

No.

HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on 6th July, 2022.

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

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

Present: Councillor A. M. Collins (Chair), Councillor B. Loveluck-Edwards (Vice-Chair); Councillors J. Aviet, G.M. Ball, I. Buckley, G.D.D. Carroll, S.M. Hanks, W.A. Hennessy and S.D. Perkes.

Also present: C. Ireland (Citizens Advice Cardiff and Vale Representative) and V. John (Tenant Working Group / Panel Representative); Councillors E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health) and M.R. Wilson (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services).

113 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chair read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing”.

114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors S. Campbell and M.J.G. Morgan; G. Doyle and H. Smith (Representatives from the Tenant Working Group / Panel).

115 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

117 ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT: 2021/22 (REF) –

The reference from Cabinet of 9th June, 2022 was presented by the Head of Housing and Building Services to the Committee. The Council, as part of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, had a corporate responsibility to ensure there were effective arrangements in place for safeguarding children and adults who required specific Council services, in conjunction with the Cardiff and Vale Regional

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Safeguarding Board. The report provided an overview of the Corporate Safeguarding activities which had taken place across the Local Authority, such as:

- The development of a set of national safeguarding procedures led by the Vale of Glamorgan Council through the Cardiff and Vale Regional Safeguarding Board and implemented from November 2019. These procedures were available to Members, digitally via an 'app' that could be downloaded onto a smartphone. The Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer would look into how Members could get the application downloaded onto their corporate devices.
- The Council, through its Human Resources Department, had implemented an electronic Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) system that would speed up the DBS checking process, part of the pre-employment checks for new Council staff who were required to have these as part of their role.
- The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Regional Strategy was referred to and its requirement to deliver positive outcomes against its agreed overarching objectives. For example, a total of 363 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) cases were presented to a multi-agency meeting in order to discuss safeguarding issues for victims of domestic abuse that had been assessed as high risk during 2021/22 and the use of twice weekly meetings, multi-agency discussions that aimed to improve safeguarding measures by offering support at an earlier opportunity and intervention.
- With reference to Public Protection Notices (PPNs), the Vale's DAARC (Domestic Abuse Assessment and Referral Co-Ordinator) service was outlined to Members, explaining its origins and its role in handling low and medium level cases of domestic abuse in order to help prevent further escalation. Numbers had reduced from the previous year, due to South Wales Police's decision for PPNs without consent to no longer be shared with DAARC.
- Also referred to was target hardening, which provided victims of domestic abuse and violence a safe refuge in their home, i.e., using CCTV, etc. During 2021/22, 116 properties within the Vale of Glamorgan received target hardening. This could, in some cases, provide a more effective service than refuge provision (if assessed to be more effective than refuge accommodation and subject to the victim's needs).
- The impact of COVID-19 on service delivery was outlined, but it was stressed that safeguarding activity had continued during that period of time for the most vulnerable people within the Vale's communities in order to ensure that they were supported and protected. For example, due to the need to restrict home visits, Council staff had carried out over 1,200 telephone welfare checks of vulnerable households in order to check on their well-being and identify any cause for concern. The need to identify and target support towards vulnerable people and tenants in general was also being developed further via a new Tenant Profiling project.
- With regard to safeguarding practices, all of the Housing and Building Services' teams were trained to the appropriate level. This training also included frontline staff, such as maintenance staff, who accessed Council tenant homes. Furthermore, senior management within Housing and Building

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Services were part of the regional safeguarding arrangements, including adult practice reviews and MARAC.

- Housing Services submitted a substantial number of Multi Agency Referral Forms (MARFs) and Adult Safeguarding referrals, as well as undertaking safeguarding assessments for everyone that went into hostel and temporary accommodation and also provided wrap around services to those people as part of the temporary housing measure brought in due to COVID-19.
- The Council was also looking at the increase of incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), particularly in light of the summer school holidays, where they employed a multi-agency approach, encouraged activities and the use of social media in order to safeguard young people, as well as the ongoing regional Cardiff and Vale multi agency 'Channel Panel' around safeguarding and deterring individuals from terrorism.

