

Meeting of:	Cabinet					
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 22 February 2021					
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources					
Report Title:	Strategic Collaborative Working Initiatives Update					
Purpose of Report:	To provide an update for Cabinet on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives					
Report Owner:	Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources					
Responsible Officer:	Managing Director					
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Due to the corporate nature of this report, no ward member consultation has been undertaken. The development of individual initiatives is subject to appropriate consultation activity.					
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet.					

# **Executive Summary:**

- Collaborative working activity has increased in recent years in response to the challenging financial climate and in recognition of the value that working in partnership to share skills, expertise and experience can have in tackling complex issues. This has particularly been the case in recent months when tackling issues associated with the pandemic.
- Cabinet receives a quarterly update on those collaborations SLT deems to be strategically significant (there are many more operational examples of collaboration underway across the authority).
- The Compendium of Strategic Working Initiatives (Appendix A) provides an oversight of the strategic level collaborative working activity in which the Council is involved and captures the detail of the various initiatives underway.
  - This report also provides Cabinet with an update regarding the provisions of the forthcoming Local Government & Elections Bill in the context of collaborative working.

#### Recommendations

- That Cabinet considers 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.
- **2.** That this report be circulated by e-mail to all Vale of Glamorgan Council elected Members and members of the Public Services Board.
- **3.** That further updates are provided to Cabinet on a quarterly basis, and in accordance with the forward work programme.

#### **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 1. To provide Cabinet with an overview of strategic collaborative working initiatives.
- **2.** To provide elected members and strategic partners with an overview of strategic collaborative working initiatives.
- 3. To provide regular updates for Cabinet.

# 1. Background

- 1.1 The Council has long recognised the value that collaborative working has in providing efficient and effective services to residents.
- 1.2 In recent years, collaborative working activity has increased at pace in response to the challenging financial climate and also in recognition of the value that working in partnership to share skills, expertise and experience can have in tackling increasingly complex issues. These activities also contribute to the Council's well-being outcomes and objectives.
- 1.3 This report provides Cabinet with an overview of the strategic collaborative working initiatives that are currently underway. These initiatives are regularly reported to the Council's Strategic Leadership Team to ensure maximum value is derived from this work and appropriate oversight is given to this area of Council business.

# 2. Key Issues for Consideration

2.1 The Compendium (Appendix A) is maintained to enable oversight of the strategic level collaborative working activity the Council is involved in and provides a description of the various initiatives that are underway. The Compendium illustrates how each element of collaborative working aligns with the Council's Well-being Outcomes which are contained in the Corporate Plan. The Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act indicates that collaboration is one of the key ways of working to support sustainable development and meet the Council's duty under the Act. Collaboration is also one of the alternative models of service delivery which is considered as part of the Reshaping Services programme and it

- is envisaged that this approach will play a key role in the way services are delivered in the future.
- 2.2 Cabinet Members will note that the content of the compendium (Appendix A) is not an exhaustive list of all collaborative working that is underway in the Council. Many operational level collaborative efforts support both projects and 'business as usual' activity and these are monitored and managed within individual service areas.
- Cabinet last received an update on the Compendium on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Cabinet Members will note the removal of two initiatives from the Compendium. The Regional Steering Group (RSG) has been removed from the Compendium as arrangements for the RSG are now well embedded within Social Services and as such it is suggested that this initiative is removed. The Collection and Delivery of Physical Mail partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council has also been removed from the Compendium. The contract for this partnership has now been terminated following the procurement of a hybrid mail supplier for the Council.
- 2.4 One new initiative has been added to the Compendium, this is the Regional Skills Partnership Local Authority Cluster Group. Cluster groups have been established to support Regional Skills Partnerships to advise the Welsh Government on the strategic direction of travel for skills and employability within the region. Cluster groups have been asked to consider the skills and employability needs for the region over the next three years and to make recommendations to the Regional Skills Partnership Employment and Skills Board on areas of growth or decline.

#### **Collaboration and the Pandemic**

- 2.5 The Compendium provides Members with an overview of the partnership arrangements that are in place across the region and nationally to support residents and businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.
- 2.6 Cabinet will note the significant collaborative working that is underway in unprecedented circumstances and the real contribution this is making to keeping people safe and well. The lessons learnt from these arrangements are included within the Council's Recovery Strategy.

