

CABINET

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 19th September, 2024.

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

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

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

Also Present: Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson

C112 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader commenced by advising of some housekeeping issues and advised 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.

C113 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor R.M. Birch.

C114 MINUTES –

The Leader said that the 'Draft Vale of Glamorgan Council Annual-Self Assessment 2023/24' had been considered at the meeting held on 5th September, 2024. During the item Councillor John made a statement which was included in the subsequent references for Scrutiny committees and subsequently the Cabinet minutes as:-

"Councillor John referred to Page 85 of the Appendix which illustrated that paid use of leisure centre use had increased over the last year from 406,353 to 741,551 and praised staff in Leisure for their work over the last year."

The figures quoted in the minutes and references were incorrect and Councillor John should have been quoted as saying:-

"Councillor John referred to Page 85 of the Appendix which illustrated that the numbers of fitness members paying a monthly fee had increased over the last year from just over 4,000 to 5,575 and praised staff in Leisure for their work over the last year."

The error in the figures in the minutes and references did not materially impact Scrutiny's consideration of the matter as it was not related to the report Recommendations, however for accuracy the correct figures needed to be quoted in order for the amended minutes to be moved as a correct record of the meeting.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 5th September, 2024 be approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment to the third paragraph of Minute C103 on page 74 as below:

“Councillor John referred to Page 85 of the Appendix which illustrated that the numbers of fitness members paying a monthly fee had increased over the last year from just over 4,000 to 5,575 and praised staff in Leisure for their work over the last year.”

C115 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

C116 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 18th March, 2024 were presented.

Councillor Williams had Chaired the meeting where the Panel were presented with a summary regarding mainstream Children Looked After pupils, looking in particular at Additional Learning Needs provision and recent Welsh Government changes to the system of support for children and young people in Wales. The differences between Additional Learning Needs and Additional Learning Provision were also discussed, as well as the extension of the age group from 0-25 under a unified statutory plan.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meetings held on 18th March, 2024 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C117 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIVE WORKING INITIATIVES UPDATE (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report to provide an update for Cabinet on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives, which would feed in to the production of the forthcoming Corporate Plan due to the number of working collaborations between the Authority and external partners.

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 noted.

Reasons for decisions

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

C118 RESHAPING PROGRAMME: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES - A RESPONSE TO AUDIT WALES REPORTS ON TACKLING POVERTY AND THIRD SECTOR WORKING (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the report to advise Cabinet of the work undertaken by Cwmpas on behalf of the Council in response to four Audit Wales reports and to seek approval for a way forward aligned to the development of the new Corporate Plan 2025-30 and the Reshaping Programme.

The report would be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Committee, Community Liaison Committee, and Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee for their information and consideration and the Leader looked forward to the discussions at those meetings as to how the Authority could take advantage of opportunities of working with the Social Enterprise sector concerning shared values and objectives.

Councillor Wilson referred to paragraph 2.25 of the report on page 8 concerning the exciting initiative of the addition of web resources for Social Enterprises being built into the review of the website which was important to be able to access resources.

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 findings and recommendations detailed in the Cwmpas reports attached as Appendices A and B to the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the proposed ways forward as described in the body of the report in response to the recommendations in the Cwmpas report as aligned to the recommendations in the four Audit Wales reports be approved.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Committee, Community Liaison Committee, and Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee for their information and consideration, with any views being referred back to Cabinet for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To develop an integrated response to the Audit Wales reports using the findings and recommendations produced by the programme of engagement with Cwmpas.
- (3) To enable the relevant Committees to have sight of the development of this body of work and to provide an opportunity to feed back their comments to Cabinet.

**C119 CARDIFF AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK - EV CHARGING SITE
(DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –**

The Deputy Leader presented the report to obtain approval to market and dispose of land at Cardiff Airport Business Park for an EV charging station and ancillary uses.

Councillor Wilson said that having EV charging would make the Airport more attractive to users.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place to market and dispose of the site near Cardiff Airport shown indicatively edged red in Appendix A by virtue of a lease for use as an EV charging station and ancillary uses (subject to statutory consents) in consultation with the Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places and Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Place to appoint consultants / agents as may be required (such as marketing and land valuation) to assist with the marketing and disposal of the site.
- (3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services or Operational Manager of Legal Services be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to dispose of the site.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To authorise the marketing and lease disposal of the Site.
- (2) To authorise appointing consultants to assist with project delivery.

(3) To enable the preparation, execution, and completion of all legal documentation for the land transaction.

C120 CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY 2025-2027 (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Leader presented the report on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language to seek Cabinet approval to consult with stakeholders on the draft three year School Accessibility Strategy 2025-27.

Any person could respond to the consultation during the consultation period, either in writing or through completion of an online form hosted on the Council's website and the report would be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration as part of the proposed consultation exercise.

There were already specialist centres present in some schools in the Vale of Glamorgan and the preferred way forward was to be able to continue to support learners to remain in their own school and peer group.

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 draft School Accessibility Strategy 2025-2027 found at Appendix A to the report.

(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 seek Cabinet authority to carry out a statutory consultation on the proposed School Accessibility Strategy 2025-2027.

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

C121 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES 2023-2024 – FINAL VERSION (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report to ensure that Cabinet agreed the future priorities for the Directorate of Social Services and thanked the Director and Social

Services Senior Management team for all the work that had gone into the process of producing the final report.

The Leader thanked the team for the progress that had been made in working to help people to go home from hospital as soon as was possible, making the Vale of Glamorgan one of the top performers in Wales as a result. However, there were cost implications to that level of performance which would have to be considered further as part of the forthcoming budget setting process.

Councillor Wilson referred to Well-being Standard 3 on page 38 of the report as an example of how well used those services were, with 55,8484 calls made to the Wellbeing Matters service in 23/34 for Adult Social Services matters and subsequently the pressures faced by the service. He also thanked Social Services staff for the work done throughout the Vale of Glamorgan.

Councillor Williams said that there were a wide range of services provided within the Vale of Glamorgan, such as Flying Start and the Vale Community Resource Service, and it was important that the breadth of work undertaken by Social Services was appreciated.

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 report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Director's Annual Report for 2023/24 (attached at Appendix 1 to the report) be approved.
- (3) T H A T the improvement priorities for Social Services as set out in the Director's Annual Report for 2023/24 be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To ensure that the Director's Annual Report for 2023/24 had the approval and agreement of Cabinet.
- (3) To ensure that the priorities as set out by the Director of Social Services were approved by Cabinet.