The Head of Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) also outlined to the Committee the key safeguarding undertaken from her service area and within the remit of the Committee:

- In terms of safeguarding this was undertaken by very small teams but nevertheless these had a large impact on the residents of the Vale and the other areas covered by SRS.
- In terms of safeguarding older and vulnerable adults, SRS had dealt with a significant number of Doorstep Crime and 'Scam' cases targeting older / vulnerable residents in the region, often this had resulted in significant financial losses, with SRS intervening in these and achieving some £13,000 in redress for the victims, whilst offering support as well. There were considerable challenges around dealing with these types of fraud and crime, including the reluctance of persons to admit they had been the victim of fraud.
- In order to raise residents' awareness on scams and fraud, SRS had been working with Police partners in terms of training, while GP surgeries and pharmacies were supplied with new awareness raising material on scams and frauds to be displayed in their waiting areas, etc. Going forward, SRS were looking to collaborate with barbers and hairdressers as well in order to do similar awareness raising and to help people report such incidents.
- SRS were also involved in the installation of 'call blockers' to prevent scam, malicious and nuisance calls to residents; it was estimated that they blocked at least five such calls a day to an individual's telephone.
- SRS were also involved in safeguarding young people via enforcement and compliance measures around the monitoring and prevention of underage sales of tobacco, alcohol and nicotine inhaling products such as e-cigarettes, and their non-compliant versions, which had resulted in substantial seizures (SRS had also worked in conjunction with BBC's 'X-Ray' programme around this).
- SRS also continued to provide a service to the Vale around licensing taxi drivers. The vast majority of taxi drivers were reputable, but, and in order to protect vulnerable residents, SRS had referred four cases involving licensed taxi drivers to the Vale's Licensing Committees over 2021/22 following conviction for various offenses or for alleged inappropriate behaviour.

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The Head of Housing and Building Services also referred to the legal and statutory obligations of both Council staff and Elected Members around safeguarding and the potential requirement of Elected Members to undertake DBS checks should they require it (i.e. activities including children and vulnerable adults), as well as the ability of Members to feed through any safeguarding concerns to the Corporate Safeguarding Group.

Following the presentation of the report, the Committee raised the following comments and questions:

- On Councillor Aviet's query on how to report incidents involving 'loan sharks' and similar to the Local Authority, it was explained that this could be done via the Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit (WIMLU), hosted by SRS. The Head of SRS would share their contact details with Members and a new WIMLU website would be available soon which would improve accessibility and raise its profile.
- Councillor Ball raised a query regarding people who were at high risk of domestic abuse and that were staying in temporary accommodation, were they offered target hardening and how were they prioritised for permanent accommodation. It was explained that work had been done with Atal Y Fro who were the third sector organisation that provided specific bespoke guidance and advice to clients that were referred into the service. In terms of temporary accommodation, the Council would risk assess in order to see if this was the most appropriate accommodation. Accommodation at refuges were also available but had limited spaces available within the Vale and the rest of Wales. The Council's housing allocation policy (and the Housing Wales Act) also prioritised those persons confirmed as being subject to domestic abuse or violence regardless of whether that person was homeless or had accommodation.
- The Vice-Chair raised the following queries:
 - On whether the training that Council staff had or would be undertaking with regard to 'Ask and Act' (in order to identify violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence) would also be extended to Elected Members, it was explained that enquiries would be made with the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Co-Ordinator to see when this would be rolled out to Elected Members and any update shared with the Committee.
 - On the 80 people still deemed to be homeless / in Bed and Breakfast accommodation, and whether any analysis in terms of gender or age had been undertaken, it was explained that the majority were males under 40 years. The priority was to place these people in alternative accommodation provision and to expand housing stock based more on single bedroom accommodation and where necessary, bespoke housing to help with key support needs in order to help alleviate this issue and to prevent a return to rough sleeping as seen pre-COVID-19, although the availability of land remained a challenge.
 - On whether SRS had plans to target the issue of underage use of sunbeds, it was stated that SRS would be engaging with proprietors of Sunbed premises in order to remind them of their responsibilities around

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this issue. Any examples of noncompliance would be dealt with and if necessary 'test purchasing' would be used.

