



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL
RHONDDA CYNON TAF
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cyfarfod rhithwir o'r CABINET
Dydd Iau, 21ain Mai, 2020 am 3.30 pm

Dolen gyswllt: Hannah Williams – Uned Busnes y Cyngor
(Rhif ffôn. 01443 424062)

Os bydd Cynghorwyr yn dymuno cael cyfle i annerch y Cabinet am unrhyw fater ar yr agenda isod, rhaid iddyn nhw ofyn am gael gwneud hynny erbyn 5pm, dydd Mawrth, 19 Mai 2020.

Nodwch mai'r Cadeirydd biau'r penderfyniad i ganiatáu'r cais am annerch y Cabinet. Bydd pob cais yn cael ei ystyried ar sail y materion sy'n cael eu trafod ar yr agenda, buddiant y cyhoedd/y Cynghorydd ynglŷn â phob mater, a'r gofynion o ran y materion sydd i'w trafod ar y diwrnod hwnnw. Dylai unrhyw Aelod sy'n dymuno siarad gwneud hynny yn unol â'r trefniadau sydd wedi'u pennu gan y Cadeirydd ar gyfer rhoi cyfle i'r rheiny nad ydynt yn Aelodau i gymryd rhan mewn cyfarfodydd rhithwir. I wneud cais, anfonwch e-bost i UnedBusnesGweithredolaRheoleiddiol@rctcbc.gov.uk

MATERION I'W TRAFOD

1. DATGAN BUDDIANT

Derbyn datganiadau o fuddiannau personol gan Aelodau, yn unol â gofynion y Cod Ymddygiad.

Nodwch:

1. Mae gofyn i Aelodau ddatgan rhif a phwnc yr eitem mae eu buddiant yn ymwneud ag ef a mynegi natur y buddiant personol hwnnw; a
2. Lle bo Aelodau'n ymneilltuo o'r cyfarfod o ganlyniad i ddatgelu buddiant sy'n rhagfarnu, mae **rhaid** iddyn nhw roi gwybod i'r Cadeirydd pan fyddan nhw'n gadael.

2. COFNODION

Derbyn cofnodion cyfarfodydd y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd ar 13 Chwefror 2020 a 20 Chwefror 2020 yn rhai cywir.

(Tudalennau 5 - 16)

3. YMATEB Y CYNGOR I ARGYFWNG COVID-19

Derbyn adroddiad y Prif Weithredwr, sy'n rhannu manylion am ymateb y Cyngor i argyfwng COVID-19 â'r Cabinet.

(Tudalennau 17 - 28)

4. CYNLLUN DIRPRWYO'R ARWEINYDD

Derbyn [Cynllun Dirprwyo'r Arweinydd](#) yn dilyn y diwygiad diweddar sef:

- Penodi Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Cymuned i Oedolion a'r Gymraeg

5. MATERION BRYG

Trafod unrhyw faterion brys y mae'r Cadeirydd yn eu gweld yn briodol.



Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu

Cylchrediad:-

Y Cynghorwyr: Y Cynghorydd A Morgan (Cadeirydd)
Y Cynghorydd M Webber (Is-gadeirydd)
Y Cynghorydd R Bevan
Y Cynghorydd A Crimmings
Y Cynghorydd M Norris
Y Cynghorydd J Rosser
Y Cynghorydd R Lewis
Y Cynghorydd C Leyshon
Y Cynghorydd G Hopkins

Swyddogion: Chris Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr
Christian Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu
Gio Isingrini, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant
Nigel Wheeler, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran – Ffyniant, Datblygu, a Gwasanaethau Rheng-flaen
Paul Mee, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned.
Richard Evans, Cyfarwyddwr - Materion Adnoddau Dynol
David Powell, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Eiddo'r Cyngor
Simon Gale, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu
Andy Wilkins, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Barrie Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol
Gaynor Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant

Tudalen wag

PWYLLGOR CABINET CYNGOR RHONDDA CYNON TAF CABINET

Cofnodion o gyfarfod y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd Dydd Iau, 13 Chwefror 2020 am 10.30 am ym Siambr y Cyngor, Y Pafiliynau, Parc Hen Lofa'r Cambrian, Cwm Clydach, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

Y Cyngorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol - Cabinet Aelodau oedd yn bresennol:-:-

Y Cyngorydd A Morgan (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorydd M Webber Y Cyngorydd R Bevan
Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings Y Cyngorydd M Norris
Y Cyngorydd J Rosser Y Cyngorydd R Lewis
Y Cyngorydd C Leyshon

Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr
Mr C Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu
Mr G Isingrini, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant
Mr P Mee, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned.
Mr R Evans, Cyfarwyddwr - Materion Adnoddau Dynol
Mr A Wilkins, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol
Ms G Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant

103 Datgan Buddiant

Yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, doedd dim datganiadau o fuddiant ynglŷn â'r agenda.

