

CABINET

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 7th July, 2022.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor L. Burnett (Chair); Councillor B.E. Brooks (Vice-Chair); Councillors R.M. Birch, G. John, S. Sivagnanam, M.R. Wilkinson, E. Williams and M.R. Wilson.

Also Present: Councillors I. Buckley, H.C. Hamilton and Dr. I.J. Johnson.

C31 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the Cabinet meeting and reminded Members and Officers that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded and would be uploaded to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting.

She stated that the meeting would cover the Cabinet's programme of work, leisure centres, highway resurfacing, the Local Development Plan and the monitoring of Council progress going forward.

C32 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

It was noted that Councillor Birch was not in attendance at the start of the meeting as she had been attending the Big Lunch at Ysgol y Deri but would join the meeting as soon as possible. The Leader apologised to all of the pupils and staff at Ysgol y Deri as she would have like to have attended herself, but diary commitments had intervened.

C33 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

C34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C35 LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – YEAR 9 PERFORMANCE REPORT (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 13th June, 2022 was presented.

Councillor John had attended the meeting and advised that the report which was written in July 2021 had been referred to Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee and then on to Governance and Audit Committee. The Audit Wales report concluded that the Council had maintained its leisure provision and was receiving an income from its contract with Legacy Leisure Limited, but until recently, lacked a strategy to shape the service and that there was a significant scope for the Council to apply a sustainable development principle and focus on delivery of its well-being objectives through its contract with Legacy Leisure. The Council had strengthened its management of the contract, but there was scope to improve arrangements to assure itself as achieving value for money.

The response from the Council to the Audit Wales report was that the Council continued to work to respond to Audit Wales review in the Council's Outsource Leisure Services report, which was published in January 2021. The report challenged the Council to assure itself that the contract was providing value for money and strengthened the application of the sustainable development principle when extending the contract.

Officers had been able to demonstrate that the current contract provided value for money by undertaking a comparative exercise against all other Councils in Wales. However, the Council acknowledged that there was further work required to strengthen the application of the sustainable development principle.

Councillor John requested that Cabinet note the resolutions of the Governance and Audit Committee and await the Year 10 report, which was now due in the autumn.

The Leader said it had been a successful contract which had allowed the Council to deliver leisure services in the Vale of Glamorgan, that had delivered an income back to the Council but wanted to achieve more and link in with the Leisure and Healthy Living Strategy.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the resolutions of the Governance and Audit Committee be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet would await the Year 10 Performance Report.

Reason for decisions

- (1-2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

C36 CABINET QUARTERLY WORK PROGRAMMES – APRIL TO JUNE 2022 AND JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2022 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – NONE) –

The report sought Cabinet approval and any comments in respect of the progress update for the quarter April to June 2022, as well as Cabinet approval of the updated Cabinet Quarterly Forward Work Programme from July to September 2022.

The Leader noted the reports in Appendices 1 and 2 that had slipped or were no longer required for both periods.

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 Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme for April to June 2022 attached at Appendix 1 be agreed.

(2) T H A T the Cabinet Quarterly Work Programme July to September 2022 attached at Appendix 2 be endorsed.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To monitor progress.

(2) To approve the Work Programme for July to September 2022.

C37 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE CALENDAR 2022/23 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The report presented the Vale of Glamorgan Annual Performance Calendar for 2022/23 which outlined the key plans and reports that would be subject to consideration by Members throughout the year. The report also outlined how the Council proposed to engage with the new cohort of elected Members in shaping the processes, key plans and reports aligned to the Annual Performance Calendar to enable the Council to meet the new performance requirements of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (LG&E Act) and contribute to the national goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFG).

The timeline for producing the Council's first self-assessment report under the new performance provisions of the LG&E Act aligned with existing performance management arrangements and would bring together key performance and governance related insights throughout the year into a summary judgement on how well the Council were meeting the performance requirements. The report would be published in November 2022 with copies provided to the Auditor General for Wales, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales ('Estyn') and Welsh Government Ministers in line with the statutory guidance.

Appendix A to the report proposed an approach to engaging with Members on the Council's Performance Management Framework through the Annual Performance Calendar of activities in order to develop their skills and knowledge and strengthen their involvement in shaping and refining the key plans, reports and processes that would support them in their key role of assessing whether the Council was achieving its Well-being Objectives, delivering value for money and improving the wellbeing of its citizens. Officers would use the outputs of the engagement work to shape the development including format, content and presentation of Council plans, reports and data insights to better support Members in their roles. This had been informed by feedback previously received from elected Members, notably around the production and scrutiny of service plans.

The Leader said that performance monitoring had always been high on the agenda for the Vale of Glamorgan Council but would help to further strengthen existing performance arrangements to enable the Council to meet the new performance requirements.

Councillor Williams said it was good to have an overview of the reports coming through, that Cabinet Members had been involved with peer challenges and looking at Directors' areas of work. He was pleased this would continue on through the year.

The Leader agreed that it was important to understand how all the various reports linked in with the different Service Plans.

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 Vale of Glamorgan Annual Performance Calendar 2022/23 and the proposed approach to engaging with Members in-year to shape and refine the Annual Performance Calendar and associated processes, plans and reports to enable the Council to meet the new performance requirements be endorsed.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to all Scrutiny Committees and the Governance and Audit Committee for consideration, with any views being referred back to Cabinet. Should Scrutiny Committee make no further comments, Cabinet would consider the Annual Performance Calendar for 2022/23 as agreed.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure the Council fully discharged its duties under both the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFG) and the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 to publish annual well-being objectives, keep performance under review and consult and report on our performance through an annual self-assessment relating to the previous financial year.

