could be provided one side with the other being made available for general car parking. It was also considered that the consultation itself being was an issue and that consultation with Members should have taken place prior to the production of the Draft strategy. Following consideration of the report the Chairman then put the recommendations to the vote with the following being:

RECOMMENDED – T H A T Cabinet be requested to rethink the Draft Car Parking Strategy, consider the lessons learned to date from previous car parking proposals, the comments made at the meeting and advised that undertaking a consultation during the summer months was not acceptable.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to discussions at the meeting.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendation of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted and considered as part of Agenda Item 5 of the same title next on the Agenda.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C377 DRAFT PARKING STRATEGY REPORT (REF) –

The Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee, on 19th July, 2018, considered the above report.

Prior to considering the report, the Chairman advised that two members of the public had registered to speak and following the officer's presentation they would be invited to come forward to make their representations.

Cabinet had, on 2nd July, 2018, considered the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Parking Strategy Report which had been prepared by Consultants (Capita) for the determination of consultation and engagement arrangements and for consideration of its contents. The matter had subsequently been referred to both the Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committees for consideration of the proposed public consultation arrangements as described in the report and appendices.

In presenting the report to the Committee, the Head of Service for Neighbourhood Services and Transport advised that Capita had been appointed by the Council in Autumn 2017 to assist with the preparation of a Draft Parking Strategy for the Vale of Glamorgan. A Project Board consisting of the relevant Cabinet Members and Senior Council officers had been established to provide direction to the Commission. The Council had to make £17m savings over the next three years, with Neighbourhood Services and Transport Division having to make £827k in 2018/19 alone. The maintenance and regulation of parking spaces cost the Council £360k per annum. This included car parks at Barry Island and Ogmore which the Council currently charged for. There was a need to recoup costs and seek additional income that could enable reinvestment in the fabric of the car parks and assist other services the

Council provided to continue, for example, investment in town centres, infrastructure and country parks.

The report outlined that the Draft Parking Strategy could also strengthen economic and regeneration opportunities by introducing improved more efficient car park management which could improve user experience and access to services.

A copy of the report had also been forwarded under the Urgent Decision Procedure to all Town and Community Councils in the Vale of Glamorgan following the Cabinet meeting on 2nd July, 2018 in order for them to have time to consider the contents of the Consultants' report as early on in the process as possible.

The proposed consultation timetable was outlined at paragraphs 36 to 43 to the report and at Appendix B to the Cabinet report. Appendix B outlined that public consultation would commence on 6th August, 2018 and close on 28th September, 2018 with an Extraordinary joint Scrutiny Committee being established week commencing 15th October to consider the proposals, initial consultation findings and to make recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet would then receive reports from the Scrutiny public consultation on 5th November and make any recommendations as a result. On 8th November and 15th November Scrutiny Committees Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources would consider the Cabinet recommendations with the intention that the final report including any references from the Scrutiny Committees and any changes to proposals be presented to Cabinet on 3rd December. The Cabinet's final recommendations to then be referred to Council on 10th December, 2018 to consider any necessary budget requirements.

Having presented the report, the Chairman then asked the first member of the public who had registered to speak, Mrs. C. Ockerby, to come forward and make her representations to the Committee.

Mrs. Ockerby stated that it was important that any proposals that were made were correct and the appropriate approach undertaken. She stated that she considered it imperative that all car parks should be considered in any plan and referred to the fact that the Vale Council car parks, at Civic, the Alps and the Dock Offices had not been included. In referring to the timetable for drop in sessions, she advised that the timings at 3pm to 6pm in the day would not be an option for many businesses and not all would be able to attend. Mrs. Ockerby also advised that a number of visitors had not even been made aware of the proposals and would recommend that the timings were reconsidered, and to seek views of the staff in the businesses is the best way to ensure their engagement. It was also important to consider public meetings as well as drop in sessions as part of any consultation process and she requested that any surveys / questionnaires be made available in and around the Vale at various locations e.g. libraries etc. rather than on request and posting them out as this would be a considerable expense. Mrs. Ockerby also made reference to the consultation being given to Holton Road School as there would be an impact for the school and its staff. In conclusion, she stated that most people had only been informed of the strategy proposals via Facebook.

Mrs. C. Cook, the second member of the public who had registered to speak, then made her representations to the Committee. Mrs. Cook commenced by advising that in her view, the Capita report had cost a lot of money and there were a number of inaccuracies in the document, in particular she referred to page 10 (i.e. Civic Centre) and the estimated number of spaces 140 vehicles, number of vehicles parked 14, the percentage for occupancy being 35%. This was incorrect she stated and also by way of a further example in referring to paragraph 3.2 of the report, considered the figures reported to be ludicrous as, in her opinion, the costings reported would in effect provide for an overall loss as a result of the introduction of the charges. Mrs. Cook also disputed the information in relation to Saturday and Sunday parking as there was no revenue from the sites on a Sunday as the sites were not open. In her view, the revenue projections provided by Capita were unreliable and that the report should be relooked at and reviewed as a result. Mrs. Cook concluded by stating that as there was more than an element of doubt to the report, it should be reconsidered.

Councillor Burnett, not a Member of the Committee but with permission to speak, stated that she accepted that there could be appropriate charging in some locations in the Vale but would leave that discussion for a future time. She considered that the Draft Strategy was flawed and the Committee should send it back to Cabinet for further work before any further consultation took place. In her view, the aims were unclear, it was impossible to discuss the fit between actions and outcomes if people did not know what the aims were. The report referred to money without detriment at paragraph 5, but the Draft Strategy was saying it was a positive impact and queried these statements. If the car parks were reported as costing £260k why didn't the Council go for a cost neutral approach. The resident zones, in her view, were not for a reason to improve the current situation but to enable parking. The figures in the Capita report appeared to be inaccurate and the country park proposals were cynical with 8am to 8pm charging, the only people being targeted in her view were the local residents. With specific regard to the consultation, the timing was inappropriate with holidays and working days over the summer months and the failure to meet with key stakeholders was, in her view, "folly" and referred to the previous consultation exercise that had been undertaken some time ago considering that lessons learned from then would be appropriate. In conclusion, Councillor Burnett stated that "you cannot consult on a deeply flawed strategy, the aims of the strategy need to be clarified and holding meetings with stakeholders was key with the aim of participation not tokenism".

