

No.

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 21st April, 2021.

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

Present: Councillor M.R. Wilson (Chairman); Councillor Mrs. P. Drake (Vice-Chairman); Councillors G.D.D. Carroll, G.A. Cox, R. Crowley, V.P. Driscoll, G. John, Dr. I.J. Johnson, Ms. S. Sivagnanam and J.W. Thomas.

Also present: Councillors L. Burnett, Mrs. S.M. Hanks, P.G. King, N. Moore and E. Williams.

565 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Principal Democratic Services referred to a number of housekeeping issues including advising those present that the meeting would be recorded for uploading via the internet and archived for future viewing.

566 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held 17th March, 2021 be approved as a correct record.

567 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

568 PROJECT ZERO – DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE PLAN (REF) –

The report which sought Cabinet's approval to consult on the draft Climate Change Challenge Plan had been considered by Cabinet on 22nd March, 2021 and referred to the Scrutiny Committee for its views as part of the consultation process. A PowerPoint presentation and short video which provided an overview of the work in preparing the plan as detailed within the report, was also made available on screen during the meeting. The Managing Director commenced by advising that the Plan recognised the importance of working together, taking action as an organisation and the need to demonstrate strong leadership. The video had been developed to accompany the 7 week consultation which was taking place between 23rd March – 12th May, 2021.

During the discussion Councillor Dr. Johnson referred to the significant amount of information within the report and enquired as to the associated risks and how Welsh Government (WG) legislation may impact on deliverability. Councillor Crowley

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enquired as to the facilities for e-bikes and necessary docking stations that would be required and what the intention was in relation to such provision and, in particular, the intention to ease the dangers on roads in particular around Dinas Powys. In response, the Members were advised that in terms of the evidence base, the challenges were recognised and that there was a significant amount of data that underpinned the work with a summary prepared. The Programme Board would also be bringing all the information together with a suite of indicators that the Council would collect to be monitored.

The route from Dinas Powys to Barry had been on the agenda for some time, with the suggestion for improvement being considered of an offline route alongside the main route. The successful consultation on the Active Travel maps drew opinions on where Active Travel routes were lacking and the route identified had been included during the consultation. Referring to the campaign for a bypass in Dinas Powys, the Managing Director further advised that funding and land ownership were the key issues in that regard. The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services, not a Member of the Committee, with permission to speak, advised that an Active Travel route bid, from Newport through Cardiff to Barry had been submitted via Cardiff Council as the Lead Authority, for which he was looking to explore land opportunities with Network Rail.

Having regard to the issue of Zero Carbon schools, Councillor Carroll enquired as to how this could be achieved within existing school buildings. The Managing Director stated that he hoped the Vale could progress schools to be an exemplar and be at the forefront, however he acknowledged the difficulties with existing older school buildings, with the aim to generate funding for energy efficiency measures.

The Chairman suggested a number of points for the officers to consider going forward as below:

- a Council policy be considered for electric charging points;
- a move away from the use of gas boilers;
- reconsider the miles the Council's waste had to travel with regard to waste;
- reduction of prices for tea and coffee if people brought their own mugs / cups to be filled in cafes etc,;
- further encourage cycling;
- encourage people to compost.

With regard to scooter pods, the Chairman enquired what they were and how they worked.

The Head of Business and Transformation advised that a series of steps was outlined within the Plan which recognised most of the above points and that with regard to the query in respect of scooter pods, he would obtain as much information as possible and email it to Members.

Councillor John commented on the number of people who converted their gardens to hardstandings to park their vehicles which had an impact on flooding and whether this was a matter for planning to consider. In response the Managing Director advised that in most cases planning permission was unfortunately not required.

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In noting the consultation timetable of between 24th March until 12th May, it was suggested that consultation be also undertaken with community centres, community groups and schools with a request that an opportunity to hear the views of young people on the subject, at a future Committee meeting be explored.

The Scrutiny Committee therefore, having considered the report and the Members' and officers' comments as outlined above, subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the report be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having considered the report and suggested aspects for officers to consider.

569 AUDIT WALES – SCRUTINY FIT FOR THE FUTURE ACTION PLAN UPDATE (MD) –

The report provided an update on the implementation of the Action Plan.

Scrutiny Committee, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the progress made to date in delivering both the Audit Wales Action Plan (Appendix A to the report) and the Public Engagement Action Plan (Appendix B to the report) be endorsed and recommended to Cabinet for approval.

(2) T H A T the Revised Cabinet and Scrutiny Roles and Responsibilities Document (Appendix C to the report) be endorsed and referred to Cabinet for approval and uploading to the Council's website.

(3) T H A T the Revised Scrutiny Public Participation Guide (Appendix G to the report) be endorsed and recommended to Cabinet for consideration and to Full Council for approval, and thereafter uploaded to the Council's website and the Council's Constitution amended accordingly.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) To enable the Committee to consider the progress made to date in delivering both the AW Action Plan and Public Engagement Action Plan and to ensure that Cabinet has the opportunity to comment on the progress made to date against the Council's response to the Audit Wales Proposals for Improvement.

(2) In order that the document can be approved by Cabinet and uploaded to the Council's website.

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(3) In order that the document can be considered by Cabinet for approval to Full Council and for uploading to the Council's website and the Council's Constitution amended accordingly.