#### **Collaboration and Local Government Reform**

2.7 The Welsh Government Green Paper consultation document, Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People, was issued on 20th March 2018. The Green Paper set out the Welsh Government's statement of intent about the future of Local Government in Wales, specifying the desire to create larger, stronger authorities to secure the financial viability of Councils, ensure the

- sustainability of services and provide a platform for transformation and delivery and outcomes for people.
- 2.8 Cabinet considered and endorsed the Council's response to the Green Paper consultation at its meeting held on the 6th June 2018 and following this the response was submitted to Welsh Government.
- 2.9 The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act was published on 18th November 2019. The Welsh Government reprioritised its legislative programme due to the impact of Covid-19. The Bill's passage through the Senedd had been delayed and the Bill returned for Stage 2 Committee consideration of amendments on 2nd and 9th October. Stage 3 consideration and disposal of amendments took place in Plenary on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The Bill was agreed by the Senedd on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020, with Royal Assent given on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021.
- 2.10 Cabinet received an update on the implications of the Bill in December. An action plan has been developed and is being monitored by the Strategic Leadership Team covering the Bill's various and wide ranging aspects, including:
  - The reforming of electoral arrangements for local government
  - A general power of competence for principal councils and eligible community councils
  - Reforming public participation in local democracy
  - The leadership of principal councils, including to encourage greater diversity amongst executive members and establishing a statutory position of chief executive
  - The development of a framework and powers to facilitate more consistent and coherent regional working mechanisms through the establishment of Corporate Joint Committees (instigated either by two principal councils or by Welsh Ministers)
  - A new system for performance management and governance based on selfassessment and peer review, including the consolidation of the Welsh Ministers' support and intervention powers
  - Powers to facilitate voluntary mergers of principal councils and restructuring a principal area
  - Local government finance including non-domestic rating and council tax

# 3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

3.1 In working to deliver the strategic collaborative working initiates set out in the Compendium, the Council will be working through the Five Ways of Working to ensure delivery in line with Sustainable Development Principle.

ach element of collaborative working aligns with the Council's Well-being Objectives as set in its Corporate Plan. The collaborative working represented in these initiatives is 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 2015. One of the identified initiatives in the Compendium is the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board (PSB) which was established through the Act and of which the Council is a statutory member. Through its Well-being Plan, the PSB is working to improve the social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being of the Vale of Glamorgan. Similarly, the Integrated Care Fund, The Regional Collaborative Group and the Welsh Community Care Information Service initiatives are assisting in meeting the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

# 4. Resources and Legal Considerations

### **Financial**

**4.1** There are no financial implications arising as a direct result of this report.

## **Employment**

**4.2** There are no employment implications arising as a direct result of this report.

# **Legal (Including Equalities)**

**4.3** There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

# 5. Background Papers

December 2020, Cabinet, <u>Local Government and Elections Wales Bill Update</u> (valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

November 2019, Welsh Government, <u>Local Government & Elections Bill – Explanatory</u> Memorandum

21st May 2018, Cabinet Report, <u>Welsh Government Green Paper Consultation</u>

<u>Document "Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People"</u>

# Vale of Glamorgan Council – Strategic Level Collaborative Initiatives

# February 2021

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
Environment and Housing					
1. Shared Regulatory Services A shared regulatory services service across Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to provide service resilience, access to specialist resources, improve and maintain service levels and generate financial savings.	Cardiff and Bridgend Councils (Local)  Dave Holland, Head of Shared Regulatory Services	Joint Committee supported by Management Board.	Corporate Performance and Resources & Housing and Public Protection.	The Shared Regulatory Service became operational in 2015. The annual meeting of the Joint Committee for 2020 was deferred to September 2020 following agreement of the three Councils. A draft Business Plan has been drafted following consultation with stakeholders along with the Annual report. Both await political approval in September.	To work with and for our communities  To support people at home and in their community
2. Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint procurement of a (25 year contract) Residual Waste Treatment Facility serving all 5 partnering local authorities	Caerphilly, Cardiff, Monmouth, Newport Councils (Local)  Emma Reed, Head of Neighbourhood Services	Joint Committee supported by Management Board and Contact Liaison Group.	Environment and Regeneration	Formal full Contract commencement date 1st April 2016, with a Commissioning Phase prior to that.	To respect, enhance and enjoy our environment
3. Cardiff Organic Waste Treatment Long term (15 year) joint procurement of AD treatment capacity for kitchen food and green garden waste.	Cardiff Council (Local)  Colin Smith, Operational Manager – Neighbourhood Services: Operations	Joint Management Board and Contact Liaison Group	Environment and Regeneration	The commission period has now concluded and the successful commencement of the 15-year contract started 31st March 2017. The plant is fully operational and the Council delivers food waste to the plant for energy recovery and recycling on a daily basis	To respect, enhance and enjoy our environment

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
4. South East Wales Transport Group	10 Local authorities (Regional) Emma Reed, Head of Neighbourhood Services	To be determined via Regional Transport Authority work	Environment and Regeneration	Joint working re-established formally in 2016 between transport representatives of 10 south east wales authorities to take forward a Regional Transport Authority in connection with the City Deal project. The Shadow Regional Transport Authority has met several times since October 2016 and has agreed an Interim Terms of Reference.	To respect, enhance and enjoy our environment
5. Leisure Centre Contract The council has a partnership contract with Legacy Leisure for the Management of its leisure centres	Parkwood Leisure – sub- contracted to Legacy Leisure (Local)  David Knevett, Operational Manager – Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Performance	The Contractor is required to produce an annual report detailing the outputs required in the Contract.	Healthy Living and Social Care	Progress is being made with the proposed contract extension with the Council's legal team in contact with Legacy's solicitors about draft terms.  A further report was considered by Cabinet in December 2019 relating to loan requested by the Contractor as part of the extension agreement that will see further improvements made to the Council's Leisure facilities.  Contract extension was agreed in principle with Legacy Leisure prior to Covid 19 pandemic. Given the uncertainty about future income levels within the Leisure sector the extension negotiations are presently on hold. A reopening Board has been established for Leisure Centre being chaired by the Cabinet Member.  Letter expected from Parkwood / Legacy in February 2021 with suggestion on progressing contract extension.	To work with and for our communities