In response to the issues raised, the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport advised that in her 25 years' experience in undertaking consultation exercises, it was her view public meetings did not provide the appropriate forum to take proposals forward. The drop in sessions undertaken for the Junction 34/M4 WeiTAG study had promoted debate and residents had come together for the sessions with also 1:1 discussion taking place with officers. The responses in respect of these consultation initiatives had been very good. Chambers of Trade and Town and Community Councils had already been forwarded the Cabinet report in order that they could consider proposals prior to the summer recess. A considerable amount of time and effort had been put in to consider how to achieve responses from town centres and visitors and questionnaires would be available via the Neighbourhood Services and Transport section on request. She was however happy to take advice on staggering

the timings for drop in sessions, but in her view the timing between 5pm – 6pm would be most appropriate as this would catch people finishing work. In the main, the questionnaire survey would be undertaken online, which would also then be able to be fed into the survey software that was being used for the consultation, which provides quick and timely feedback for management and Cabinet to consider.

A number of Members considered that in their view, the Capita report was flawed, there were inaccuracies within the document that needed to be resolved before any consultation took place. It was important to also have learned from lessons learned in previous consultations and that it was imperative that public meetings also took place as well as drop in sessions. A suggestion that all questionnaires be forwarded via e-mail to all Town and Community Councils who could then put copies in their buildings for the public. Reference was also made to the fact that Penarth Town Centre, for example, did not have a car park and that it was important to consult with traders there as on-street parking was also an issue with displacement possibly being a potential consequence. The point raised by Mrs. Ockerby in relation to staff parking was also an issue, with Members suggesting that this may breach equalities.

A Member stated that, in his view, the report had caused a number of concerns, in particular in relation to the statement in the first bullet point at paragraph 5 “to realise the maximum levels of income without reducing visitor or user numbers or detrimentally affecting the local economy” this had been the catalyst that had caused in the main the concern with the process and the strategy. In his view, it was important to manage enforcement in the first instance. Although acknowledging that there would be a number of opportunities for Members of the Council to scrutinise the proposals and be part of the Joint Scrutiny Committee, concern was raised regarding the ability to fully analyse all the responses received in the timescales proposed. The officer advised that the timescales identified were able to be reached, however there having been no Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken in advance of the proposals was also a concern for Members.

A Member of the Committee who was also a Member of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee which had considered the report the previous week stated that having considered the comments of Members of the Committee and the comments made by members of the public, he had reconsidered his position and was also in favour of the report being referred back to Cabinet for review.

Following full consideration of the report and its contents, the Scrutiny Committee subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T Cabinet be requested to rethink and review the Strategy proposals in light of the comments raised at the Scrutiny Committee and, in particular, to reconsider the Capita report having regard to a number of errors contained therein.

Reason for recommendation

It was the Committee’s view that the Strategy was flawed, there were inaccuracies in the Capita document and the consultation should be reconsidered.

After presenting this item alongside the previous item on the agenda with the same title, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport raised the following points in response to the comments made at the Scrutiny Committee meetings.

Firstly, the Cabinet Member acknowledged the input and views of Members and also the organisation 'Beautiful Barry' which provided comments and evidence at both Scrutiny Committee meetings. He reiterated the point that the consultation was yet to commence and that Scrutiny Committees were simply asked to consider the suggested approach to the consultation on the draft parking strategy, and noted that the report had been produced by Capita on behalf of the Council. Whilst that report made recommendations, those recommendations would now be subject to consultation.

The Capita report considered a series of options, including the provision of free periods, displacement, all day parking, and the Cabinet Member confirmed that all options for all scenarios would need to be carefully considered when moving forward and that Scrutiny Committees would have a further role in this process. It was noted that any comments on the report, whether they be on accuracy, factual content, assumptions and opinions, would need to be made as part of that consultation.

In conclusion, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport commented that stopping the consultation process in its tracks at this stage would not be helpful and instead would add to uncertainty and drift surrounding the proposals. Instead, he stressed the need to move forward with the consultation, which would run from 6th August through to 28th September and it was therefore not the case that consultation would take place solely in the summer. Finally, he noted that paragraphs 36 to 43 of the Cabinet report of 2nd July provided significant detail of the consultation process and included at Appendix B to that report was the consultation timetable set out in detail.

The Leader thanked everyone who fed into the discussions on this item and noted that many of the comments from the Scrutiny Committees and the organisation 'Beautiful Barry' could be considered as part of the consultation process. The Leader confirmed with his colleague that the drop-in sessions were due to run for eight weeks from the beginning of August until the end of September and the timing would be extended to run from 3pm until 7pm, with hard copies of the consultation materials being made available to allow meaningful consultation to reach as many members of the public as possible.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committees

RESOLVED – T H A T the recommendations of the Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committees, and the comments made at the meetings, be noted and the consultation process proceed as planned as set out in the report of 2nd July, 2018.

Reason for decision

To allow a full and meaningful consultation process that would enable Cabinet to make informed judgements and decisions on the way forward.

C378 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING TIMETABLE AND SUPPORTING PLANS (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Cabinet was apprised of the proposed changes to the Council's annual improvement planning and monitoring timetable and supporting plans / reports to further streamline the Vale of Glamorgan Council's corporate approach to integrated planning.

Specific duties were placed on the Council through the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, where the Council was required to publish Well-being Objectives that had to be reviewed annual to ensure that they remained relevant and to the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, as the Council had to set annual improvement objectives and publish these as soon as possible at the start of the financial year. The Council was required to review and report on its performance improvement objectives annually. Consideration was also being given to the refreshing of the Council's Corporate Plan which ran to 2020. It was intended that the proposals contained in the report would enable a refresh to take place with a new Plan commencing from April 2020.

Following a review of the Annual Improvement Planning and Monitoring Timetable and related Plans, there was an opportunity to streamline the content and format of some of the Council's Plans / reports to enable the Council to rationalise the number produced and reduce the level of duplication whilst continuing to meet its statutory requirements.

