

CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 13th April, 2023.

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

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

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

Also Present: Councillors E. Goodjohn, and Dr. I.J. Johnson.

C272 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the Cabinet meeting and reminded everyone present that the meeting was being Live Streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing.

She asked if all participants please ‘mute’ themselves when not speaking in order to avoid any background noise or feedback when other participants were speaking, and if a participant wished to speak if they could put their hand up (to be seen on screen) or use the ‘raise hand’ function.

Members were asked to ensure that all debate was raised verbally and not via the ‘chat’ function for the sake of the recording. The ‘chat’ function could be used to highlight any technical issues and/or to get the attention of the Chair or Democratic Services Officer.

C273 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor M.R. Wilkinson.

C274 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 30th March, 2023 be approved as correct record.

C275 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C276 COST OF LIVING SUPPORT FOR FOOD, WARM SPACES AND OTHER MEANS OF SUPPORT (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that there had been an insightful and incisive discussion at the meeting but that many of the points had been addressed in the interim period. There had been an evaluation of what was happening at the warm welcome hubs and an additional £30k allocated to support the service, which had also grown to support 3.5k people over the winter period and increased in number to 40 hubs due to ongoing isolation and cost of living issues. There were excellent projects taking place, e.g., at Barry Buttrills Community Centre, and also at many Vale of Glamorgan libraries.

The Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee that took place on 9th January, 2023 had recommended expanding the delivery, of warm spaces and related services throughout the Vale of Glamorgan, and to look at deepening such support i.e., to provide services that deal with isolation, and support vulnerable residents and communities, which had taken place since the meeting took place.

The Governance and Audit Committee had called for greater consideration and emphasis to be placed on cost of living challenges facing rural communities. This too had been undertaken, e.g., some superb work had been undertaken in Llantwit Major.

The Leader said that many integrated services there to support local communities had been possible due to a range of organisations working together but asked for any other organisations which were well-placed to support local communities and wanted some support to get in touch with the Council to see what options may be available.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the views raised by the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 9th January, 2023 and Governance and Audit Committee on 27th February, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C277 AUDIT WALES NATIONAL STUDY: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (EIAs): MORE THAN A TICK BOX EXERCISE? (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) should be comprehensive.

Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 8th December, 2022 had referred to issues around mental health and the under-reporting of mental health inequality, in particular young people and adults re-engaging back into school or work after the pandemic. There had been a presentation in a recent Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee meeting discussing current mental health issues and how various organisations were seeking to work together on that issue going forward.

Governance and Audit Committee on 27th February, 2023 had also raised the issue of protected characteristics and that it was important to remember that some individuals may come under more than one of the protected characteristics and some people could be disadvantaged by more than one. A recent Disability Task Force meeting had discussed disadvantage and inequality as a result of people's environment. More use of online assessment would be explored further, but it was important to also be mindful of digital exclusion.

Councillor Wilson said that it was important to remember that many people had hidden disabilities and often it was physical aspects such as buildings themselves that could often disable people.

Councillor Sivagnanam said it was one of her ambitions to make EIAs living documents that could be used across the Council and across all Departments. There were barriers, whether conscious or unconscious, which needed to be recognised and the challenge as a public body was to try to eliminate those barriers.

Councillor Birch said that EIAs were useful as they were indicative of working with the people that the Council represented and worked in partnership with service users and those taking decisions to ensure that funding was spent appropriately and with everyone's full involvement.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T Cabinet endorsed the recommendations from both Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 8th December, 2022 and Governance and Audit Committee on 27th February, 2023 and would seek to include those views in work going forward.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C278 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 3 UPDATE (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said there had been an interesting discussion concerning how impact would build across the risks and Financial Fragility and its impact on the Council. She said that there were reserves in place in order to avoid any catastrophic impact on the Council for that very reason.

The suggestion of holding a Risk Register development workshop was a good one, but the Leader suggested going further and have a development workshop with Members to discuss how risks were matched by reserves, or vice versa, to prevent Financial Fragility and catastrophic impact. The Leader said that consideration was always given to how mitigating actions and their associated impacts were presented and that residual scoring mechanisms were robust and accurately reflected risks to the Council.