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
6. Local Authority Partnership Agreement (LAPA)	Sport Wales, LHB, Children and Young People's partnership, Local sport clubs. (Local)  David Knevett, Operational Manager - Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Performance	Vale Sports Board	Environment and Regeneration	The plan for 2019/20 has been approved, by Sport Wales and is currently being implemented.  Sports Wales are currently progressing plans to regionalise funding, An EOI has been issued on sell2Wales and discussions are currently taking place with other Councils in the Central South region to co-ordinate a response.  Work on regionalisation has been suspended due to Covid 19.  Sport wales have been proactive throughout the pandemic continuing to offer support to development services. Expectation is that LAPA will be extended to 21/22.  Proposal for 2021/2022 currently being prepared for submission.	To work with and for our communities
7. Emergency Planning Welsh Government and Local Government to regionalise the delivery of emergency planning services within 2 years and with other partners on a multi- agency basis within 4 years where practicable.	All Welsh Public Sector (Regional)  Miles Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Services	Emergency Planning Board	Homes and Safe Communities	The regional emergency planning team has been created on a virtual basis. This will provide the resilience of a regional service that can direct resources to specific local incidents as required, whilst also maintaining a locally based team to provide flexibility and local knowledge to the council.	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
8. Domestic Violence Strategic Partnership A multi-agency partnership chaired by the Director of Atal Y Fro. The partnership is responsible for developing a robust strategic response to preventing and tackling domestic violence in the Vale of Glamorgan. It works with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Welsh Government. It is responsible for ensuring partners are responding to the legislative requirements of the new domestic violence act.	Atal Y Fro, SARC, Police and Crime Commissioners Office, South Wales Police, Fire Service and Cardiff and the Vale Local Health Board (Local) Miles Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Services	The Domestic Violence Strategic Partnership is a subgroup from the Safer Vale Partnership and will report its activities to this group.	Homes and Safe Communities	The joint strategy for Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence between Cardiff Council, Cardiff and Vale Health board has now been agreed and progress is being made to deliver against the strategy.  The Domestic Abuse Assessment and Referral Co-ordinator continues to support medium/standard risk victims, receiving 178 (with consent) public protection notices from the police during the third quarter of 2020/21. There were 96 cases referred to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)for high risk victims during the same period. Within Qtr 3 twice weekly discussions were introduced for high risk cases in order to speed up decision making and implement safety plans sooner, during this period there were 132 cases discussed. To support victims to remain in their own home there were 25 victims that received target hardening on their homes in order for them to feel safe. The Drive Service (working with high risk perpetrators of Domestic Violence has been fully embedded into the way of working in the Vale. At present it is too early to discuss outcome, however progress is being made.	To support people at home and in their community
9. Safer Vale Community Safety Partnership A multi-agency partnership that sets the strategic direction for community safety in the Vale. Partners from South Wales Police, the Vale of Glamorgan Council,	Local Authority, South Wales Police, Police and Crime Commissioners Officer, Local	The Safer Vale Partnership reports progress to the Public Services Board and its actions from part of the Single Integrated Plan.	Homes and Safe Communities	The Safer Vale Strategy has been formally signed off by all agencies and progress is ongoing on delivering towards the outcomes.	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
Fire Service, Health Service and the voluntary sector meet to discuss performance management information associated with community safety and ensuing legislative policy changes associated with the area.	Health Board, National Probation Service, South Wales Fire and Rescue and Voluntary Sector. (Local)  Miles Punter, Director of Environment & Housing Services			During the last 9 months of 2020 there have been significant challenges for Community Safety, notably the increases for anti-social behaviour which saw an increase in reported ASB. During Qtr 3 there was a slight decline in reported incidents from Qtr 2, but still remain high at 1149 incidents recorded. The incidents generated 303 referrals being made and for a partnership response.  Work continues on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, Community Engagement, Anti-social behaviour and Contest.	
10. Overarching Housing Forum The partnership has the purpose of developing the strategic response to housing need in the Vale of Glamorgan. It considers the emerging policy and legislative direction from Welsh Government. It establishes the short- and medium-term objectives associated with housing of all tenure in the Vale.	Newydd Housing Association, Hafod Housing Association, UWHA, Wales and West Housing Association, Cardiff and the Vale Health Board, Residential Landlords Association and the House Builders Federation. (Local)	The Housing Forum reports as required to the Public Services Board.	Homes and Safe Communities	The partnership monitored the delivery of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Housing Strategy 2015-20 and is now involved in the development of the new Local Housing Strategy for 2020-25 which is in the process of being completed for submission to Cabinet.  It ensures that all members adhere to the Partnership Agreement that is in place.  The Forum also shares good practice and has a number of working groups to take the actions in the Local Housing Strategy forward on behalf of the OHF which will monitor progress at its quarterly meetings.	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
11. Regional Collaborative Group (Housing Support Grant) A cross border partnership with Cardiff Council and colleagues from the statutory and supported housing sectors. The partnership considers the strategic priorities for the Housing Support Grant and will encourage joint commissioning between the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff Councils designed or focused to optimise the complimentary purposes of supported housing, health and social care.  This Committee replaced the Regional Collaborative Committee on 1st April 2020.	Mike Ingram, Head of Housing and Building Services Cardiff Council, Probation, PCC, Landlord, Support Provider, Substance Misuse (Area Planning Board), VAWDASV representative on RPB, Service User, Children and Communities Grant Funding representative & other housing area representatives e.g. ICF, aids and adaptations.  Hedd Wyn John Supporting People Coordinator	Supported by an RDC Regional Development Co-Ordinator  Ongoing discussions are taking place between Vale of Glamorgan Officers, with Cardiff Council and the Director of Health and Social Care Integration to set up this Group and to agree the Terms of Reference in order to comply with the Housing Support Grant Guidance from Welsh Government.	Homes and Safe Communities  Homes and Safe Communities	The RCG is a requirement under the new Housing Support Grant (HSG) from 1st April 2020.  The HSG brings together the Supporting People Programme Grant, the Homelessness Prevention Grant and the Rent Smart Wales Enforcement Grant into one funding stream.  The RCG will report directly to the Regional Partnership Board.  It is required to meet every quarter to agree the regional priorities, sign off the spend plan and outturns for the region and to take forward the Supporting People agenda in compliance with Welsh Government Guidance.  Work to develop the new Regional Collaborative Group is taking place between the Vale and Cardiff Housing Departments and the RPB to establish the structure of the new working group.	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
12. Strategic Housing Group This Group comprises officers from the Vale and development directors of the various registered social landlords that are zoned by Welsh Government to develop in the Vale of Glamorgan. The partnership considers the funding avenues for new build affordable housing and a programme of delivery for the forthcoming years	Newydd Housing Association, Hafod Housing Association, UWHA, Wales and West Housing Association (Local)	The Strategic Housing Forum is the development planning subgroup of the Overarching Housing Forum.	Homes and Safe Communities	The partnership meets on a quarterly basis to consider the existing affordable housing development programme, plan future developments i.e. consider site acquisitions, planning applications, highways issues and funding streams, and to discuss the preferred housing association partner for individual market sites.	To support people at home and in their community
	Kate Hollinshead, Housing Solutions & Supporting People Team Leader Services			The Group also works towards delivering the Empty Homes Strategy and ensures that affordable housing standards are agreed and delivered on market housing sites.	
13. Regional Leadership Group This Group comprises key stakeholders involved in the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (and Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme), which is grant funded by Central Government. The Group ensures stakeholder resources are in place to support the resettlement of Syrian refugees in the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff.	Cardiff Council, Taff Housing Association, Cadwyn Housing Association, South Wales Police, Cardiff and Vale UHB, WSMP, Muslim Council of Wales, Citizens UK, Jewish	The Regional Leadership Group is the strategic planning group for the Syrian Resettlement Programme	Homes and Safe Communities	The Leadership Group meets on a quarterly basis to provide strategic direction and oversight for the regional partnership. The Group ensures that stakeholder resources are in place to meet the needs of beneficiaries, including the provision of accommodation, integration support services, health and education. The Group is now working on year four of the programme with the aim of settling an additional 10 families (4 in the Vale of Glamorgan).	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
14. CCTV Development of proposals for shared service to be hosted by Bridgend Council.	Representative Council for South Wales (Local)  Mike Ingram, Head of Housing and Building Services  Bridgend Council (Local)  Debbie Gibbs, Principal Community Safety Officer	Project reports through Customer Relations Project Board. Governance arrangements for the service are still under development as part of the contractual arrangements	Corporate Performance and Resources & Homes and Safe Communities.	A review of CCTV has been completed by the Council on the service and outcomes achieved. The Council has been granted £350,000 through the Capital Programme to provide a 21st Century response to CCTV.  A Strategic South Wales CCTV Board met in July 2020. It was agreed at that meeting to establish an operational group to identify local issues and options. TOR and representation from each area has been agreed. The Operational Group will be meeting on 16th October 2020. South Wales Police have appointed a CCTV Project Manager to oversee and manage the South Wales project.	An Inclusive & Safe Vale
15. Central Coordination Cell	Vale of Glamorgan Council, Police, Probation, Social services, health, Third	Reports to Welsh Government and updates provided to Strategic Leadership Group	Homes and Safe Communities	The cell was established to ensure that people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness have the adequate resources and support they need to keep them safe during the pandemic.	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
	Sector Representatives including RSLs and Support Providers  Pam Toms Operational Manager, Public Housing Services			The priority is to develop an effective, local response to ensure people can access sanitation, isolate effectively when necessary, and have access to medical and other support as necessary in order to limit the risk of wider infection within this group.  The second priority is to establish permanent accommodation and support solutions for this cohort.	
Learning and Skills					
16. Inspire to Achieve/Aspire to Work The Regional ESF Groups aims to provide a new and innovative programme of employer engagement activities to participants identified through the Local Authority's Early Identification Process with the aim of reducing participants who are NEET or are at' risk of becoming NEET.  Partnership agreements are in place	Newport LA, Cardiff LA, Monmouth LA, Llamau Housing, Cardiff and Vale College, Gwent College and Careers Wales (Regional – but 1 of 4 regions who will collaborate on some work)  Martin Dacey, Lead Officer for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing	Inspire to Achieve/Aspire to Work project progress is reported to the Engagement and Progression Framework Strategic group	Learning and Culture	I2A – continues to work across all 8 comprehensive schools, taking referrals for young people who have been identified as Red through the Local Authority's Early Identification Tool (EIT). Both expenditure and income are on target and the project is performing on target. The whole region has currently been offered a project extension until December 2022 and has re-profiled current resources in line with this. A further financial and target re-profile is due to be completed by March 2021 that will be in place for the remainder of the programme.  I2W – Programme is on target for both expenditure and income and will run until December 2022. We are waiting for further information regarding the shared	To work with and for our communities.  To support learning, employment and sustainable economic growth.