104 Cofnodion

PENDERFYNWYD cymeradwyo cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Ionawr 2020 yn rhai cywir.

105 Newid i Drefn yr Agenda

Cytunodd y Cabinet y byddai'r agenda yn cael ei thrafod mewn trefn wahanol yn unol â'r manylion yn y cofnodion isod.

106 Trafod swyddi Swyddogion Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant yr adroddiad i'r Cabinet, a oedd yn gofyn am drafod cyllid ar gyfer cyflogi Swyddogion Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd mewn chwe ysgol uwchradd/ysgol bob oed er mwyn mynd i'r afael â phresenoldeb mewn ysgolion.

Rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr wybod i'r Aelodau y bu dirywiad ym mhresenoldeb mewn ysgolion uwchradd yn RhCT yn ystod y flwyddyn academaidd 2018/19, a bu RhCT yn yr 22^{ain} safle yn nhabl presenoldeb Cymru Gyfan. Yn hynny o beth, er mwyn sicrhau bod y disgyblion sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn cael cymorth, cafodd model arfer gorau ei nodi o fewn yr ysgolion cynradd. Y gred oedd bod hwn o fudd wrth gynnal presenoldeb yn ogystal â ffurfio a gwella perthynas â rhieni yn y lleoliadau a oedd yn cyflawni waethaf.

Tynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr sylw'r Aelodau at Adran 5 yr adroddiad, lle'r oedd y cynnig o ran cyflogi Swyddogion Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd wedi'i amlinellu. Gofynnwyd i'r Aelodau ystyried peilota gosod Swyddog Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd yn yr ysgolion canlynol sy'n tangyflawni:

- Ysgol Gymuned y Porth (Coch)
- Ysgol Gymunedol Aberdâr (Coch)
- Ysgol Gyfun Aberpennar (Oren)
- Ysgol Gymuned Glynrhedynog (Oren)
- Ysgol Gymuned Tonyrefail (Melyn)
- Ysgol Nantgwyn (Melyn)

Lleisiodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant ei chefnogaeth i'r cynnig a soniodd am Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Glen-boi, lle'r oedd rôl y Swyddog Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd wedi gweithio'n dda iawn i ennyn diddordeb teuluoedd a gwella presenoldeb.

Gwnaeth yr Arweinydd a'r Dirprwy Arweinydd sylwadau cadarnhaol am y cynnig a chytunon nhw fod angen rhannu arfer da gan fod cefnogi teuluoedd yn hanfodol.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Nodi'r wybodaeth oedd wedi ei chynnwys yn yr adroddiad;
2. Ariannu a chyflogi Swyddogion Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd mewn chwe ysgol uwchradd / ysgol bob oed i helpu i wella presenoldeb.

107 Canlyniadau Arholiadau Cyfnod Allweddol 4 a Chyfnod Allweddol 5 a Chategoriâu Ysgolion Cynradd ac Uwchradd ar gyfer 2019/20

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant gadarnhad terfynol i'r Cabinet o ran canlyniadau arholiadau Cyfnod Allweddol 4 a Chyfnod Allweddol 5 yn 2018/19, a chategoriâu Ysgolion Cynradd ac Uwchradd yn ôl system gategoreiddio Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer 2019/20. Cyn ei chyflwyniad, rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr wybod am gamgymeriad yn ei hadroddiad, gan gadarnhau fod y data yn derfynol, a ddim yn ddata dros dro.

Aeth y Cyfarwyddwr yn ei blaen i roi trosolwg o'r canlyniadau, gan ddod i'r casgliad bod y deilliannau o ran categorïau'r ysgolion ar y cyfan yn awgrymu gwelliant yn nifer yr ysgolion cynradd sydd angen cymorth 'gwyrd' a 'choch', a bod y gategoreiddio o ran ysgolion uwchradd yn parhau'n gyson. Serch hynny, cafodd yr Aelodau wybod ei bod yn anodd gwneud cymariaethau ystyriol rhwng 2018 a 2019 oherwydd bod deilliannau 2019 yn cynnwys data 'dyfarniad cyntaf' yn unig.