- Councillor Perkes asked:
 - Whether there had been increased reporting of domestic violence during lockdown and at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was explained that numbers had in fact decreased and had not significantly increased since. It was believed that this was a result of enabling people to get interventions and support for domestic abuse, etc. via alternative means during the pandemic i.e. the ability to report these at GP surgeries, pharmacies, etc.
 - On the ongoing issues around gaining consent at the point of the incident to enable information sharing via PPNs, the response was that the Council was working hard with South Wales Police in order for them to revisit their procedures to enable all PPNs and their vital information to be shared with DAARC.
- Councillor Buckley asked:
 - Whether the information provided by SRS relating to awareness raising around fraud and scams could be provided on the television / informational screens that were installed at some GP surgeries. In response, this was a good suggestion and something that could be looked at in terms of the promotion and raising awareness of residents around fraud, etc.
 - On the call blocking equipment, could residents buy these privately should they not be able to obtain these via SRS or the Council. It was explained that the main benefit of SRS installing call blockers for residents (rather than residents purchasing and installing themselves) was that those residents who were repeatedly targeted would also benefit from other forms of support that could be provided via SRS. In addition, the call blocking equipment was expensive, but SRS had been given funding in order to purchase more of these in order to better meet resident demand for their installation. What was also needed going forward was for there to be a review of what call blocking equipment had already been installed for residents and to see if these could be reused or recycled if they were no longer required, as well as looking to increase the stockpile of call blocking equipment.
- Councillor Hanks referred to the fall in home visits and the use of telephone consultations instead and asked if this situation would now be changing. It was explained that a 'hybrid' approach would be used incorporating the benefits of the use of technology and telephone calls with the continued benefits of having face to face visits and conversations for issues that could not be conveyed virtually. In addition, the Council's housing related support provider POBL would be officially opening their face-to-face service at Holton Road, Barry very shortly.
- On Councillor Hennessy's question on the effectiveness and involvement of local Neighborhood Watch Schemes in deterring anti-social behaviour, the Council and the Community Safety Team were great advocates for such schemes and regularly met with their co-ordinators and supported their activities. Due to COVID-19, neighbourhoods and communities had pulled together and these voluntary schemes had helped considerably with community safety during this time.

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

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report 2021/22 be noted.

Reason for recommendation

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

118 REVENUE MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST MAY 2022 (DEH) –

The purpose of the report, as outlined by the Operational Manager – Accountancy, was to advise the Committee of the progress relating to revenue expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st May, 2022, particularly those areas within the remit of the Committee. A new approach had been taken with regard to the report, by looking at the key headlines / themes seen across the Council overall during this period but to also continue to draw down into the specific areas of the Committee's remit. The key points raised included:

- In terms of revenue, emerging pressures during 2022/23 related to energy standing charges, general inflation particularly in areas such as school transport and cost of living and staffing pressures were being experienced across services and would need to be carefully monitored during the financial year.
- The majority of COVID-19 related funding from Welsh Government (WG) had ended in 2021/22 but there was still a small residual amount of funding that had continued into 2022/23 including Free School Meals, some elements of Social Services and any remaining self-isolation payments.
- In terms of housing and the approach to homelessness undertaken by the Council as part of COVID, the pre purchasing of temporary accommodation was ongoing, although WG funding was now reduced, and the Council was moving away from such arrangements (i.e. to reduce the reliance upon hotel accommodation for homeless clients).
- Regarding the grant funding for the Ukrainian sponsorship schemes, the arrangements for these were still being finalised. However, the Council were well under way in making cash payments to Ukrainian arrivals and were about to start providing £350 payments to their hosts within the Vale of Glamorgan.
- Whilst it was early in the financial year, the services that fell within this Committee's remit were currently projected to outturn on budget. In terms of the Youth Offending Service, Private Housing, Regulatory Services, General Fund Housing and HRA, there were no overspends projected at the moment, albeit that the Council would need to keep these under review due to the various pressures outlined earlier.
- In terms of efficiency savings targets for services within the remit of the Committee for 2022/23, these included £6k for General Fund Housing and £1k for Private Housing.