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				prosperity fund from spring 23 onwards to fund future work.  The project is ahead of profile, with it being held as an example of good practice across the region. There is also close working with Communities for Work and other employment related projects in the Vale of Glamorgan. A financial and target to profile is due to be completed by	
				target re-profile is due to be completed by April 2021 that will be in place for the remainder of the programme.	
17. Regional Skills Partnership – Local Authority Cluster Group  The purpose of the cluster groups is to support the Regional Skills Partnerships (RSPs) to advise Welsh Government on the strategic direction of travel for skills and employability within the region.  The cluster groups are asked to consider the skills and employability needs for the region over the next 3 years and make recommendations to the RSP Employment and Skills board on areas of growth or decline, based on robust evidence and strong engagement with employers and regional stakeholders.	Blaenau Gwent LA Bridgend LA Merthyr Tydfil LA Newport LA, Cardiff LA, Monmouth LA, Rhondda Cynon Taff LA Torfaen LA  Mark Davies prevention and Partnership Manager	Progress is reported to the Engagement and Progression Framework Strategic group	Learning and Culture	The group continues to discuss possible funding areas and exploring the CCR and links to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund  Under development is a discussion paper: Designing employability programmes that achieve the vision of the Regional Employment and Skills Plan.	To work with and for our communities.  To support learning, employment and sustainable economic growth.