Appendix A attached to the report provided an overview of the existing Planning and Monitoring Timetable and compared this with a timetable for 2018/19 onwards, incorporating the proposed changes. The proposed approach would mean fewer and more concise reports. In summary, the key proposal was that there would be two overarching documents that would incorporate the following:

- Annual Report – this would encompass the Council's Improvement Plan Part 2 and end of year performance reports, eliminating the need for separate end of year reports to Scrutiny Committees in July. The Annual Report would be reported in September.
- Corporate Plan Annual Delivery Plan – this would encompass the Council's Improvement Plan Part 1. Service Plans would still be produced at head of Service level, however would be included as an Annex to the Corporate Plan and the Delivery Plan, along with target setting for 2019/20 as another Annex. This would be reported in March. The Self-Assessment would no longer exist as a standalone document, but would be embedded as a process which was then documented in the two reports outlined above.

Appendix B attached to the report outlined a proposed structure for the Vale of Glamorgan Annual Report (and Improvement Plan Part 2) for the period 2017-2018. Appendix C attached to the report outlined a proposed structure for the Corporate Plan Annual Delivery Plan and Improvement Plan Part 1 for the period 2019-2020.

Previously, a detailed service profile was completed with all Heads of Service to inform both the annual Council Self-Assessment and the service planning processes. Whilst this information would still be needed, it would only be reported once in the Service Plan. In future, it was proposed that the existing Service Plan format was modified to include a number of key aspects already incorporated within the service profiles, thereby eliminating the need to produce a separate service profile.

Group Leaders and Chairs of Scrutiny Committees met recently and were supportive of the proposed simplified approach under the proposed report structures as outlined in the Cabinet report.

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 changes to the annual improvement planning and monitoring timetable and supporting plans be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To ensure the Council further enhanced its approach to improvement planning and monitoring to enable the Council to meet its statutory duties as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 with specific reference to the wider local government agenda.

C379 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIVE WORKING INITIATIVES UPDATE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Cabinet was updated on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives.

Collaborative working activity had increased in pace in response to the challenging financial climate and in recognition of the value that working in partnership to share skills, expertise and experience could have in tackling complex issues. The Welsh Government Green Paper Consultation Document, Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People, issued on 20th March, 2018 had placed a renewed emphasis upon the importance of increased collaboration and mutual working across and between local government.

The Compendium of Strategic Working Initiatives, attached at Appendix A to the report, provided an oversight of the strategic level collaborative working activity in which the Council was involved, and captured the detail of the various initiatives underway. Collaboration was identified as one of the key ways of working to support

the Council's work in delivering the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, and was one of the alternative models of delivery considered as part of the Reshaping Services programme. Reflecting this, the Compendium illustrated how each element of collaborative working aligned with the Council's Well-being Outcomes. Cabinet received a quarterly update on those collaborations that the Corporate Management Team deemed to be strategically significant, with it being noted that there were many more operational examples of collaboration underway across the Authority.

The report set out the progress being made in each strategically significant collaboration, providing Members with an overview of the governance arrangements in place and the partners with which the Council was working.

Following the last update received by Cabinet on 30th April, 2018, the progress against many initiatives had been updated, one initiative had been added and two initiatives had been removed from the Compendium. It was recommended that the report be circulated to all Elected Members and to the Public Services Board to keep them updated on these matters.

At the meeting, the Leader commented that the report showed how the Council could work collaboratively to provide services in the best way possible and save money, without the need for forced Local Authority mergers, plans for which had recently been proposed, then cancelled, by Welsh Government.

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 strategic collaborative working initiatives that are in place to support the delivery and development of Council services and the Council's well-being outcomes and objectives be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be circulated by e-mail to all Vale of Glamorgan Council Elected Members and members of the Public Services Board.
- (3) T H A T further updates be provided to Cabinet on a quarterly basis, and in accordance with the Forward Work Programme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1&2) To provide Members with an overview of strategic collaborative working initiatives.
- (3) To provide regular updates for Members.

**C380 CONTACT CENTRE TECHNOLOGY PROCUREMENT (L)
(SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

Authority was sought to go out to tender contracts for the provision of a new Contact Centre Technology platform in conjunction with Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council (RCT CBC), Wrexham Council and other Welsh Councils.

The existing contact centre technology platform was procured in 2005 and routed telephone callers best placed to deal with their enquiry. The technology fell out of manufacturer service support in June 2018 and would not receive software updates or security patches after that time. The platform was being supported through a third party supplier, Sabio Ltd, until 30th September, 2018, with an extension to 31st December, 2018 being negotiated. After this, it would represent an ICT security risk which would impact upon the Council's ability to retain Public Services Network Compliance Certification. The existing technology platform did not have the required functionality, such as web chat, to support customers in accessing services digitally in an efficient way. This functionality would be delivered by the new technology.

The report proposed to procure a remotely hosted technology solution. This would provide increased flexibility as functionality and numbers of users could be flexed, meaning the Council would only be charged for the functionality it was using each month. The hosted solution also provided an opportunity for joint procurement and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and Wrexham County Borough Council had agreed to participate in the creation of a framework agreement. While the respective Authorities would share the technology platform, each would be able to use it independently, choosing which functionality they wished to use and pay for.

It was anticipated that the term of the initial contact would be three years with an option to extend by a further 12 months. To date, eight other Local Authorities had requested to be named on the tender and would be able to procure functionality from the platform in the future.

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 approval be granted for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to lead the collaborative procurement exercise outlined in the report and to enter into a suitable Inter-Authority agreement with Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and Wrexham Council.
- (2) T H A T the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and Head of Performance and Development be authorised to commence tendering procedures for the services outlined in the report.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and Head of Performance and Development, in consultation with the

Managing Director and Leader, to accept and award tenders for these services in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in conjunction with partners.

- (4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to agree the terms of and execute contracts with successful providers.
- (5) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to agree the terms of and execute the necessary Inter-Authority agreement with Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and Wrexham Council.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To replace the existing platform; which was supported until 30th September, 2018 only.
- (2) To support the objectives of the Digital Strategy through implementation of functionality which supported citizens to use online self-service; such as Web Chat.
- (3) To improve operational efficiency by integrating service delivery channels; such as telephony, e-mail, social media and Web Chat.
- (4) To create opportunities for collaborative work with Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council and Wrexham Council with the potential to reduce operating costs and / or increase income.
- (5) To ensure proper governance of the collaboration between the named Authorities.