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The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services was invited to speak and wished to add that he had budgetary responsibility for some of the areas within the Committee's remit and would be monitoring these closely and deal with any issues or challenges that arose, i.e. increasing inflation. He was also keen to hear from the Scrutiny Committee on any suggestions and recommendations on any money saving or income generating they may have for the Council.

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

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the position with regard to the Authority's 2022/23 Revenue Budget within the remit of the Committee be noted.

Reason for recommendation

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

119 CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST MAY 2022 (DEH) –

The report, as presented by the by the Operational Manager – Accountancy, provided an update on the progress of the Capital Programme for the period 1st April to 31st May, 2022. Details by scheme were shown in Appendix 1. The report set out any requested changes to the 2022/23 and future years' Capital Programme. The key points and headlines raised included:

- High levels of inflation were impacting construction costs for the Council, particularly on the cost of materials as well as the impact due to a shortage of professional skills. This had led to tenders coming back over budget and then having to be retendered, redesigned or additional funding sought. The Council had also seen long lead times on the delivery of certain materials.
- With regard to the Housing Improvement Programme 2022/23, this included the heating retrofit scheme which had an ambitious and challenging target which may need to be revised during 2022/23 in order to reflect the Council's capacity to deliver it due to inflationary pressures and the skills shortages already referred to.
- Concerning the ENABLE grant (to help older, disabled, and vulnerable people live independently in their own homes), the Council had been allocated £202k, with £40k of the grant award linked to an uplift, if means testing was removed. The Council was only accepting the core funding at the present time until the review of the means testing system was undertaken, early next year. Therefore, the Council had only accepted £161k to be funded by a grant from WG at this time, via the Capital Programme, until the above review had been made.

Following the presentation of the report, the Committee raised the following comments and questions:

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- Councillor Hanks had a query regarding the Council's purchase of 12 electric vehicles in order to replace 12 diesel vehicles currently in use within the pool car fleet. She asked what the current numbers of vehicles were in the fleet and with the rise in Council staff working from home or via a more 'hybrid' approach, how many vehicles did the Council anticipate wanting to have in the future. It was explained there were approximately 40 vehicles currently within the pool car fleet, but this number would be verified, and Committee updated. In terms of the growing use of electric vehicles by the Council, it was important that the necessary infrastructure was put in place to make sure that they could be charged and utilised effectively. At present interim measures had been put in place to charge the existing electric vehicles in use, until permanent charging points had been installed at the Alps and Civic Office locations, via a phased approach. Committee would be informed of the exact deadline of and targets for this phased transfer of pool car vehicles over to electric. Furthermore, a review of pool car use and the numbers required, in light of the changes in working arrangements and ways of working, staff using their own vehicles in certain cases and the rise in fuel costs as well as the impact on social care staff who needed to use cars, was being undertaken. The greater use of electric vehicles by the Council as part of its drive toward carbon neutrality would also receive support via WG grants.
- Councillor Buckley asked about the potential of using hydrogen powered vehicles within the Council's fleet. This was being looked at, particularly in relation to larger vehicles used by the Council, i.e. waste and recycling vehicles. However, this was still an infant technology and so would be a longer-term goal, and the Council would be monitoring the development and implementation of the hydrogen industry and technology.

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

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made on delivering the 2022/23 Capital Programme for the schemes in the remit of the Committee be noted.
- (2) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority in relation to projects set out at Recommendation (2) of the report be noted.
- (3) T H A T the use of Emergency Powers as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.
- (4) T H A T the changes to the 2022/23 and future years' Capital Programme as set out at Recommendation (4) of the report be noted.

Reason for recommendations

(1-4) Having regard to the content of the report on Capital Programme progress, the use of Delegated Authority, the use of Emergency Powers and changes to the Capital Programme.