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Since 2012, Central South Consortium has delivered aspects of school improvement services on behalf of the five authorities: Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Vale of Glamorgan. This covers 391 schools, 30% of Wales' children. It is a growing region with rapidly changing demographic encompassing increasingly diverse communities across the economic sub region. It remains the region with the highest number of children living in poverty, with just under 1 in 5 children claiming free school meals.  The service delivers challenge and support on behalf of the five local authorities, governed through a Joint Committee of Cabinet Members from each authority.	Cardiff, Bridgend, Merthyr, Rhondda Cynon Taf Councils (Regional)  Paula Ham, Director of Learning and Skills	Joint Committee supported by Advisory Board, Directors' Group, Operational Board and other stakeholder groups. In addition to reports to these groups DLS and HOS meet the Consortium. The Consortium reports annually to Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.	Learning and Culture	The Consortium's business plan 2020/21, developed in consultation with stakeholders, clearly sets out the regional priorities and actions for the coming year and their alignment with "Education in Wales - Our National Mission 2017 – 21" The overarching priorities for Central South Consortium are as follows:  1. Develop a high-quality education profession  2. Develop highly effective leadership to facilitate working collaboratively to raise standards  3. Develop strong and inclusive schools committed to excellent, equity and wellbeing  4. Continue to develop robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements supporting a self-improving system  5. Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Central South Consortium  The CSC has modified its support in response to the pandemic. Blended learning guidance has been developed for schools. Synchronous and a-synchronous platforms for professional learning have been arranged so that all schools can engage. Support from improvement partners in the spring term will focus on the wellbeing of school leaders, the quality of remote and blended learning, and impact of the Pupil Development Grant and the Recruit, recover, raise	To work with and for our communities.  To support learning, employment and sustainable economic growth