C381 NETAPP STORAGE REFRESH (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Approval was sought to let a tender for the supply of Hardware and Software.

NetApp Storage was the disk infrastructure that stored computer data used by the Council. The majority of the existing storage hardware had been in operation since 2012 but was now end of life and needed to be replaced. These elements of the storage hardware had to be replaced prior to December 2018 as no software updates would be available in 2019 and beyond.

The new storage solution would provide a 'hybrid' storage platform that would be capable of integrating with both on-site and cloud based systems. This hybrid model would support the Council's transition to Office 365 and other cloud solutions, would support the continued use of legacy line of business systems and supported the wider Digital Strategy.

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 permission be granted to let a tender for the supply of NetApp hardware and software through the Crown Commercial Service Framework, Code RM3733 Technology Products.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Managing Director and the Leader, to award the tender to the winning supplier.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to execute a contract with the successful tenderer for the provision of NetApp Hardware and Software.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To allow the award of the contract.

(2&3) To have an appropriate contract in place for the supply of NetApp Hardware and Software.

C382 RENEWAL OF VALE OF GLAMORGAN BROADCASTING COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY DEED OF GRANT (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Members were updated on the activities of Bro Radio and an extension of funding for a further three years was sought.

The report sought Cabinet approval to give the Managing Director delegated powers to renew the existing Deed of Grant with Bro Radio (Vale of Glamorgan Broadcasting Community Interest Company). The Council provided Bro Radio with a grant worth £24,000 annually. In return, Bro Radio helped to promote Council news, updates on services and provide Public Address notices, live broadcasting and music at Council run events such as the Barry Island Weekenders. Bro Radio were also in the process of applying for a new broadcasting licence which, if successful, will allow them to reach all areas of the Vale of Glamorgan.

After this item had been presented, the Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Leisure stated that he was pleased to see that the station was in the process of applying for an extended broadcasting licence in order to broadcast to the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader, to renew the Deed of Grant between the Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Broadcasting Community Interest Company for a further three year period.
- (2) T H A T, subject to the Resolution (1) above, an annual grant of £24,000 be payable in monthly instalments.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the funding arrangement to be regularised by way of a Deed of Grant.
- (2) To assist in the trading of Vale of Glamorgan Broadcasting Community Interest Company and to facilitate the continued broadcasting of the community radio station and commensurate support of the Council's communications strategies.

C383 WELSH GOVERNMENT TARGET REGENERATION INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2018-21 (RP) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Approval was sought for the South East Wales Regional Plan for Regeneration in respect of the details contained in relation to the Vale of Glamorgan.

Authority was also sought for the Head of Regeneration and Planning represent the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the Regional Regeneration Forum, made up of Directors and Heads of Service from partner Councils, and provide the views of the Vale of Glamorgan Council on any decisions taken by the Forum.

The report provided an overview of the South East Wales Regional Plan for Regeneration attached at Appendix A to the report, which outlined the target areas, governance arrangements, thematic grant schemes and scope of activities possible under the Welsh Government's Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme, covering the three years 2018/19 to 2021, with a maximum grant intervention rate of 70%.

The Plan had been drafted because Welsh Government had required economic regions to work collaboratively to produce a regional plan for delivery. The Plan had therefore been required and would be a means by which Welsh Government would assess and fund schemes throughout the region.

The South East Wales Regional Plan for Regeneration identified three target areas for the Welsh Government's Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme in

Barry. These were the Gateway Regeneration, Barry Island Regional Tourism Destination and Eastern Barry Community Hub, which were detailed in paragraph 6 of the report.

To address the key issues identified in the target areas, and deliver the aims and objectives of the Regional Plan for Regeneration, the following thematic areas for investment had also been identified as part of the South East Wales Regional Plan for Regeneration:

- Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund – to enhance building frontages and bring vacant commercial floorspace back into beneficial use;
- Urban Centre Living Grant – to support the conversion of vacant commercial floorspace into homes.

Once the Regional Plan for Regeneration had been approved by all Local Authorities in the South East Region, it would be formally considered by Welsh Government, endorsed by the Welsh Government's Regeneration Capital Investment Panel and submitted to Welsh Ministers for approval.

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 final Draft of the South East Wales Regional Plan for Regeneration be approved for submission to Welsh Government to facilitate delivery of the Welsh Government's Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme 2018-21.
- (2) T H A T authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration and Planning to represent the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the Regional Regeneration Forum (made up of Directors and Heads of Service from partner Councils) and provide the views of the Vale of Glamorgan Council on any decisions taken by the Forum.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure the Vale of Glamorgan Council was able to access the funding stream provided by Welsh Government's Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme.
- (2) To authorise the Head of Regeneration and Planning to represent the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the Regional Regeneration Forum which would oversee delivery of the Regional Plan for Regeneration.

**C384 RURAL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY UPDATE (RP)
(SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –**

Cabinet was provided with an update on the delivery and update of the Rural Local Development Strategy (LDS) in the Vale.

Since 2015, the Council had been delivering a programme under the Leader Strand of the Rural Development Plan for Wales (RDP) programme for the ten rural Wards of the Vale of Glamorgan. The RDP was a Welsh Government plan feeding into a European level programme. The RDP covered a wide range of activities in rural areas including direct farm subsidies. The current contract for the Leader Project was due to end in December 2020. Delivery in the Vale of Glamorgan had been through a Local Action Group (LAG) formed of community, public, voluntary and private sector representatives as required by the RDP. The LAG was established and led by the Council as part of its Economic Development Unit and was known as Creative Rural Communities (CRC).

The programme was performing well against spend profiles and had exceeded most outputs set by Welsh Government. The LAG used an intervention logic table, detailed at Appendix A attached to the report, to use as its live document and this had been reflected to show which actions had been achieved and any new project ideas that could be delivered. Appendix B attached to the report showed spend and progress against performance indicators as of 31st May, 2018.

It was noted that no post Brexit successor to the programme had been identified. The Council understood that Welsh Government may be seeking to extend the existing programme by one to two years in the transition period, but this had not been confirmed.