Nododd yr Aelodau fod Llywodraeth Cymru ddim yn darparu data ynglŷn â

chyflawniadau dysgwyr yn y meysydd canlynol bellach, er mwyn symud oddi wrth fesuriadau trothwy: pynciau unigol, gan gynnwys Bagloriaeth Cymru ar lefel Sylfaen neu Genedlaethol, mesuriadau cyflawniad trothwy, sef Dangosydd Pynciau Craidd neu Drothwy Lefel 2.

Diolchodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant i'r Cyfarwyddwr am yr adroddiad cadarn. Roedd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet yn falch o nodi bod y Cyngor yn parhau i fod yn uchelgeisiol ac yn rhoi mesurau yn eu lle i wella cyflawniad lle y bo'n bosibl, er bod amddifadedd yn effeithio ar gyflawniad addysgol.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Nodi'r wybodaeth oedd wedi ei chynnwys yn yr adroddiad;
2. Nodi'r camau a gymerwyd hyd yma a'r ymyrraeth a gynlluniwyd yn y dyfodol gan y Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant mewn partneriaeth â Gwasanaethau Addysg yr Awdurdod Lleol a Chonsortium Canolbarth y De i gefnogi ysgolion sydd wedi'u categoraiddio ar hyn o bryd yn ambr a choch.

108 Cynllun Dirprwyo'r Arweinydd

Rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu y newyddion diweddaraf i'r Aelodau am y newid i Gynllun Dirprwyo'r Arweinydd, a **PHENDERFYNWYD**:

1. Nodi cynnwys Cynllun Dirprwyo'r Arweinydd; a
2. Nodi bod hawl gan Arweinydd y Cyngor i newid y Cynllun Dirprwyo mewn perthynas â swyddogaethau gweithredol unrhyw bryd yn ystod y flwyddyn; a bod diweddariad o adran 3A yn cael ei gyflwyno i Aelodau yng nghyfarfod nesaf y Cabinet.

(**Nodwch**: Ar y pwynt yma, gadawodd Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser y cyfarfod.)

109 Argymhellion Grŵp Llywio'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Hinsawdd

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu argymhellion Grŵp Llywio'r Cabinet ar Faterion yr Hinsawdd i'r Cabinet, yn dilyn ei gyfarfod ar 28 Ionawr 2020. Yno, trafodwyd adroddiad ynglŷn â'r Polisi Rheoli Glaswellt Blodeuog Drafft ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf ac adroddiad ynglŷn â'r camau y mae modd eu cymryd yn yr Ardaloedd Rheoli Ansawdd Aer, er mwyn sicrhau bod ansawdd aer yn gwella ledled y Fwrdeistref Sirol.

O ran yr adroddiad ar y Polisi Rheoli Glaswellt Blodeuog, rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth wybod bod y Grŵp Llywio o blaid y cynigion i gynyddu nifer y safleoedd lle mae blodau gwyllt yn cael eu rheoli a sefydlu gwefan Bioamrywiaeth.

O ran yr adroddiad ynglŷn ag Ardaloedd Rheoli Ansawdd Aer, rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth wybod bod y Grŵp Llywio wedi trafod 'Diwrnod Aer Glân' ar 20 Mehefin 2020. Teimlai'r Grŵp Llywio y byddai cyfranogiad y Cyngor yn y fenter yn hyrwyddo neges gadarnhaol i'w drigolion ond cytunwyd y byddai angen cyfleu'r neges gywir, boed hynny o ran rhannu ceir, beicio i'r gwaith neu blannu coed. Yn ogystal â hynny, roedd y Grŵp Llywio'n argymhell bod angen

nodi camau gweithredu hyfyw, hirdymor i'w cynnwys yn Rhaglen Gyfalaf y Priffyrdd y Cyngor i'r Cabinet eu hystyried, yn ogystal â bwrw ymlaen â chamau gweithredu ymarferol, byrdymor.

Adleisiodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Cymunedau, Diwylliant a'r Gymraeg deimladau'r Grŵp Llywio mewn perthynas â'r adroddiad ar Bolisi Rheoli Glaswellt Blodeuog. Nododd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet bwysigrwydd annog bioamrywiaeth ond ailadroddodd yr angen i gyfleu i'r cyhoedd nad yw'n ymarfer torri costau.

Aeth yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ymlaen i siarad am yr adroddiad Ardaloedd Rheoli Ansawdd Aer, gan nodi, yn gyffredinol, bod ansawdd aer ar draws RhCT wedi'i reoli'n dda, gyda dim ond un ar bymtheg o ardaloedd bach wedi'u nodi.

Manteisiodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd ar y cyfle i ganmol y Grŵp Llywio ar faterion yr Hinsawdd am y gwaith helaeth sydd wedi'i wneud mewn cyfnod mor fyr.

Wrth siarad am y Polisi Rheoli Glaswellt Blodeuog, roedd yr Aelodau'n cydnabod pwysigrwydd arwyddion a chyfathrebu i sicrhau bod trigolion yn deall yr angen am fioamrywiaeth ar draws y Fwrdeistref.

PENDERFYNWYD:

1. Nodi cynnwys y ddau adroddiad a drafodwyd gan Grŵp Llywio'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Hinsawdd ar 28 Ionawr 2020 ac
2. Argymhellion Grŵp Llywio'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Hinsawdd:
 - I. Cymeradwyo Polisi Rheoli Rheoli Glaswellt Blodeuog Rhondda Cynon Taf
 - II. Parhau i symud ymlaen gyda'r camau gweithredu ymarferol, byrdymor sydd wedi'u nodi yn Nhabl B yr adroddiad Ardaloedd Rheoli Ansawdd Aer;
 - III. O ystyried amgylchiadau lleol cyfredol, bod y Cyfarwyddwr Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymuned yn gweithio gyda'r Cyfarwyddwr Ffyniant, Datblygu, a Gwasanaethau Rheng-flaen i nodi'r gweithredoedd hyfyw, hirdymor o Dabl B yr adroddiad Ardaloedd Rheoli Ansawdd Aer, i'w cynnwys yn Rhaglen Gyfalaf Priffyrdd y Cyngor, i'w ystyried gan y Cabinet;
 - IV. Bod y Cyngor yn ceisio ymgysylltu â thrigolion ynglŷn â'r Diwrnod Aer Glân, sy'n cael ei gynnal ar 20 Mehefin 2020, a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cymru ac sy'n rhan o'r ymgyrch Diwrnod Aer Glân ehangach ledled y DU.

110 Gwneud Gwahaniaeth: Cynllun Corfforaethol y Cyngor 2020-2024 (Drafft)

Cyflwynodd y Prif Weithredwr ddrafft newydd o Gynllun Corfforaethol 2020 - 2024, gan egluro bod y Cynllun drafft yn gosod gweledigaeth ar gyfer y Fwrdeistref Sirol ac yn nodi'r blaenoriaethau a'r amcanion y bydd y Cyngor yn canolbwyntio arnynt dros y pedair blynedd ddilynol.

Siaradodd y Prif Weithredwr am yr ymgynghoriad, a gynhaliwyd dros gyfnod o 12 wythnos, a chyfeiriodd yr Aelodau at atodiad yr adroddiad, lle amlinellwyd yr adborth. Nododd yr Aelodau fod yr adborth yn arbennig o gadarnhaol gyda mandad clir yn cefnogi Gweledigaeth y Cyngor a'r tair blaenoriaeth.

Siaradodd yr Arweinydd am ba mor hanfodol yw'r Cynllun Corfforaethol i RCT, gan nodi ei fod yn paentio darlun ledled y sir, gyda'r holl adroddiadau cyllideb yn

cyd-fynd ag ef. Roedd yr Arweinydd yn falch o ddweud bod holl flaenoriaethau Cynllun Corfforaethol blaenorol y Cyngor wedi'u cyflawni a gofynnodd am ddiolch i'r holl staff am eu cyfranogiad amhrisiadwy.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Trafod a herio'r Cynllun Corfforaethol drafft;
2. Nodi'r adborth o'r broses ymgynghori;
3. Cyflwyno'r Cynllun Corfforaethol drafft i'r Cyngor yn ei gyfarfod ar 4 Mawrth 2020.

111 Cydweithio ar yr Uned Trafnidiaeth Integredig

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Rheng-flaen yr adroddiad, a oedd yn ceisio cymeradwyaeth y Cabinet ar gyfer Uned Trafnidiaeth Integredig Cynghorau Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili a Rhondda Cynon Taf, sef prosiect cydweithredol i greu canolfan ragoriaeth ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau trafndiaeth ar draws y ddau awdurdod lleol.

Cyfeiriwyd yr aelodau at Adran 5 yr adroddiad, lle'r oedd y cynnig i'w ystyried wedi'i amlinellu, sef dod ag adnoddau ynghyd trwy Femorandwm Cyd-ddealltwriaeth, a fyddai'n cael ei oruchwyllo gan fwrdd/grŵp llywio ar y cyd.

Pwysleisiodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth na fydd darlun clir ar gael ynglŷn â chyflawniad y fenter cydweithredol o'i chymharu a'r cynllun busnes a chyflawni gwreiddiol nes y bydd 12 mis llawn o ddata ar gael.

Canmolodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth y cynnig a nododd y byddai trigolion yn parhau i dderbyn y gwasanaethau gorau, er gwaetha'r gostyngiad o ran cyllid gan y Llywodraeth. Dywedodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ei bod yn edrych ymlaen at yr adolygiad ymhen 12 mis.

Roedd y Dirprwy Arweinydd yn falch o'r cynnig a nododd fod yr adroddiad yn tystio i barodrwydd y Cyngor i ymgysylltu â'i Awdurdodau Lleol cyfagos i wella'r gwasanaethau sy'n cael eu darparu i drigolion.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Y bydd swyddogion y Cyngor yn gweithio gyda Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili i archwilio sefydlu canolfan ragoriaeth ar gyfer cyflenwi gwasanaeth trafndiaeth ar draws Caerffili a Rhondda Cynon Taf;
2. Y bydd adroddiad pellach yn dod gerbron y Cabinet ynglŷn â deilliannau'r adolygiad hwnnw yn y dyfodol iddyn nhw ei ystyried yn ffurfiol.

112 Cefnogi Busnesau Tref a Manwerthu yn Rhondda Cynon Taf – Cynllun Lleihau Ardrethi Busnes Lleol

Cyflwynodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol i'r Cabinet ganlyniadau'r broses ymgynghori ar Gynllun Lleihau Ardrethi Busnes Lleol ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn ogystal â diweddariad am barhad Cynllun Rhyddhad Ardrethi'r Stryd Fawr ac Ardrethi Manwerthu Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer 2020/21.

Esboniodd y Cyfarwyddwr fod y cynnig yn cyflwyno rhyddhad dewisol lleol i'w ddarparu yn ychwanegol at Ryddhad Ardrethi'r Stryd Fawr Llywodraeth Cymru

hyd at uchafswm o £300 i bob busnes cymwys. Tynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr sylw'r Aelodau at Atodiad 3 yr adroddiad, lle'r oedd canlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad wyth wythnos wedi'u hamlinellu.

Siaradodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol yn gadarnhaol am yr adroddiad a chroesawodd Cynllun Ryddhad Ardrethi Manwerthu Llywodraeth Cymru, ynghyd â chynnig y Cyngor i gyflwyno rhyddhad dewisol lleol ychwanegol. Roedd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet yn siomedig mai dim ond 26 o bobl a ymatebodd i'r ymgynghoriad ar-lein o'r 485 o fusnesau a fyddai'n elwa o'r gefnogaeth.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Nodi canlyniad yr ymarfer ymgynghori fel sydd wedi'i nodi ym mharagraff 7 yr adroddiad;
2. Nodi parhad Cynllun Rhyddhad Ardrethi'r Stryd Fawr ac Ardrethi Manwerthu Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer y flwyddyn 2020/21;
3. Parhau â'r Cynllun Lleihau Ardrethi Busnes Lleol arfaethedig ar gyfer 2020/21.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 11.15 am

**Cllr A Morgan
Cadeirydd.**



PWYLLGOR CABINET CYNGOR RHONDDA CYNON TAF CABINET

Cofnodion o gyfarfod y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd Dydd Iau, 20 Chwefror 2020 am 10.30 am ym Siambr y Cyngor, Y Pafiliynau, Parc Hen Lofa'r Cambrian, Cwm Clydach, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

Y Cyngorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol - Cabinet Aelodau oedd yn bresennol:-:-

Y Cyngorydd A Morgan (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorydd M Webber Y Cyngorydd R Bevan
Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings Y Cyngorydd M Norris
Y Cyngorydd J Rosser Y Cyngorydd R Lewis

Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr
Mr D Powell, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Eiddo'r Cyngor
Mr G Isingrini, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant
Mr N Wheeler, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran – Ffyniant, Datblygu, a Gwasanaethau Rheng-flaen
Mr R Evans, Cyfarwyddwr - Materion Adnoddau Dynol
Mr A Wilkins, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol
Ms G Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant

Y Cyngorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol eraill oedd yn bresennol

113 Absenoldebau

Daeth ymddiheuriad am absenoldeb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol C. Leyshon.

