

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 7TH NOVEMBER, 2024

REFERENCE FROM GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE: 21ST OCTOBER, 2024

“503 FINAL DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN ANNUAL SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT (REF) –

Cabinet, on 10th October, 2024, had referred the report to the Committee for its consideration and approval in line with the Committee’s statutory role, under Part 6 (section 114) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and that upon consideration the Governance and Audit Committee refer any recommendations back to Cabinet for their final consideration on 7th November, 2024 prior to the report, together with any comments of the Governance and Audit Committee and Cabinet’s responses, to Council on 2nd December, 2024.

In reply to a query from the Chair, the Director of Corporate Resources stated that Cabinet had endorsed all of the 13 recommendations made by the Governance and Audit Committee. For five of the recommendations however, it was considered better for those to be included in next year’s report.

Councillor E. Goodjohn stated that the report was an improvement to last year’s version and he was pleased that lessons had been learned but there were some changes that he would like to see. Firstly, information around social medial polls were not always statistically relevant and he queried whether all the polls were required. Councillor Goodjohn commented on the inclusion of two tables in relation to the Council’s budget and how it spent public money and stated that they were something that should be publicised. He also questioned whether the hyperlinks to the budget tables were needed as well. Finally, Councillor Goodjohn referred to the comments made by Sully Community Council which gave a good indication of how the public perceived the document. Therefore, it indicated that a shorter plain language version of the report which was easier to read would be better for the public.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet considers the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee. The comments relating to:
 - In relation to engagement on social media and the use of the social media polls, for consideration to be given to their relevance.

- The use of budget tables to explain how the Council spends its money were very useful and should be publicised more, but were separate hyperlinks to the tables also required;
- For a plain language summary version of the document to be produced for members of the public.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To advise Cabinet of the views of the Governance and Audit Committee.”