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				standards: the accelerating learning programme.	
19. Cardiff and Vale Community Learning Partnership The members of the Cardiff and Vale Community Learning Partnership deliver adult community learning across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The best interests of learners across the region form the basis of the Partnership rather than the interests of individual partners.  The Strategy Group has responsibility for setting the strategic direction of the Partnership and regularly reviewing its effectiveness. Its purpose is to raise standards and identify opportunities to direct and share resources to improve efficiency, meet adult community learning needs of the region and ensure best use of funding.	Cardiff Council, Cardiff and Vale College, Adult Learning Wales (Local) Trevor Baker, Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources	Joint Strategy Group comprising the four partners. Annual report to Scrutiny Committee.	Learning and Culture	The ACL service in Cardiff and the Vale has significantly improved through the efforts of all aspects of the partnership working in a more co-ordinated way. The Strategic Group develops the strategic plan for the Partnership, agrees priorities and monitors performance. Members of the partnership are collaborating on curriculum planning, marketing, data, quality, and resources.  Over the five years of the partnership performance has improved significantly. Success rates have risen from 80% in 2012-13 to 91% in 2018-19. The structure of the Partnership has been revised to reflect changes to the structure of individual partners and to improve efficiency and engagement. Significant reduction in the WG grant funding for the Partnership from 2020/21 onwards will impact heavily on outcomes.	To work with and for our communities.  To support learning, employment and sustainable economic growth
20. Cardiff Capital City Region – City Deal (CCR)	10 Local authorities, W.G. Westminster Government (Regional- National)	Being developed – City Deal board currently in place and consists of 10 LA leaders with a support group of Heads of Paid Service	Corporate Performance and Resources	The Leaders of each Council signed the City Deal in a ceremony at Cardiff Airport on 1st March 2017. The Joint Working Agreement Business Plan was agreed by the Regional Cabinet in February and each of the 10 and the Plan was reported to the VoGCBC Cabinet on 19 March and	An Environmentally Responsible & Prosperous Vale

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	Rob Thomas, Managing Director			to a Special Council meeting on 28 March 2017.  The Regional Cabinet of the CCR last met remotely on the 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2020. The Cabinet discussed the priorities for rebuilding local wealth post Covid-19. These discussions build on Cabinet approval in May of a report, 'Priorities for Addressing the Economic Impact of Covid-19 and beyond.' The report was submitted to the Welsh Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into the economic impact of Covid-19.	
21. Ein Bro/Our Vale – Public Services Board	Cardiff and Vale UHB, Fire, Police, GVS, NRW, Cardiff and Vale College, Probation, PCC, Ambulance Trust (Local)  Tom Bowring, Head of Policy and Business Transformation	Cabinet and Scrutiny	Corporate Performance and Resources	The Well-being Plan was signed off by the PSB on 18th April 2018 and actions are structured around four Well-being Objectives. The PSB has agreed to focus on four cross cutting priorities. Tackling climate change the Move More Eat Well Plan, a pathfinder project around time banking and an organisational learning strand around engagement.  The Annual Report 2019-20 was agreed at the PSB meeting in July 2020. and includes details of the new Move more, Eat Well Plan, work around climate change including a meeting in December with young people as well as details of time banking, volunteering and extensive engagement by partners. Also included in the report are case studies including the staff Healthy Travel Charter which was launched in October 2019, Vale Heroes,	This project contributes to the delivery of all Well-being Outcomes.

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
				and work undertaken by Safer Vale, A great deal of work has also been undertaken through Power Bl.  Tostrengthen the PSB evidence base and the Covid economic and community impact assessments have been shared with the PSB.  The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the strength of partnership working in the PSB and partners are discussing how the work of the PSB needs to change and what are the future opportunities and challenges.  At its meeting on 4th December 2020 the PSB agreed to take forward a Climate Emergency Charter for the Vale of Glamorgan. The Charter sets out a series of key actions for the partnership to take forward to address the Climate Emergency in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Charter has been taken through individual partner's internal approval processes and will be launched following the PSB's meeting on 5th February 2021.	
22. Internal Audit Shared service with Bridgend, Merthyr and RCT Councils.	Bridgend Council  Merthyr Council  RCT Council  Carys Lord & Mark Thomas	Management Board oversee the operation of the service, agreeing and revising service standards annually. Progress is reported to Audit Committee in Annual Head of Internal Audit report.	Corporate Performance and Resources	The service became fully operational on 1st April 2019 with all staff transferring to the Vale of Glamorgan. Full audit support is now being given to four Audit Committees with progress against the annual audit plans being reported to each meeting.  A new staffing structure has been developed and agreed and it is planned to commence recruitment once the HR	This project contributes to the governance aspects of the integrated planning activities which support the delivery of all