Councillor Wilson said it was important to monitor risk in light of current conditions and that Cabinet, the various Scrutiny Committees and Governance and Audit Committee would continue to monitor risk and make sure that reserves were more attuned to degrees of risk.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the recommendations from the Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 be endorsed.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C279 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CODE UPDATE 2022/23 (REF) –

The reference from Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that the Committee had made a number of observations and that the inclusion of a table to highlight action planning and whether the Council was complying with its objectives was sensible. She felt that feedback was positive, whether it be peer or independently reviewed and thought that would be a constructive move.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the recommendations from the Governance and Audit Committee of 27th February, 2023 be endorsed.

Reason for decisions

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C280 PROCUREMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY (REF) –

The reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 15th March, 2023 was presented.

The Leader said that there had been discussion about a shortage of relevant Officers to assist with the procurement strategy, however a report had been taken to the 27th February, 2023 Cabinet Meeting concerning new service delivery arrangements for a joint procurement service with Cardiff and other Councils that sought to provide that further resilience.

There had also been a conversation concerning value for money. The Leader said that the Council had done well in terms of community benefits in some operational areas, such as sustainable communities for learning. Outcomes gained in terms of employment, investment and apprenticeships in local communities were as valuable a measure and in the last two years around 1200 jobs and about 88 apprenticeships had been created. There was an expectation that partners with the Council would reflect the Authority's values and principles as an organisation, including reflecting that the Council pays the real living wage.

Councillor Wilson added that when looking at value for money, consideration had to be given to economy, efficiency and effectiveness. What was as important as value for money was the quality of service provided, e.g., as part of tendering exercises.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the recommendations from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 15th March, 2023 be endorsed and that the Strategy be amended accordingly.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference and discussions at the meeting.

C281 SERVICE LEVEL ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS TO DELIVER THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL'S ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2023/2024 (REF) –

The reference from Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 15th March, 2023 was presented.

The Leader referred to the recommendation concerning performance indicators regarding C1V response times to meet both telephone calls and social media within working hours. This had been a topic of conversation with Audit Wales recently where the quality of outcome achieved from each point of contact was as important as the time taken to respond in some cases and was therefore not as simplistic as suggested.

Having considered the reference, it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

(1) **T H A T** the recommendations of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 15th March, 2023 be noted.

(2) T H A T there be further discussion concerning qualitative and quantitative measures in terms of C1V and what constituted appropriate indicators on the performance of Project Zero, what those measures should be and how best they serve in improving performance.

Reason for decisions

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

C282 JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM –

The minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting held on 23rd January, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

The Leader said there was always a constructive dialogue with union colleagues at the meeting. Many of the items discussed had been before the final budget discussions so many of the points made were covered as part of those discussions.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum meeting held on 23rd January, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C283 CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE –

The minutes of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 as contained within the agenda, were submitted.

Councillor Wilson said it was hoped that the next meeting be held at the White Water Centre in May and would either include a cruise or a walk around the Bay. He praised the work of the Harbour Authority for carrying out the challenging work to complete maintenance to the fish pass in difficult conditions to enable it to be up and running in time for the fish migration season.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C284 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIVE WORKING INITIATIVES UPDATE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide an update for Cabinet on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives.

The Leader said that the Council worked collaboratively at all levels with a number of external partners and organisations which were detailed in Appendix A.

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 strategic collaborative working initiatives that were in place to support the delivery and development of Council services and the Council's well-being outcomes and objectives be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To provide Cabinet with an update of strategic collaborative working initiatives.

C285 VALE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN 2023-28 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to enable Cabinet to consider the draft Well-being Plan 2023-28 post consultation.

The Leader said that the Plan had undergone consultation as well as to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee during the consultation period.

Councillor Williams added that there had been recognition that the Plan needed to be more outcome-focussed and that there had been recognition that there were funding allocations that went along with the Plan which would require partnership working to move forward.

The Leader said that there was a collection of shared well-being goals which helped partners to work collaboratively with organisations such as the Health Board, Town Councils and the Police, etc.

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 updated draft Well-being Plan (Appendix A), the consultation feedback report (Appendix B) and the Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix C) be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the new Public Services Board Well-being Plan be endorsed, and the report and appendices referred to Full Council on 24th April, 2023 for consideration and approval.
- (3) T H A T the use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's constitution be approved in order for the Public Services Board Well-being Plan to be referred to Full Council on 24th April, 2023 for consideration and approval.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable Cabinet to consider the consultation feedback and the subsequent changes to the Plan.
- (2) To ensure that the new Well-being Plan could be presented to Council in April for consideration and approval.
- (3) To allow the new Well-being Plan to be referred to Council on 24th April, 2023 for consideration and approval.