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 and the updated Intervention Logic Table attached at Appendix A to the report be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To enable the Local Action Group to deliver the Rural Local Development Strategy in the Vale.

**C385 HOUSING REGENERATION POLICY (RP) (SCRUTINY
COMMITTEES – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES & ENVIRONMENT AND
REGENERATION) –**

Approval was sought for the adoption of the Housing Regeneration Policy.

The Council had a Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy 2014, which had been amended several times over the last few years as funding opportunities had arisen to assist private sector owners repair their properties and to support regeneration through housing improvements.

The Housing Regeneration element of that Policy had been drawn together to create a new dedicated Housing Regeneration Policy. This provided a simpler policy document which would help Members, officers and the public understand the Council's position on private sector housing regeneration.

Included as new were –

- Paget Road – the Council had invested in the regeneration of Barry Island and seen significant improvements to the offer on the Island. The proposed housing regeneration area in Paget Road, Barry would complement these improvements and further support the development of this key tourist destination in addition to improving the external fabric of the properties in the scheme;
- Broad Street – the Council had again invested in this gateway to Barry Island and the street scene had seen significant improvement over the last 12 months. The proposed housing regeneration area at Broad Street Parade would look at the options for a scheme for the buildings that would support the renovation of this key gateway into Barry Island in addition to improving the external fabric of the properties in the scheme.

These schemes would offer home owners a face-lifting grant to improve the front of their properties. The details of the grants were set out in the Policy set out in Appendix A to the report, but in the main were similar to previous grants, with more flexibility on timescales for reoccupation of vacant units.

The housing regeneration schemes would be run in the same way as previous schemes with the Council managing the work for homeowners and charging a 15% to the capital budget. The Council was proposing to offer a lifetime loan to owner occupiers who could not afford to access funding needed to carry out essential maintenance to their homes to ensure their property was warm, safe and secure. The loan would be interest free and secured to the property's title. The loan would be repaid in full on sale or transfer of the property, death of the loan applicant or if the loan applicant stopped living at the property.

To ensure the Council had the legal power to offer the financial assistance proposed in the Housing Regeneration Policy, the policy needed to be adopted by 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 the Housing Regeneration Policy attached at Appendix A to the report be adopted.
- (2) T H A T the Council agency service fee to manage Housing Regeneration Schemes be set at 15% of the cost of the works.
- (3) T H A T the Head of Regeneration and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning, be authorised to agree the final format of and any necessary minor typographical changes and minor amendments to the Policy document prior to its publication.

Reasons for decision

- (1) To adopt the Housing Regeneration Policy.
- (2) To provide a basis to charge a fee to manage the works within housing regeneration schemes.
- (3) To ensure that any minor amendments and formatting issues could be resolved without the need to seek further Cabinet approval.

C386 ADOPTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR PUBLIC ART AND NEW DEVELOPMENT; TRAVEL PLANS; AND TREES, WOODLANDS, HEDGEROWS AND DEVELOPMENT (RP) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

During consideration of this item the Leader left the room and took no part in any discussions that took place. The Deputy Leader took the Chair.

Cabinet Members were advised of the results of the public consultation undertaken on the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) in relation to Public Art and New Development; Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development; and Travel Plans and to adopt the SPG documents for development management purposes. The endorsement of Cabinet was sought for the proposed amendments to the draft documents as the result of comments received, as referred to in Appendix 1 attached to the report, and for the adoption of the three SPGs for immediate use in development management decisions, as referred to in Appendices 2 to 4 attached to the report.

A total of nine organisations / individuals submitted comments on the draft SPGs received during the public consultation. Having considered the comments, officers proposed a number of amendments to the draft Travel Plans SPG, Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development SPG. Although comments received on the Public Art and New Development SPG, due to the nature of these comments no amendments were being proposed.

Regarding the proposed amendments to the Travel Plans SPG, these had been made as a result of the comments received from South Wales Police who requested a section on community safety be included in the SPG, and Cardiff Council suggested that the SPG would benefit from additional guidance on Transport Assessments. Whilst additional changes were also proposed by Llandough Community Council relating to public consultation on Travel Plans and Redrow Homes (South Wales) Ltd, who raised objections to the requirement for the monitoring of travel plans and inconsistency with the Council's Planning Obligations SPG, the report considered that changes to the SPG in respect of these matters was not required.

In relation to the Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development SPG, the document was generally supported, with a number of changes to the SPG being proposed following comments received by several organisations including Natural Resources Wales, South Wales Police, Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, and the Council's Ecology Officer. These amendments related to the inclusion of the relevant biodiversity and environmental legislation, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, consideration of the potential impact on historic resources, inclusion of a Community Safety section, and reference to the importance of trees to improve air quality.

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 received on the Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance attached at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the Head of Regeneration and Planning be authorised to agree the final format of and any necessary minor typographical changes and minor amendments to the Supplementary Planning Guidance prior to their publication, and thereafter update them with any factual updates in response to policy or legislative changes as appropriate.
- (3) T H A T, subject to the provisions of Resolution (2) above, the amended Supplementary Planning Guidance attached to the report as Appendices 2-5 be approved for use in development management decisions alongside the adopted Local Development Plan and that these replace previous versions of Supplementary Planning Guidance on these topics, namely Public Art Supplementary Planning Guidance, Trees and Development Supplementary Planning Guidance and Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- (4) T H A T Members of the Planning Committee be advised of the outcome of the public consultation and adoption of the Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide a summary of the public consultation undertaken on the draft Public Art and New Development; Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development; and Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Guidance and to seek Members' endorsement of the responses and changes to the finalised Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- (2) To accommodate any necessary changes and / or amendments resulting from the current revision of Planning Policy Wales by the Welsh Government and to enable the correction of any typographical or minor errors found within the revised SPGs.
- (3) To ensure the effective consideration of planning applications following the adoption of the Local Development Plan and to provide decision makers, applicants and developers access to the Council's most up-to-date guidance relating to Public Art and New Development; Travel Plans; and Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Development and in order that the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance be updated to reflect the latest thresholds for Travel Plans.
- (4) To inform Planning Committee of the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Guidance as material considerations in the determination of future planning applications.

C387 FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF THE GREENLINKS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Approval was sought for the continuation of Sustainable Transport Planning Contributions (Section 106 funding) for the Greenlinks Community Transport Service until 31st March, 2021.