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				requirements around TUPE can be met when the restrictions around the Pandemic allow.	Well-being Outcomes.
				New ICT equipment was purchased for staff to ensure consistency and compatibility. New software solution for the shared service has been procured and this will be rolled out to all staff in the shared service during 2020/21.	
				Work has commenced on evaluating different approaches / methodologies of each internal audit team to identify and developing the most appropriate to adopt. This will continue linked with the roll out of the new software however Covid19 will impact on how the service is delivered for the foreseeable future and remote auditing is being developed.	
Development of customer contact centre at C1V for integrated health services and social care services. The project will simplify access to Health and Social Care services, improve first contact resolution and the overall customer experience. In addition, operational costs will be minimised through sharing of technology and staff resources to deliver services.	Cardiff & Vale UHB (Local)  Tony Curliss, Operational Manager – Customer Relations	Reports through Integrated health and Social care Programme, Customer Relations Project Board and PCIC Clinical Board depending on project	Corporate Performance and Resources	A project has been established to implement changes to the Voice IVR solution to reflect changes in UHB requirements. The jointly funded Project Manager is working on a number of projects. A review of existing structures within Contact OneVale and the Communications Hub is underway with the objective to improve operational efficiency, create capacity to undertake more services and encourage closer integrated working between Health and Social care services.	An Active & Healthy Vale

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
				Staff engagement on how the organisations can address current issues and take advantage of opportunities has been undertaken.	
				Design of Voice IVR for Health has been completed. Live implementation has been delayed due to technical issues on the contact centre technology platform. The supplier is working to resolve these.	
				Authority has been gained to commence engagement with all staffing groups within the contact centre environment about how to meet the requirements of the White Paper published by the Welsh Government and deliver integrated health and social care. This exercise has been coordinated by Organisation Development teams from the council and UHB.	
				Staff engagement activity undertaken to ascertain how to create greater integrated working between all services operating from C1V. Key issues emerging include a lack of understanding of roles and activities and, cultural differences. An action plan has been established to address the issues including:	
				<ul> <li>Creation of a single brand covering all services</li> <li>Establishment of integrated operational management meetings</li> </ul>	

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
				to identify and implement opportunities to improve integrated working  Creation of integrated staff forum to contribute to operational and cultural issues  Creation of an integrated induction course for all new members of staff  Implement awareness raising training for existing members of staff to improve understanding of all roles	
24. Community Asset Transfers (CATs)	Various (Local) Lorna Cross, Operational Manager – Property	CAT Group, Insight Board and Cabinet	Corporate Performance and Resources	An update to the CAT process was approved in December 2019 by Cabinet in line with the new guidance issued by Welsh Government/ Ystadau Cymru and reflecting the lessons learnt by the Council since the policy was last revised in 2016. This will complement the work underway with regards operation of single use sports facilities.  Bowls greens are now operating independently although leases remain unsigned. Considerable effort is being made to complete the leases.	This project contributes to the integrated planning activities which support the delivery of all Well-being Objectives.
25. Ystadau Cymru (National Board and Cardiff and Vale Regional Sub group)	Across all public sector – Lead and promoted by Welsh Government.  Lead Local Authority Officer for Ystadau Cymru National	Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Welsh Government, Ystadau Cymru Programme Board, Ystadau Cymru Sub Regional Groups	Corporate Performance and Resources	The main focus for the Ystadau Cymru Board has been to oversee the work of the Regional subgroups in delivering a range of key projects under the Assets Collaboration Programme Wales (Phase 2). Key areas for these sub regional projects has been focused on Developing detailed regional understanding of the public asset base through asset mapping exercises, Considering potential for	This project contributes to the integrated planning activities which support the delivery of all Well-being Objectives

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
	Board – Lorna Cross, Operational Manager Property			collaboration opportunities across the portfolios and developing pathfinder projects. Key Strategic Outputs for the National Programme Board are to promote good practice in areas such as asset management, disposals, energy and environment, decarbonisation, space utilisation, FM, Health & Wellbeing, Architectural Service, Risk and Safety Management, Project Management and agile working. Key projects that are currently being progressed are Stakeholder Mapping, Skills & Training, Funding Streams, Communications Branding & Engagement Planning, Financial Accounting/Cultural Barriers, Community Asset project, collaboration Tool Kits and Property KPI's. The expected benefits of the programme are as follows:  1. Creating Economic Growth; 2. Future Generations Well Being Goals – Social/Environmental Sustainability; 3. More integrated Services; 4. Reducing Estate Running Costs; 5. Better Value for Money; 6. Generating Greater Capital Receipts.	
26. Test, Trace, Protect and Regional Coronavirus Control Plan Arrangements	Cardiff and Vale Public Health Wales, Cardiff and Vale	Strategic Leadership Group, Regional Operational Board, Operational Group,	Corporate Performance and Resources	The Test, Trace, Protect service has been established regionally between Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The TTP	This project contributes to the integrated planning activities
Test, Trace, Protect works by:	University Health Board, Cardiff Council	Regional Information Group		infrastructure includes a monthly Strategic Leadership Group which includes Managing Directors and Chief Executives,	which support the delivery of all

