

## ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Hybrid Meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024.

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

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor S. Lloyd-Selby (Chair); Councillor C. Iannucci-Williams (Vice-Chair); Councillors C.E.A. Champion, P. Drake, A.M. Ernest, M.J. Hooper, J.M. Norman, E. Penn and J. Protheroe.

Also present: Councillors A. Asbrey, J. Aviet, B.E. Brooks (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places), L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources), G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing), H.M. Payne, R. Sivagnanam (Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Equalities and Regulatory Services), E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health) and M. Wilson (Cabinet Member for Neighborhood and Building Services).

### AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor S.T. William.

### AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 be approved as a correct record.

### AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Councillor Ernest declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 7 - Draft Tree Strategy (2024-2039). The nature of that interest was personal, not prejudicial, in that the Councillor was a member of one of the contributory groups to the related consultation. Due to it being a personal interest only, the Councillor remained in the meeting when the agenda item was discussed.

The Chair declared a personal, but not prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 5 - Draft Vale of Glamorgan Council Corporate Plan 2025-30. The nature of her interest was that she was a founder and trustee of the Vale Foodbank referenced in the Plan. The Chair had dispensation to speak and vote on general matters relating to the Vale Foodbank, and to speak only when matters regarding finance or property in respect of the Vale Foodbank, were to be considered at Vale of Glamorgan Council meetings (Paragraphs (d), (f) and (h)). Due to this, the Chair remained in the meeting when the agenda item was discussed.

AGENDA ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: CCR ENERGY UPDATE ON  
ABERTHAW POWER STATION –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the presentation be noted and shared with all Elected Members.
- (2) T H A T once the website for CCR Energy is completed and online, that details of this be shared with Elected Members.
- (3) T H A T the Committee receives a further update on the work being undertaken by CCR Energy in respect of the Aberthaw Power Station, on an annual basis, and that this be added to the Committee's Forward Work Programme.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) In order that Elected Members are kept up to date on the progress being made at the site.
- (3) In order that the Committee Members, all Elected Members and Vale of Glamorgan residents are kept informed about developments at the site.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL  
CORPORATE PLAN 2025-30 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the following comments from Committee be shared with the Director of Corporate Resources to inform revisions to the Corporate Plan, prior to Cabinet considering a final draft in due course:

- That Council officers, as part of developing this Plan, give consideration to engaging with local Elected Members etc. about setting up consultation event(s) in rural parts of the county and with those residents with a lived experience of poverty.
- That consideration be given to developing a 'Citizens Assembly' to maximise participation of local residents in the consultation process.
- That consideration be given to the application and use of zero-based budgeting.
- That the Plan uses wording and has a stronger emphasis on the Plan's intention of county wide regeneration for all its towns and rural areas.

Reason for recommendation

In order to provide feedback from the Committee for the consideration of the Director of Corporate Resources to inform revisions to the Corporate Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 6. VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
2011-2026: SIXTH ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2023/2024 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) be accepted.

Reason for recommendation

To ensure that this monitoring report be considered as agreed and subsequently be submitted to the Welsh Government by 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM 7. DRAFT TREE STRATEGY (2024-2039) (DEH) -

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the public consultation survey results (Appendices A and B to the report) in relation to the Draft Tree Strategy be noted.

(2) T H A T the comments and the suggested amendments to the Draft Tree Strategy (Appendix C to the report) be noted.

(3) T H A T the following comments made by the Committee on the proposed final draft of the Strategy be passed to Cabinet for its consideration prior to seeking its agreement of the Tree Strategy 2024/2039:

- That consideration should be given to how communication could be strengthened to ensure that members of the public understand why and when trees have been removed in their local area.
- Ensuring that the relevant website would be strengthened to help facilitate greater information sharing around trees and stronger engagement with Vale of Glamorgan Council Elected Members and Town/Community Councillors on this as well.
- That the Council should continue to use all available leverage and means at its disposal to ensure that local developers safeguard and retain existing trees and the new Local Development Plan should specifically set out how developers would be required to deliver on their commitments to plant trees as part of this process.
- To further promote opportunities for local community volunteers to support the implementation of the Tree Strategy, and to help provide them with the means of undertaking this i.e. consideration should be given on how volunteers could be given easier access to watering trees, such as the use of water bowsers.
- The Committee considered the development, implementation and responses to the consultation process for the Tree Strategy to be an exemplar of best practice and a clear demonstration of how the Vale of Glamorgan Council could listen and respond to comments and feedback made by the public and other stakeholders in an effective and fair way. This approach should be, where appropriate, rolled out and mirrored across other consultation process that the Council undertakes.

### Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(3) To enable Cabinet to consider the comments of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee prior to agreeing the Strategy.

### AGENDA ITEM 8. 1ST AND 2ND QUARTER SCRUTINY DECISION TRACKING OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND UPDATED WORK PROGRAMME SCHEDULE 2024/25 (DCR) -

#### RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the status of the actions listed in Appendices A and B to the report be agreed.

(2) T H A T the updated Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2024/25 attached at Appendix C to the report be approved and uploaded to the Council's website, subject to the following amendment:

- That the next update for the Vale of Glamorgan Tree Strategy be moved from the January 2025 meeting of the Committee to a later date, namely April 2025 instead.

### Reasons for recommendations

(1) To maintain effective tracking of the Committee's recommendations.

(2) For public information.