Greenlinks filled a number of gaps in the Vale of Glamorgan public transport network, specifically in the rural Vale and where local bus services no longer existed. This had been evidenced by the creation of the G1 service following the demise of the village bus service in 2013. More recently, Greenlinks had been promoted as an alternative means of public transport following the cessation of commercially run local bus service 90 (Barry – Culverhouse Cross) and the reduction in frequency of the commercially run X91 service (Llantwit Major – Rhoose Culverhouse Cross – Cardiff).

The scheme catered for a variety of different users, including those with disabilities such as blindness, partially sighted, wheelchair users and those who used mobility aids allowing them access to local amenities to which they otherwise would not be able to attend.

The cost of delivering a Greenlinks scheme for the next three financial years was identified in Appendix A attached to the report. Fares for the services were based on a zonal price system and were attached at Appendix B to the report. In addition, Appendix C attached to the report showed group hire charges. Appendix D attached to the report highlighted developments were Section 106 sustainable transport contributions (received or due in imminently) could be allocated to fund the Greenlinks scheme.

At the meeting, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport welcomed the report, stating that the Greenlinks Community Transport Service was well-used and provided an essential lifeline to rural villages in the Vale of Glamorgan.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Greenlinks Community Transport Service continues to be funded by Section 106 Sustainable Transport Contributions until 31st March, 2021.
- (2) T H A T the contributions highlighted in Appendix D attached to the report be used to fund the service in 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide a flexible means of passenger transport for those who could not easily access other forms of public transport in a cost effective and reliable manner.
- (2) To continue to provide the Greenlinks Service until 31st March, 2021.

C388 ESTABLISHMENT OF WALES COASTAL MONITORING CENTRE IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Approval was sought to establish the Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre (WCMC) within the Neighbourhood Services and Transport Team at the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

A WCMC was being established to co-ordinate and deliver a strategic risk based coastal monitoring programme on behalf of the Welsh Maritime Risk Management Authorities. A business case, attached as supplementary information to the report, was submitted to Welsh Government in December 2017 and an offer of grant funding was received in March 2018. The Vale of Glamorgan would act as grant recipient and employer for the centre, working with a consortium of local parties and the Welsh Local Government Association to manage delivery of the programme.

The consortium would be supported by an advisory panel comprising of Natural Resources Wales, the Wales Coastal Groups Forum and academic representatives.

The WCMC would be fully funded by Welsh Government and the proposals included two full time delegated staff as well as training to develop existing Local Authority monitoring capacity around the coast. The Vale of Glamorgan had received a grant offer for £300,000 per year for three years from Welsh Government, with the intention that the programme would continue beyond that date if the proposed delivery model was successful.

After presenting this item, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport stated that the proposals were an endorsement of the Visible Services and Transport Department staff, who would be lead employer for Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre.

The Leader was also pleased to note that this was an example of the Vale of Glamorgan's collaborative work being not just restricted to neighbouring Local Authorities.

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 business case for a Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre as accepted by Welsh Government be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council agree to act as employer and grant recipient for the Welsh Coastal Monitoring Centre as part of a consortium comprising the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Gwynedd Council, Conwy County Borough Council and the Welsh Local Government Association.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, be authorised to enter into all necessary legal agreements to manage and deliver the Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre programme on behalf of the consortium.
- (4) T H A T the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport be authorised to undertake all necessary recruitment as employer for the Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that Members were aware of the purpose and proposed arrangements for establishing a Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre.

- (2) To enable the Council to act as employer and funding recipient for the Wales Coastal Monitoring Centre.
- (3) To enable delivery of a three year programme of coastal monitoring around the Welsh coastline including the use of existing resources within the consortium.
- (4) To enable the recruitment of staff to manage and deliver the coastal monitoring programme.

C389 CHARGING FOR CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES UNDER THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING (WALES) ACT 2014 (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

Cabinet was advised of the updates to the Council's Charging Policy for Care and Support Services required under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and its endorsement sought for the updated Charging Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 introduced changes to the way in which Local Authorities had to carry out financial assessments for those people in need of care and support services. The original Charging Policy was agreed by Cabinet on 20th March, 2017. The Charging Policy applied to both residential and non-residential services. The principles which underpinned the charging and financial assessment framework were set out in statutory guidance.

The Charging Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, had been updated to reflect the changes made to social security benefit payments and the maximum charging for care, as set by UK and Welsh Governments each year. The Charging Policy had been updated followed the announcement of the uprating of the Social Security Benefits with effect from April 2018. The maximum amount that could be charged on a weekly basis for people receiving non-residential care had increased to £80.00. From April 2018, the capital limit in relation to charging for care homes increased to £40,000 whilst for care in a person's home, the capital limit was £24,000. The Council had to allow a person to keep part of their weekly income to spend as they wished on personal items where they received care in a care home. This was known as the Minimum Income Amount and was set at £28.50 from 1st April, 2018.

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 updates to the current Charging Policy for Care and Support Services required to ensure continued compliance with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 be noted.

- (2) T H A T the updated Charging Policy for Care and Support Services, to be implemented from the 2018/19 financial year, be approved.
- (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 update the Policy in relation to benefits levels on an annual basis.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure that Members were informed about further changes to the Charging Policy as a consequence of annual changes to UK Government and Welsh Government allowances.
- (2) To ensure that Cabinet Members were informed about further changes to the Charging Policy as a consequence of annual changes to UK Government and Welsh Government allowances.
- (3) To update the Policy in relation to benefits levels on an annual basis.

C390 EXTENSION OF PILOT PROJECT: ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS 16-21 YEAR OLDS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

Authority was sought to extend the existing pilot project for accommodation for homeless 16-21 year olds with complex needs for a further six month period.

On 23rd January, 2017, Cabinet approved a six month pilot project for the accommodation of homeless young people aged 16-21 years with complex needs. The aim of the project was to increase accommodation options for young people who were homeless and young people leaving care who had high support needs. The project aspired to prevent the use of unsuitable temporary accommodation, including bed and breakfast establishments.