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
identifying those who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, enabling them to be tested while isolating from wider family, friends and their community.  tracing those individuals who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive on any occasion during a period beginning up to two days before they started experiencing symptoms and requiring them to take precautions and self-isolate (for 14 days).  providing advice and guidance, particularly where the individual who has tested positive or their contacts are vulnerable or at greater risk. ensuring that if the individual tests negative and the symptoms are not due to coronavirus, individuals and their contacts can get back to their normal routines as soon as possible.  The regional arrangements under the Coronavirus Control Plan have established an Incident Management Team reporting to a Senior Leadership Group in order to maintain a regular review of coronavirus transmission in the Vale of Glamorgan and to make recommendations of measures and approaches to Welsh Government.	Rob Thomas, Managing Director  Tom Bowring, Head of Policy and Business Transformation.			a weekly Regional Operational Board made-up of Directors and Heads of Service of Public Health and Social Services, and an Operational Group which meets daily.  The purpose of the TTP is to monitor and mitigate the number of positive cases of Covid-19 in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. This work is supported by the Regional Information Group which through a number of key surveillance measures to monitor the number of new positive cases in key community and hospital settings.  The Incident Management Team continues to meet twice weekly, with the Senior Leadership Group meeting weekly to review the latest transmission and other data. Recommendations are made by the Senior Leadership Group to Welsh Government for consideration.  In recent weeks, the focus of these partnership arrangements have expanded to include the arrangements associated with mass immunisation across the region.	Well-being Objectives

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
Social Services					
27. Regional Partnership Board - Integrated Care Fund (ICF) / Transformation Bid  The ICF is funding made available from the Welsh Government on a regional basis to allow councils to invest in services which support older people, particularly the frail elderly, to maintain their independence and remain in their own home. Funding is now provided on a recurrent basis and is administered by the Local Health Boards on the basis that the previous projects will build on the good work carried out previous years since its introduction in 2014. The ICF allows us to provide innovative solutions to improve services to the citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan. ICF has now broadened to support Carers agenda and Complex Children's Cases.  The Welsh Government Transformation Fund 2018-20 is intended to provide revenue funding to support time limited, transformational, and scalable projects, which support the introduction of new models. There is currently no funding confirmed beyond March 2020.	Third Sector, Independent Sector, UHB, Cardiff Council (Local)  Lance Carver, Director of Social Services	Strategic Leadership Group	Healthy Living and Social Care	The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board provides the governance arrangements for overseeing the work of the Integrated Health & Social Care Partnership and ensuring delivery arrangements are in place to enable effective implementation of the Act on a regional basis. Progress monitoring against this Regional Work Programme is reported to the Board for action as required. Board is primarily responsible for overseeing delivery against identified priorities which include:  Planning & Promoting Preventative Services (including preparation of the Population Needs Assessment)  Locality Working (including the preparation of Area Plans)  Home First and Patient Flow  Integration (in line with Part 9 of the SSWB Act – Older people; People with learning disabilities, carers, Integrated Family Support Services, Children with complex needs due to disability or illness)  Joint Commissioning (prioritising the establishment of pooled funds for care accommodation for older people)  Welsh Community Care Information Solution  Transformation funding activity has been diverted to support Covid-19. Update provided to HL&SC committee in January 21	To support people at home and in their community

Collaborative Arrangement, Purpose & Outcomes	Partners and Lead Officer	Governance & Reporting Arrangements	Lead Scrutiny Committee	Quarterly Update	Relevant Well- being Objectives(s)
28. Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Service  Vale, Valleys and Cardiff (VVC) Adoption Collaborative provides a regional adoption service to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.	Cardiff, Bridgend, Merthyr, Rhondda Cynon Taf Councils (National)  Rachel Evans, Head of Children Services	Joint Management Board with representatives from each LA.	Healthy Living and Social Care	Regional collaboratives form part of the National Adoption Service in Wales (NAS). The Vale of Glamorgan hosts the collaborative.  The governance arrangements have been maintained during COVID-19 with meetings of the Management Board and Joint Committee taking place virtually. Through these arrangements, stakeholders have been sighted on the impact of the pandemic and as plans for recovery evolve. The annual report was provided to HL&SC committee in December 2020 and will also go to the relevant committees in the other Councils	To support people at home and in their community

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29. Welsh Community Care Information Service (WCCIS) WCCIS is the national IT system for health and social care	Cardiff Council, Cardiff and Vale UHB (Regional and National) Lance Carver, Director of	Regional Management Board to the RPB	Healthy Living and Social Care	Across the region partners are taking this work forward at different paces due to their existing IT contract arrangements. The Vale of Glamorgan moved to WCCIS on the 24/11/17.  Implementation has progressed well in the majority of areas; there remain some	To support people at home and in their community
	Social Services			issues that are being resolved on a national basis. We are now providing performance data and reports through the new system	
				Issues regarding printing, slowness of the system, legacy licensing and Performance reporting have been progressed with Careworks and the Vale's IT service and reporting information is available although this requires close review to ensure its accuracy going forward. Issues regarding the speed of the system have recently improved.	
30. Social Care Workforce Development programme Grant (SCWDP) training	Cardiff Council (Regional) Lance Carver, Director of Social Services	Strategic Leadership Group to the RPB	Healthy Living and Social Care	The regional Workforce Board will be reviewed in this financial year and the chairing arrangement will move to the Director of Social Services in the Vale of Glamorgan from April 21.  All regional training grants will be managed through the Vale of Glamorgan Council from April 21	To support people at home and in their community