(2) To ensure all Scrutiny Committees and the Governance and Audit Committee (Section 114 of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021) had oversight of the Annual Performance Calendar and their views inform the Council's approach to meeting the new performance requirements.

**C38 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE THREE YEAR PLAN 2022 – 2024 (NBS)
(SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGNERATION) –**

Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 detailed the Council's legal duty as highway authority to maintain highways at public expense.

The Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 – 2024 provided the foundation for delivering a well-maintained and managed highway which was essential to sustain the Vale of Glamorgan's economic, social and transport needs.

The proposed Resurfacing Plan was attached at Appendix A to the report with priority roads identified by the Council's Highway Engineers as requiring treatment. All roads listed within the Plan for resurfacing had been assessed over the last 12 months in accordance with the 'Carriageway Resurfacing Prioritisation Scoring System' as detailed at Appendix B to the report and would be treated in financial year 2022/2023.

The roads listed for Micro Asphalt and Surface Dressing were preventative treatments determined by engineering assessment only and listed at Appendix A.

The allocation of the budget for 2022/23 would be spent on three carriageway treatment types, namely Resurfacing, Surface Dressing and Micro Asphalt works in line with the priority listing in the Plan. It was anticipated the available budget of £2.3million (2022/23) would enable the resurfacing of roads scoring a total of 210 points or above on the Plan for 2022/23.

Those roads listed within Appendix A that did not receive works this year would be planned for completion in the next financial year, subject to adequate funding. Those roads listed with no scores against them had been added to the Plan following on from stakeholder referrals and would be reviewed once assessed, scored and considered on review of the Plan.

Should the condition of any highway be such that it required immediate attention, it was suggested that the Director of Environment and Housing be granted delegated powers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, to amend the Plan.

The Cabinet Member added that areas on the Highway Maintenance Scoring Matrix with a score of less than 210 would still be looked at and reassessed to see what could be prioritised. Works were able to be reassessed as weather could have an impact on the condition of roads. The £200k revenue budget for footway repairs was important for promoting active travel within the community.

The Deputy Leader welcomed the inclusion of active travel as part of the three-year plan as it linked to the Council's Active Travel Plans.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and including the typographical amendment to Resolution (4)

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 to 2024 as attached at Appendix A to the report be noted and the priority locations for resurfacing be agreed.
- (2) T H A T the Director of Environment and Housing be authorised to amend the Plan, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, if urgent highway resurfacing priorities were identified.
- (3) T H A T the matter be referred to the July 2022 Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (4) T H A T, subject to no comments that would affect the Plan as proposed being received from the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, the Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 to 2024 be agreed.
- (5) T H A T in future years, the criteria for road scoring be reviewed to better consider issues such as Active Travel and other routes that may be well used by cyclists.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To agree the Plan and priority locations in principle.
- (2) To deal efficiently with changes in the Plan should other highway routes deteriorate more rapidly than expected or constraints dictate that a change in priority was required to ensure the most cost-effective use of the budget allocation in 2022/23.
- (3) To ensure that the relevant Scrutiny Committee could consider the details of the Highway Resurfacing Three Year Plan 2022 to 2024 prior to it being formally agreed.
- (4) To enable the final Plan to be approved following its consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee, should no comments that affect the Plan as proposed be received.
- (5) To ensure that the future assessment criteria took into account all relevant highway use factors.

C39 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021 - 2036: DRAFT INTEGRATED SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT (CEERS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

On 19th October, 2020, Cabinet endorsed a recommendation to commence a full review of the adopted Local Development Plan (LDP) before 28th June, 2021. The first stage in the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) process was the production of the Delivery Agreement (DA) which contained the timetable for preparing the RLDP together with the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) which set out how and when stakeholders and the community could engage with the plan making process. The DA was formally approved by the Welsh Government on 4th May, 2022.

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act required sustainable development to be at the heart of the development plan process and there was a statutory requirement for the RLDP to be subject to specific appraisals and assessments to meet the requirement. This legal requirement was met through the production of an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) Report which sought to identify the likely significant economic, social, environmental, and cultural effects of the emerging plan, and suggested measures to minimise any negative effects and maximise positive effects.

The preparation of the Scoping Report was the first stage of the ISA process. The Scoping Report was largely an evidence-gathering stage and set out the current economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being context including baseline data and identified sustainability issues which were relevant to the local area. A draft ISA Scoping Report had been prepared for the emerging RLDP. The report outlined the main elements of the draft Scoping Report and sought Cabinet approval to undertake a public consultation in accordance with the regulations.

The Deputy Leader said that the sustainable approach linked to her Portfolio and stressed the importance of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act for the Council's work going forward. She also looked forward to seeing the results of the consultation.

The Cabinet Member advised that, subject to Cabinet endorsing the draft ISA Scoping Report, it would be subject to a 5-week public consultation between August and September 2022 during which all interested parties, (including both key stakeholders and members of the public) would have the opportunity to comment on it.

The Leader asked if briefings were to be arranged for Members in the near future. The Cabinet Member said there would be a briefing looking at the Council's strategy as part of a pre-consultation process, but which was separate to the main consultation.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the draft Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report be endorsed for public consultation purposes.
- (2) T H A T a 5-week public consultation be undertaken on the Draft Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
- (3) T H A T a follow up report on the outcome of the public consultation and any proposed changes be prepared and considered by Cabinet.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Equalities and Regulatory Services, to make typographical or other minor changes to the draft Scoping Report as necessary prior to publication.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To comply with section 39 (2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations 5 (2) and 5 (4).
- (2-3) To comply with Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, Article 5 (4) and 6 (3).
- (4) To enable typographical or other minor amendments as necessary without the need to seek Cabinet approval.