The pilot project was a partnership between Children and Young People Services, Housing, Support People and the Council's Third Sector partners, Llamau. Following identification of a property and renovations to ensure it met all the appropriate regulations, the project opened in December 2017. It provided accommodation for up to two young people at a time in a supported environment. This model of accommodation appeared to be working successfully and a third young person was due to enter the project imminently.

The success of the pilot project to date supported the request to extend the pilot for a further six months and that Llamau continue to provide the project for this period. This would allow sufficient time to appropriately monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the project in terms of delivery, impact and outcomes for young people and operation within the assigned budget. Prior to the end of the pilot period, a full tender process would be undertaken for any future service provision in this area, if that was the Council's preferred option.

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 contract for the pilot project be extended to the current provider for a further period of up to six months.
- (2) T H A T the Council's Contract Procedure Rules be waived to enable the extension of the contract without obtaining the minimum number of quotations prescribed so that the contract detailed in the report can be extended.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to agree and execute the form of the document evidencing the proposed extension.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide and evaluate a new 24 hour highly supported accommodation facility for young people aged 16-21 years who had complex needs and were homeless.
- (2) To authorise a waiver of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Regulations.
- (3) To formalise and evidence the proposed extension.

C391 PARC OWAIN, YSTRADOWEN – LEASE OF PARCEL OF LAND FOR NEW PETANQUE COURT (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

Consideration was given to a request from Ystradowen Community and Sports Association to be granted a 25 year lease for a small parcel of land on the Parc Owain, Ystradowen Public open Space to create and maintain a Petanque Court.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council had been approached by the Ystradowen Community and Sports Association who had requested a new 25 year lease to build and maintain a new Petanque Court at Parc Owain in Ystradowen. The Association had been awarded planning permission for this project. The area was designated as public open space and the space would still be available on completion of the works. As a result there would be no loss of public amenity.

Ystradowen Community and Sports Association had secured funds to build and maintain a new Petanque Court within the village. This was part of a series of improvements planned throughout the village to encourage more community activity. However, as the Association did not own any available land to build the Petanque

Court, they wished to lease an area of Parc Owain, as shown on Appendix A to the report, at a peppercorn rent.

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 Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to advertise the proposed lease to the Ystradowen Community and Sports Association of the land hatched on the Plan attached at Appendix A to the report in line with the provisions of Section 123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- (2) T H A T subject to no objections being received in line with Resolution (1) above, authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing in consultation with the Head of Finance and Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Leisure, to negotiate and agree the terms and conditions for a new lease for Ystradowen Community and Sports Association, at the location identified at Appendix A to the report, to build and maintain a new Petanque Court at a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum.
- (3) T H A T subject to Resolution (1) above and no objections being received in line with Resolution (2) above, the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to prepare, execute and complete the required legal documentation for the new 25 year lease.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To authorise the publication of notice of proposed disposal of land by means of a lease.
- (2) Subject to no objections being received in line with Resolution (1) to grant the necessary authority to offer Ystradowen Community and Sports Association a 25 year lease for the Petanque Court on suitable terms.
- (3) Subject to no objections being received in line with Resolution (1) to legally formalise an appropriate lease arrangement.

C392 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE STRATEGY 2018-2023 (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

Approval was sought for the adoption of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategy 2018-2023 attached at Appendix 1 to the report and for funding that supported the delivery of the VAWDASV Strategy.

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence was a fundamental violation of human rights and both a cause and consequence of inequality. Tackling these problems had far reaching consequences for women, men, children, families, communities and society as a whole and required a distinct and proportionate approach to all victims and perpetrators in order that they could live fear free in safe, equal and violence free communities.

The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015 laid out a requirement for Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare regional strategies to tackle the issue.

Welsh Government had also required a move to regional working on the Act in terms of the national approach towards regional funding and commissioning. Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan had agreed to co-operate as a region for this purpose due to a shared Health Board footprint, natural travel to work patterns, service access migrations for residents across the area and the pre-existence of some services. However, it was recognised that there would be differences between the two areas and there would be occasions when separate services would need to be commissioned to meet the local need.

The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2023, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, had been prepared through multi-agency working to ensure that all agencies were working towards the same vision – “People who live, work and visit Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have the opportunity to live positive, independent lives without being affected by violence and abuse”.

A Delivery Action Plan, attached at Appendix 2 to the report, and an Equality Impact Assessment attached at Appendix 3 to the report, had been completed to ensure that the Strategy drove improvements and delivered better outcomes for victims.

Community Safety would lead the delivery of the Strategy on behalf of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Safer Vale Partnership would be the overarching partnership, which was chaired by the Director of Environment and Housing to ensure that the needs of residents of the Vale of Glamorgan were fully met by the Strategy. Councillor R. Nugent-Finn was the Champion in the Vale of Glamorgan for the Act, and one of her responsibilities would be to oversee the work undertaken and drive the agenda forward.

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 Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2023 attached at Appendix 1 to the report be adopted.

- (2) T H A T the allocation of Welsh Government funding to support the Council's response to the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 be approved.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to draft and execute the necessary form of contract with the providers of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services.
- (4) T H A T update reports on the Council's actions in satisfying its duties under the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 be provided to Cabinet in due course.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To comply with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, regions were aligned to the health footprint, therefore the region for Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy was Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (2) In order to demonstrate the Council's commitment to provide support to vulnerable victims of domestic and sexual abuse.
- (3) To continue with existing strategic support which had already proved successful and enabled the Council to implement new ways of working and ensure compliance with the Council's Financial and Contract Standing orders.
- (4) To ensure compliance with the Council's legal duties under the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

C393 SUPPORTING PEOPLE CONTRACTS (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

Authority was sought to renew contracts with existing service providers for the continued provision of a monitoring service for the emergency alarm and Telecare services in the Vale of Glamorgan, waive the Council's Contract Standing Orders due to the nature of the services provided, remove the means testing criteria and fund the emergency alarm and Telecare monitoring services in the Vale of Glamorgan from the Supporting People Programme Grant for all eligible clients.

In 2010 a Wales-wide review of the Supporting People Programme recommended that funding for older persons' services and alarm monitoring services should be based on need and not tenure. This requirement was then written into the new grant terms and conditions in 2013 and 2028.