120 ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE 2021/22 (DEH) –

The performance report, presented by the Head of Housing and Building Services, outlined the Council's progress at Quarter 4 (Q4) (1st April 2021 to 31st March, 2022) towards achieving its Annual Delivery Plan (2021/22) commitments as aligned to its Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives. The appended presentation was intended to provide Members with an overview of end of year performance earlier in the calendar year. Key headlines included:

- Overall, this was a good news story for the Council –
 - All 4 Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives were attributed a Green performance status at Q4 to reflect the progress made to date. This was positive given the ongoing challenges arising from the pandemic.
 - 89% (287 out of 321) of planned activities outlined in the Council's Annual Delivery Plan had been attributed a Green performance reflecting the positive progress made during the quarter, 11% (34) of planned activities were attributed a Red status. Regarding the activities with a Red status, some of these were directly as a result of the COVID pandemic and others related to reprioritisation of services in response to the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, amongst other factors.
 - Progress in relation to Coronavirus recovery was also in this performance report to the Committee including issues pertinent to the Committee's remit. In relation to the Coronavirus recovery, there was a move to an 'endemic' phase around Coronavirus and recovery now but with the ongoing 'wave' in COVID-19 cases still being monitored.
 - Of the 149 performance measures aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives, data was reported for 67 measures where a performance status was applicable. 72% (48) measures were attributed a Green performance Status, with only a relatively small number of the measures receiving 7% (5), Amber status and 21% (14), Red status.
 - With regard to those planned activities within the remit of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee, 92% (34 out of 37) were on track / completed and given a Green performance status and 3(8%) a Red status.
 - Of the 18 measures reported, 67% (12) were attributed a Green performance status and 22% (4) Amber status, and 11% (2) Red status.
- The report also referred to the outcomes on the 4 Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives and activities under this Committee's remit, such as -
 - Community tensions monitoring had been improved.
 - The Council had completed its pledges in terms of Syrian and Afghan families and under the regional scheme that it had with Cardiff, continued to support such guests in its accommodation.
 - Providing training to residents and volunteers to be 'Digital Champions' and supporting people into work and training placements.
 - 329 tenancies had been maintained in excess of six months after receiving Money Advice and targeted support in order to ensure the sustainability of Council tenancies.

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- In terms of target hardening for victims of domestic abuse, 100% of victims reported feeling safer after the Council introduced additional safety measures into their homes.
- Regarding Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs), a high proportion of people who had a grant were satisfied those adaptations made them feel safer and more independent in their home.
- 97% of food establishments were 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards.
- Ongoing provision by the Council and volunteers of various food schemes around food insecurity and related services i.e. at the Penarth Food Pod.
- In terms of performance exceptions, several of these were addressed, i.e. the implementation of the Older Person Accommodation with Care, Care Ready and Support Strategy was being progressed and would be completed in the near future. On the Housing Development Programme slippage, delays had occurred due to COVID-19 and availability of contractors and supplies but work was still progressing or recommencing this year. On the Gypsy and Traveller site work a report was being drafted and sent to WG. In terms of prevention activity around homelessness, the Council had been one of the highest performing Councils pre-COVID, but it continued to be impacted by the COVID related measures in place for Local Authorities to re-house all homelessness persons anyway.
- With regard to the Council's ongoing Coronavirus response and recovery, the Head of SRS referred to the move away from the 'response' phase of this recovery, with a paring back of the requirements in place i.e. TTP (Test, Trace, Protect) which had moved to a targeting of high risk settings from breaking chains of transmission, and staff back in their substantive posts. However, there was also the need to maintain those skills and capabilities within SRS for future outbreaks of COVID-19 such as in Autumn / Winter.

Following the presentation of the report, the Committee raised the following comments and questions:

- Councillor Hennessy asked for and received updates on the following:
 - On the Colcot Clinic Project (housing development), a contractor had been identified for this work, with updates on this and the other parts of the Council's Housing Development Programme to be brought to this Committee in due course. Also outlined were the challenges these developments now faced in terms of inflated material prices etc. so although currently on track, future work could be impacted and / or additional capital required in order to complete them over the next few years.
 - On the new housing IT system, there had recently been a project board meeting with the contractors in order to develop and implement a cloud-based solution for a housing maintenance contractor system and an online self-service / report facility for Council tenants, under a two-phased approach. However, tenants would still be able to communicate face to face or via telephone as well to report issues, etc. The new system would also help to free up housing officers to undertake more hybrid and remote working, meaning they would be able to go out and see more clients and be within the Vale's neighbourhoods and communities more often.

