

CABINET

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 7th March, 2024.

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.D. Perkes, S. Sivagnanam, E. Williams and M.R. Wilson.

Also Present: Councillors M. Cowpe, Dr. I.J. Johnson and N.C. Thomas.

C265 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Cabinet.

Members and Officers were reminded that the meeting was being livestreamed, recorded, and would be uploaded to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting.

She asked if all participants to ensure that if participating in person in the Chamber that their microphone not be activated and for remote attendees to 'mute' themselves when not speaking to avoid any background noise or feedback when other participants were speaking, and if a participant wished to speak if they could activate their respective request to speak function or use the 'raise hand' function if attending remotely.

Members were asked to ensure that all debate be 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 Officers.

C266 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February, 2024 be approved as a correct record.

C267 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C268 JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM –

The minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum held on 29th January, 2024 were presented.

Councillor Perkes had attended the meeting which was well attended by Members, Officers, and Trade Unions. Items discussed at the meeting included the Abl Network Update, the Diverse Staff Network Update, an update on the People Strategy and the Vale of Glamorgan LGBTQ+ Staff Network.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Joint Consultative Forum held on 29th January, 2024 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C269 DISPOSAL OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATION LAND AT ST CYRES COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL, PENARTH (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval to dispose of an additional piece of disused land at St Cyres Comprehensive School, Penarth.

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 additional disused land at St Cyres Comprehensive School be declared surplus to the Council's requirements.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/S151 Officer to dispose of the land as shown edged red on the plan at Appendix A to the report by the most appropriate means, in consultation with the Director of Learning and Skills and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, on terms and conditions to be agreed.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to prepare, complete, and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to dispose of the site at the appropriate time.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To declare the site surplus to requirements as the land was no longer required for education purposes.

- (2) To ensure that the Council obtained best consideration for the land in accordance with its statutory and fiduciary obligations.
- (3) To legally formalise the disposal of the land to obtain a capital receipt which would be used to contribute towards funding the Council's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and to ensure compliance with statute.

C270 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (SCfL) ROLLING PROGRAMME (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval for the Sustainable Communities for Learning Rolling Programme. The report did not seek any financial commitment but sought approval of the recommended projects to submit a Strategic Outline Rolling Programme to Welsh Government. The identified projects were listed on page 5 of the report.

The Leader referred to the investment objectives listed in the third column as part of the identified projects which looked at the reasons for each project, including addressing growth, condition of existing assets and education provision, and included a timeline which would allow the Authority to plan more strategically.

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 proposed short and long-term provisional plans for future waves of investment be noted and the recommended schemes in line with the programme objectives be approved.
- (2) T H A T submission of those recommended schemes to Welsh Government be approved.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) . Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To ensure that the Council met Welsh Government's deadline of 31st March, 2024 for the Council's Rolling Programme submission.

C271 PROPOSED SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING STRATEGY 2024-2026 (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to ratify the Learning and Skills Directorate's Social, Emotional, Mental Health (SEMH) and Well-

being Strategy 2024- 2027 and refer the report to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

The Background section of the report contained a long list as to why the Strategy was so important, looking at adverse child experiences, school refusers, children suffering with anxiety or having unfavourable home environments, as well as children who may have difficulties arising from birth, accident, or congenital problems. It was vital to address such problems as early as possible so as not to prepare children for failure, possible entry to the criminal justice system and not having the tools to reach their potential. Schools also found it difficult to attract and retain teachers partly due to the difficulties that some teachers faced in the classroom where children were not adequately catered for and had a wider effect on other children and young people within the education system.

The Leader looked forward to the discussion that would take place at Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

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 proposed Learning and Skills Social Emotional and Mental Health Strategy be ratified.
- (2) T H A T the report and the appendices be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration. Should Scrutiny Committee make no further comments then Cabinet would consider the Proposed Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Well-being Strategy 2024-2026 as agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) That the Learning and Skills Directorate had a strategic document which informed their work with schools and wider partners to support the mental health and well-being of pupils and school staff.
- (2) To ensure that Members of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee have an opportunity to consider the Proposed Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Well-being Strategy 2024-2026.

C272 CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE A WELSH MEDIUM SPECIALIST RESOURCE BASE AT YSGOL GWAUN Y NANT WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 2024 (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval to consult with stakeholders on the proposal to create a Welsh

Medium Specialist Resource Base at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant with effect from September 2024. There was a cross-over between this item and the previous agenda item with regards to pupils and their ability to access mainstream education.

The Leader said there had been a need for such a Resource Base for a while.

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 Director of Learning and Skills be authorised to undertake a consultation on the proposal to create a Welsh Medium Specialist Resource Base at Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant with effect from September 2024.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration as part of the proposed consultation exercise.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To authorise a statutory consultation in compliance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2018 on the proposal to create a Welsh Medium Specialist Resource Base at Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant with effect from September 2024.

(2) To ensure that the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee was consulted on the proposals.

**C273 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AWARDS (NBS)
(SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the tender process for Highway Maintenance Repairs and Carriageway Resurfacing (2024-2027) and for Surface Dressing and Micro Asphalt Treatment (2024/2026).

Road users wanted the highways to be maintained and it was important to manage the highways using the established scoring system for works to be planned against allocated funding.

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 details of the tender process be noted with a view of taking a decision on the contract awards via the Part II report later on the agenda.

Reason for decision

To allow the Part I and Part II reports to be considered together.

C274 CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO WELSH GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER - ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN WALES (PSHTE) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to approve the Council's response to the White Paper - 'Ending Homelessness in Wales'. Welsh Government had asked for stakeholders' responses to the consultation, of which the Vale of Glamorgan Council was one, and the Council's draft response was detailed in Appendix 2 to the report which included responses from Council staff and Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee.

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 draft consultation response in relation to proposed changes brought forward by the Welsh Government be approved and authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Building Services to submit the finalised response.

Reason for decision

To ensure the views of the Council were considered as part of the White Paper consultation and any positive and negative impacts were highlighted.

C275 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

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

C276 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AWARDS (NBS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) (EXEMPT INFORMATION-PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the outcome of the tender process for Highway Maintenance Repairs and Carriageway Resurfacing (2024-2027) and for Surface Dressing and Micro Asphalt Treatment (2024/2026) and to seek approval to appoint the successful contractors.

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 appointment of Centregreat Ltd for the award of Highway Maintenance Repairs Contract (2024-2027) be approved.
- (2) T H A T the appointment of Tarmac Trading Ltd for the award of Carriageway Resurfacing Contract (2024-2027) be approved.
- (3) T H A T the appointment of Road Maintenance Services Ltd for the award of Surface Dressing Treatment Contract (2024-2026) be approved.
- (4) T H A T the appointment of Alun Griffiths Contractors Ltd for the award of Micro Asphalt Treatment Contract (2024-2026) be approved.
- (5) T H A T authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, to award the contracts as referred to in Resolutions (1) to (4) above.
- (6) T H A T authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to draft and execute the necessary contracts.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-4) To appoint the most suitable, qualified service provider following procurement and to ensure continuity of service was provided.
- (5-6) To ensure signed contracts were in place for the relevant highway services.