In order to ensure overall compliance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, the Financial Regulations and other procurement conditions, the Housing Department undertook a formal tendering process for the provision of most housing related support services. However, most of the emergency alarm monitoring

systems already in place in the Vale of Glamorgan were hard wired and linked to other systems such as smoke detectors and in some cases, door entry systems. This meant that they were unable to be easily separated and were vital services for vulnerable clients.

As a result of these complexities, the Welsh Government allowed the Vale of Glamorgan Council to extend its existing emergency alarm services for social housing tenants until October 2018. However, the Council now needed to amend the service to ensure compliance with the Supporting People Programme Grant so that future funding was not put at risk from that date. This meant ensuring that emergency alarms monitoring service was made available to all people living in the Vale of Glamorgan who were assessed as needing an emergency alarm regardless of age or tenure.

The new contracts to provide the monitoring service in the Vale of Glamorgan would provide a service for all applicants who met the eligibility criteria outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report irrespective of tenure. By introducing the eligibility criteria, it would evidence that the Supporting People funding used to pay for the monitoring services was provided to clients who needed the emergency alarm system because of their vulnerability in accordance with the Supporting People Guidance.

Benchmarking work had already been carried out both locally and across Wales to ensure that the monitoring costs for emergency alarms from 1st October, 2018 provided value for money.

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 it be agreed to allow the emergency alarm and Telecare monitoring services to remain with the existing service providers, namely the Council's Contact1Vale Team and Wales and West Housing Association, for a further three year period from 1st October, 2018.
- (2) T H A T the Council's Contract Standing Orders be waived to allow the specialist contracts detailed in the report to be awarded for a further three year period.
- (3) T H A T the removal of the means testing criteria for those services be agreed, to enable the Supporting People Programme Grant to fund the monitoring costs of emergency alarms and Telecare units for all applicants who meet the funding criteria.
- (4) T H A T the introduction of eligibility criteria for applicants be agreed to enable them to access funding from the Supporting People Programme Grant to cover the cost of the monitoring service for their emergency alarm or Telecare alarm.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) The emergency alarm systems were linked to smoke detecting equipment and in some cases a door entry system made it impractical to contract the monitoring element of the alarms only to an alternative provider.
- (2) To allow the specialist service contracts to be awarded directly without being subject to the terms of the Council's Standing Orders for contracts for the reason outlined in Resolution (1) above.
- (3) The cost of the administrative process of means testing and arrears collection for over two thousand applicants who used the service would not be cost effective as it would exceed the funding allocation from the Supporting People Programme Grant.
- (4) To ensure that the Council complied with the requirements of the Supporting People Programme Grant Guidance (Wales) July 2017 through funding alarm monitoring services based on need, not tenure.

C394 MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CONSULTANCY SERVICE FOR THE DELIVERY OF 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS BAND B PROJECTS FEE CAP EXTENSION (LC) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Approval was sought to extend the fee cap for the existing contracts of multi-disciplinary services for the new secondary school for Whitmore High School, refurbishment and upgrading of facilities at Pencoedtre High School, the refurbishment and expansion of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and feasibility studies of other 21st Century Schools Band B projects and request changes to the Capital Programme.

The 21st Century Schools and Education Programme was a unique collaboration between the Welsh Government and Local Authorities. It was a major long term strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st Century Schools in Wales.

Band B was due to commence in 2019 and would run until 2024. The Council had been developing its new strategic investment programme to deliver this phase of the programme.

The next phase of the three projects was to prepare detailed designs, procure three contractors and enabling works to ensure that the three projects could start on site in the summer of 2019, subject to receiving approval from Welsh Government through the business case process and feasibility studies of other Band B projects.

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 cap of £2m be extended to cover the three projects and feasibility studies of other Band B projects from the multi-disciplinary consultancy services framework.
- (2) T H A T the following changes to the Capital Programme be approved:
 - Rename “Band B Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive” scheme to “Band B Whitmore High School and Pencoedtre High School”;
 - Bring forward £1.5m budget from the 2019/20 Capital Programme schedule “Band B Whitmore High School and Pencoedtre high School” to the 2018/19 Capital Programme;
 - Bring forward £700k from the 2019/20 Capital Programme scheme “Band B Ysgol Bro Morgannwg” to the 2018/19 Capital Programme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable detailed design work to be undertaken to allow the delivery of the facilities to meet the timescales as required by the Learning and Skills Directorate.
- (2) To allow schemes to proceed in the Capital Programme in the current and future financial year.

C395 EDUCATED OTHERWISE THAN AT SCHOOL FOR KEY STAGE 3 PROVISION (LC) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Cabinet was informed of provision for young people educated otherwise than at school (EOTAS) and existing provision used for Key Stage 3 pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, and a waiver of Contract Procedure Rules was requested to enable the procurement of a short term arrangement for the provision of educational support services from an external provider.

The Local Authority, on most occasions, referred pupils to its Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) for those with Social, Emotional, and Behavioural Difficulties aged 12-14. However, in some instances pupils required an alternative to the PRU or mainstream schooling. Some pupils attended the PRU but had not been able to settle there and others were not emotionally equipped to cope with the PRU environment and absconded or did not attend. On these occasions the LA brokered alternative education otherwise than at school (EOTAS) for pupils. The mainstream local training providers did not normally take students of this age bracket but preferred them to be 14-16. Therefore, providers who accepted and re-enrolled the number of pupils aged between 12-14 years was small.

The only provider that was sufficiently effective and had independent school status was Associated Community Training (ACT) Ltd. ACT developed a curriculum that focused both on academic and vocational subjects, offering learners an opportunity

to work towards achieving the same as their mainstream counterparts but in an environment that was more suited to their needs.

The cost of this ACT provision was £28,000 per term and £84,000 per academic year which would be met from within the directorate's resources. Further charges would be added for food and expenses.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made to date on Key Stage 3 provision to ACT Ltd for 12-14 year old pupils educated otherwise than at school be noted.
- (2) T H A T the waiving of the Contract Procedure Rules be agreed to enable entering into the short term arrangement proposed in the report.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to agree the terms of and execute the necessary agreement.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the progress made to date on Key Stage 3 provision with ACT Ltd for 12-14 year old pupils educated otherwise than at school.
- (2&3) To facilitate the entering into of the short term contractual arrangement proposed.