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- Concerning an update on the sustainable alternative sewage arrangements for residents at Channel View, Marcross and Croft John, Penmark, it was explained that the current cesspit arrangements for such small rural communities were no longer fit for purpose, but alternative measures did come at some considerable cost; currently the Council were e.g. working through these costs with residents in some of these areas, who owned their homes and under the covenant were obliged to contribute to sewage costs, maintenance and upgrading (Council tenants in these areas were covered by their rents) in order to see what they could afford to contribute to replacing these old sewage arrangements.
- The Vice-Chair referred to the work around the Gypsy and Traveller site and that community's withdrawal from the related consultation, asking what could be done to encourage them to re-engage. It was explained that the consultation had been extended in order for the Council to have more informal discussions with the relevant Gypsy and Traveller community outside of the formal Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment process (GTAA). However, the community were wary of getting involved in the formal consultation due to external perceptions of them and how the assessment might impact the Council's response to their needs. Despite attempts to use Gypsies and Travellers Wales as an intermediary, the community would not complete the assessment questionnaires. This obviously would impact the ability of the Council to produce a policy that met Gypsy and Traveller needs, other than a previous understanding that the community wanted accommodation to be on their terms and for them to develop a suitable site independent of Council influence and live peaceably with neighbouring communities. The Council would continue to maintain contact and work with the Gypsy and Traveller community in order to try and get a resolution, as well as making regulatory inspections of the existing site in question.
- On Councillor Hanks' query regarding how the Council would cope with the increased numbers of tenants facing eviction due to debts and arrears after the restart of the eviction process following COVID-19, it was explained that the Council had anticipated this situation would arise (which had also been exacerbated by rising housing prices) and the Council sought to both place such families in its temporary accommodation if required but also to make extensive efforts to help prevent such evictions in the first place. For example, the use of the Vale Assisted Tenancy Scheme (VATS) to help tenants provide bonds and rents to private sector landlords in advance, a local leasing scheme which could give tenants longer term leases of 3, 5, and 7 years, as well as the Council's programme of building additional housing and looking at various means of attracting more private landlords to work with the Council in order to provide accommodation (i.e. via tenancy insurance schemes). Also, funding had been provided in order for the Council to appoint a Rapid Rehousing Co-ordinator in order to work closely with other Council departments and agencies to tackle homelessness. Wherever possible, the Council would also work with tenants in order to tackle their arrears in order to prevent their eviction in the first place.
- Councillor Perkes raised the following:
 - On the Gypsy and Traveller site and the land opposite to it in Sully, it was explained that the Council owned land further down from the site and enquiries would be made with Council colleagues as to its suitability as a

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potential alternative site for the Gypsy and Traveller community, although there were issues within the area about flooding which could impact its viability as an alternative site.

- On the possibility of duplicating the temporary, 'modular' accommodation model used at Court Road in Barry elsewhere in the Vale and if there would be WG funding in order to achieve this, it was explained that the Council was looking at potential 'ready' or 'active' sites within the Vale where such modular accommodation could be built quickly. The Vale of Glamorgan Council was also talking to Cardiff Council about their temporary building approach (involving 'container' type accommodation) and looking at regional co-operation on such building. The key issue however, remained the availability of land and particularly 'brownfield' sites, due to the challenges and time taken with having to install sewage, water mains and electricity 'from scratch' at their 'greenfield' equivalents. This situation remained acute, particularly with the ongoing need to house both local residents and the challenges around housing persons fleeing the war in Ukraine. A report would be brought to the Committee in due course concerning potential active sites for temporary housing development.

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

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2021/22 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Wellbeing Objectives within the remit of the Committee be noted.
- (2) T H A T the remedial actions to be taken to address areas of under-performance and to tackle the key challenges identified within the remit of the Committee be noted.
- (3) T H A T the progress being made through the Council's recovery strategy and Directorate Recovery Plans in response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic be noted.

Reason for recommendations

- (1-3) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.