C286 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – SCHOOL STREET CLOSURE DRYDEN ROAD, PENARTH (NBS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to agree the introduction of an experimental school street closure on Dryden Road for Fairfield Primary School, Penarth.

Councillor Wilson said that the experimental Traffic Regulation Order was a first in the Vale of Glamorgan with 20 of the 26 houses on Dryden Road responding positively to the proposals. It was an experiment, and the Council would learn from it as a result. The experiment would not stop residents or staff at the school from using the road, but it would not be available to be used to drop children off at school.

Councillor Birch said that the experiment was in her ward and followed years of complaints from residents on Dryden Road concerning difficulty in accessing their properties because of dangerous school drop-off parking. If successful, the model could be used at other schools experiencing the same issues as it would create a safer environment for children and parents to get to school by prioritising other forms of travel over the car. She said she would be interested to see the lessons learned from the trial.

The Leader had spoken to parents in the area who ironically used their cars as they felt it was too dangerous to walk to school, making it a vicious circle.

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 public notice be given for an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a school street closure on Dryden Road, Penarth as detailed in Appendix A and B to the report.
- (2) T H A T a further report detailing the outcome of the Experimental Order at Dryden Road, Penarth be presented to Cabinet by October 2024.
- (3) T H A T the Director of Environment and Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services be authorised to agree the final design and extent for the school street closure trial and the execution of any legal Orders to implement the Scheme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide the necessary authority to the progress with the experimental traffic regulation order.
- (2) To allow the success or otherwise of the experimental order to be properly considered to inform decisions on any permanent arrangements.
- (3) To provide the necessary authority to ensure the scheme was implemented in the most an appropriate and efficient manner.

C287 RESPONSE TO THE WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO ‘TECHNICAL ADVICE NOTE (TAN)15: DEVELOPMENT, FLOODING AND COASTAL EROSION’ (CEERS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to report to Cabinet the draft response to the Welsh Government’s consultation on ‘Technical Advice Note (TAN)15: Development, Flooding and Coastal Erosion - further amendments’, and to seek approval to submit it to the Welsh Government by the consultation deadline.

Councillor Sivagnanam said that there was a detailed and technical response attached at Appendix 1 to the report that, if agreed, would be submitted to Welsh Government before the end of the consultation on 17th April, 2023.

The Leader said there had been discussions with other local Leaders and that there may be further iterations of the report before it was finally agreed.

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 content of the consultation response on 'Technical Advice Note (TAN)15: Development, Flooding and Coastal Erosion - Further Amendments' be endorsed for submission to the Welsh Government by the consultation deadline.

(2) T H A T the use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be approved in order for the response to be submitted to Welsh Government by the required deadline of 17th April, 2023.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that the Council's concerns and comments in relation to Technical Advice Note (TAN)15: Development, Flooding and Coastal Erosion - Further Amendments were received by the Welsh Government within their identified timeframe.

(2) To allow the response to be returned to Welsh Government by the required deadline.

C288 PLAY STREETS (LSW) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek approval to establish Play Streets at various locations across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Councillor John said that the organiser, the parent, the resident, or whoever it may be in a street that wished to set up a play scheme had to consult residents before making any application. That application would be submitted to the Council who would refer it to the relevant local ward Members. The organiser would have to take out public liability insurance to cover any unforeseen accidents that may occur. Any application would be renewable annually. The Vale of Glamorgan Council would put any relevant signage in place for any successful application, but local stewards would have to control any traffic in or out of the relevant street. It was hoped that there would be a successful trial period and that other quieter and less busy roads may be added to the scheme in future for the two-hour session, once a month.

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 establishment of Play Streets at suitable locations across the Vale of Glamorgan where there was support from the majority of local residents be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the trial scheme detailed in the report be further developed into a pilot in identified streets and any issues be reported back to Cabinet. If no issues were reported, the full scheme could be implemented from April 2024.
- (3) T H A T information relating to Play Streets be published on the Council's Website to allow residents to apply for their street to be incorporated into the scheme with delegated authority given to the Director of Environment & Housing Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing to approve any authorised scheme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To improve the safety and quality of play provision in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (2) To allow any problems with the proposals to be identified and considered as necessary.
- (3) To allow residents to apply for their streets to become 'play streets' and approved as such if acceptable to the Council.