114 Datgan Buddiant

Yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, doedd dim datganiadau o fuddiant ynglŷn â'r agenda.

115 Ymrwymiad y Cyngor i Ddarparu Gwasanaethau Cyngori Addysg ar y Cyd yn y Dyfodol

Rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Addysg a Chynhwysiant gyflwyniad i'r Cabinet ynglŷn â phenderfyniad Cydbwyllgor Consortiwm Canolbarth y De i ystyried gwasanaethau cyngori addysg mewn partneriaeth â'r pedwar cyngor arall yn y rhanbarth am y dair blynedd nesaf o leiaf.

Cyfeiriodd y Cyfarwyddwr at yr adolygiad annibynnol o'r Consortiwm, a gomisiynwyd gan Bartneriaeth ISOS, gan dynnu sylw'r Aelodau at atodiadau'r adroddiad, lle mae'r adolygiad a'r cynllun gweithredu, sydd bellach wedi'i gytuno gan y Cydbwyllgor, wedi'i amlinellu. Roedd yr Aelodau'n falch o nodi bod yr adroddiad yn dangos bod cyflawniad addysgol Rhanbarth Canolbarth y De wedi rhagori ar gyflawniad y tri Rhanbarth arall.

Yn ogystal â hynny, clywodd y Cabinet fod yr adroddiad wedi'i gyflwyno i Bwyllgor Craffu – Plant a Phobl Ifainc y Cyngor ar 12 Chwefror 2020, ac fod yr Aelodau wedi croesawu'r adolygiad gan ISOS ond hefyd wedi pwysleisio fod angen gwella'r cyfleoedd i swyddogaethau craffu'r awdurdod lleol herio cyflawniad y Consortiwm.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr wrth yr Aelodau nad oes modd i'r Cyngor dynnu allan o'r gytundeb tan 31 Mawrth 2022.

Gwnaeth yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Addysg a Chynhwysiant sylwadau cadarnhaol am ganlyniad yr adolygiad, gan gyfeirio at ba mor bwysig yw nodi meysydd i'w gwella. Dywedodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet y byddai'r adroddiad yn cynnig sefydlogrwydd ar adeg lle mae'r sector addysg yng Nghymru yn wynebu newidiadau sylweddol.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Nodi cynnwys yr adroddiad; a
2. Cefnogi penderfyniad Cydbwyllgor Consortiwm Canolbarth y De i barhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau cynghori addysg ar y cyd, mewn partneriaeth â'r pedwar cyngor arall yn y rhanbarth, am o leiaf tair blynedd.

116 Polisi Ffioedd a Thaliadau'r Cyngor 2020-2021

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol adroddiad i'r Aelodau sy'n amlinellu'r diwygiadau arfaethedig i lefelau ffioedd a thaliadau'r Cyngor ar gyfer 2020/21, yn ogystal â rhoi gwybodaeth am y ffioedd a'r taliadau sydd eisoes wedi'u cymeradwyo y mae modd eu cynnwys yn y Strategaeth Gyllideb arfaethedig ar gyfer 2020/21.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr fod adolygiad y Cabinet o'r ffioedd a'r taliadau yn rhan o drafeniadau cynllunio ariannol Tymor Canolig y Cyngor, a bod cynnig i roi cynnydd safonol o 1.5% ar waith o 1 Ebrill 2020.

Tynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr sylw'r Aelodau at Adran 5 yr adroddiad, lle roedd crynodeb o'r ffioedd a thaliadau arfaethedig sydd ddim yn ymwneud â'r cynnydd safonol:

- Hamdden am Oes - Dim cynnydd
- Taliadau Meysydd Parcio - Dim cynnydd;
- Ffioedd chwarae yr haf a'r gaeaf (Clybiau Chwaraeon) - Dim cynnydd;
- Prydau Ysgol (Cynradd ac Uwchradd) - Cynnydd o 5c fesul pryd (wedyn dim cynnydd am y ddwy flynedd nesaf, h.y. 2021/22 a 2022/23);
- Pryd-ar-glud a Phrydau mewn Canolfannau Oriau Dydd - Cynnydd o 10c fesul pryd;
- Lido Pontypridd (ffi defnyddwyr sy'n oedolion) - Cynnydd o 50c fesul cyfnod nodio i oedolyn;
- Parc Treftadaeth Cwm Rhondda - Cynnydd o £1 fesul tocyn mynediad i

oedolion a thocyn teulu ar gyfer Taith Pyllau Glo Cymru (y daith danddaearol), ac i safoni'r ffi 'dim mynediad' i oedolion a phlant ar gyfer Ogorf Siôn Corn hyd at £10

Cyfeiriodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Threftadaeth at gynnydd y pris i oedolion sy'n defnyddio'r Lido, gan nodi fod trigolion wedi ymateb yn gadarnhaol i hyn yn yr ymgynghoriad.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Cymeradwyo'r lefelau diwygiedig arfaethedig ar gyfer holl ffioedd a thaliadau'r Cyngor fel sydd wedi'u hamlinellu yn adran 5 o'r adroddiad ac sydd wedi'u nodi yn Atodiad 1 o'r adroddiad;
2. Ymgorffori'r effaith gyllidebol net (£2 fil ar gyfer 2020/21) i gynigion y strategaeth gyllideb i'w hystyried gan y Cabinet a'r Cyngor fel y bo'n briodol.
3. Nodi'r ffioedd a'r taliadau sydd wedi'u cymeradwyo eisoes ac wedi'u cynnwys yn strategaeth gyllideb arfaethedig 2020/21.

117 Cyllideb Refeniw'r Cyngor ar gyfer 2020/21

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol ganlyniadau ail gam yr ymgynghoriad ar y Gyllideb i'r Cabinet er mwyn i'r Aelodau ystyried a diwygio'r strategaeth gyllideb ddrafft yr hoffent ei hargymell i'r Cyngor yn y cyfarfod ar 4 Mawrth 2020.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr, er bod yr hinsawdd ariannol yn parhau i fod yn her, hyd yma, mae'r Cyngor wedi cyflawni cyllidebau cytbwys o flwyddyn i flwyddyn, a hynny ochr yn ochr â rhaglen fuddsoddi gadarn, sy'n cefnogi blaenoriaethau allweddol.

Gan ystyried effaith Storm Dennis a'r dinistr a achoswyd yn RhCT o ganlyniad i'r llyfogydd, gofynnwyd i'r Aelodau awdurdodi'r Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol i ddiwygio adroddiad strategaeth y gyllideb er mwyn adlewyrchu effaith y dyraniad o £1 miliwn o Gronfeydd Cyffredinol y Cyngor mewn ymateb i Storm Dennis.

Manteisiodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd ar y cyfle i ddiolch i'r garfan ariannol drylwyr, yr oedd hi'n ei ystyried yn ased i RhCT, a'r staff a oedd wedi parhau i weithio'n galed. Nododd y Dirprwy Arweinydd fod y cynnydd arfaethedig yn Nhrefn y Cyngor o 2.85% ar gyfer 2020/21, yn sefydlog o ystyried y pwysau ariannol parhaus, a'i fod yn isel o'i gymharu â'r rhai sydd wedi'u cynnig mewn awdurdodau lleol cyfagos.

Manteisiodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd ar y cyfle i siarad am yr erchyllterau a achoswyd gan Storm Dennis yn y cymunedau lleol a chanmolodd y trigolion am y gefnogaeth y maent wedi'i rhoi i'w gilydd. Roedd y Dirprwy Arweinydd yn hapus i gefnogi'r argymhelliad ychwanegol, gan nodi y byddai'r taliad yn helpu trigolion a busnesau ar adeg mor anodd.

Roedd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol hefyd yn hapus i gefnogi'r argymhelliad ychwanegol a nododd, er bod Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn argymhell bod y Cronfeydd Wrth Gefn Cyffredinol yn parhau i fod yn uwch na'r isafswm o £10 miliwn, y dylai'r arian gael ei ddefnyddio mewn argyfwng - fel yw'r achos ar hyn o bryd.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Argymell y Strategaeth Gyllideb i'r Cyngor ar 4 Mawrth 2020;
2. Awdurdodi'r Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol i newid lefel y cyfraniad o'r Gronfa Cynllunio Ariannol Tymor Canolig a Thrawsnewid Gwasanaeth, o ganlyniad i unrhyw newid i lefelau adnoddau'r Cyngor a gyhoeddwyd yn y Setliad Llywodraeth Leol Terfynol; a

Awdurdodi'r Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol i ddiwygio adroddiad strategaeth y gyllideb i adlewyrchu effaith y dyraniad o £1 miliwn o'r Cronfeydd Wrth Gefn C

118 Rhaglen Gyfalaf y Cyngor 2020/21-2022/23

Cyflwynodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol y Rhaglen Gyfalaf tair blynedd arfaethedig ar gyfer 2020/21 i 2022/23 i'r Cabinet.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr bod y rhaglen tair blynedd arfaethedig yn cynrychioli buddsoddiad o £131.772 miliwn ar y cyfan ac mae'n cynnwys:

- Rhaglen graidd o £42.300 miliwn dros y tair blynedd nesaf;
- Benthycia darbodus ar gyfer swm o £20.249 miliwn i gefnogi Rhaglen Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif, Datblygiad Llys Cadwyn a gwelliannau i'r priffyrdd;
- £16.819 miliwn o grantiau penodol;
- £29.223 miliwn o gronfeydd wrth gefn a chyfraniadau cyllid wedi'u clustnodi a oedd wedi'u dyrannu i gynlluniau a blaenoriaethau buddsoddi;
- Derbyniadau cyfalaf, yn ychwanegol at y dyraniad craidd tair blynedd, o £10.283 miliwn; a
- Cronfeydd wrth gefn ychwanegol wedi'u clustnodi gwerth £1.658 miliwn a benthycia darbodus ychwanegol gwerth £7.500 miliwn i ariannu blaenoriaethau buddsoddi, ynghyd â cyllid cyfalaf Llywodraeth Cymru gwerth £2.692 miliwn.

O ran y cronfeydd wrth gefn wedi'u clustnodi gwerth £1.658 miliwn, sy'n creu cyfanswm o £11.850 miliwn ynghyd â'r benthycia darbodus, soniodd y Cyfarwyddwr am y cyfleoedd buddsoddi amrywiol ar gyfer isadeiledd, a fyddai'n cefnogi blaenoriaethau newydd y Cynllun Corfforaethol.

Siaradodd yr aelodau'n gadarnhaol am yr adroddiad, gan wneud sylwadau ar fuddsoddiadau blaenorol RhCT a'r uchelgais ar gyfer buddsoddi pellach.

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet:

1. Cynnig y rhaglen gyfalaf tair blynedd sy'n cael ei chynnwys yn Atodiad A o'r adroddiad i'r Cyngor ar 4 Mawrth 2020 sy'n cynnwys:
 - Adolygiad a rhyddhau arfaethedig o gronfeydd wrth gefn wedi'u clustnodi fel sy'n cael eu manylu ym mharagraff 5.3 o'r adroddiad sydd ynghlwm;
 - Blaenoriaethau buddsoddi arfaethedig fel ym mharagraff 6.2 yr adroddiad atodedig;
 - Rhaglen gyfalaf graidd y Cyngor ;
 - Cyfanswm rhaglen gyfalaf y Cyngor, gan gynnwys cyllid ychwanegol sydd ddim yn gyllid craidd.
2. Awdurdodi Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol i ddiwygio lefel adnoddau'r Cyngor sydd ei hangen i ariannu'r Rhaglen Gyfalaf Graidd Tair Blynedd yn Atodiad 2, o ganlyniad i unrhyw newid yn lefelau

adnoddau cyfalaf y Cyngor a gaiff ei ddatgan yn y Setliad Llywodraeth Leol terfynol

119 Trafod cadarnhau'r cynnig isod yn benderfyniad

PENDERFYNWYD: "Bod y cyfarfod hwn yn cadw aelodau o'r wasg ac aelodau o'r cyhoedd allan o ystafell y cyfarfod, dan Adran 100A(4) o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (fel y'i diwygiwyd), yn ystod trafod yr agendwm nesaf, ar y sail y byddai'n debygol o olygu datgelu gwybodaeth eithriedig yn ôl diffiniad paragraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A i'r Ddeddf."

120 Caffael yr hen Neuadd Bingo, Pontypridd

Rhoddodd Cyfarwyddwr Eiddo'r Cyngor drosolwg o'i adroddiad i'r Aelodau a oedd yn cynnwys gwybodaeth eithriedig.

Ar ôl trafod yr adroddiad, **PENDERFYNWYD:**

1. Caffael budd rhydd-ddaliadol adeilad yr hen Neuadd Bingo a Chlwb Nos Angharad's ar Stryd Fawr, Pontypridd, ar bris cytunedig ynghyd â TAW, ffioedd a Threth Trafodiadau Tir;
2. Nodi bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cynnig £1.540 miliwn o gyllid Buddsoddi Adfywio wedi'i Dargedu (TRI) tuag at gyfanswm y costau. Mae telerau ac amodau manwl y cyllid hwn yn cael eu cadarnhau ar hyn o bryd gyda Llywodraeth Cymru;
3. Derbyn y cynnig o £1.540 miliwn o gyllid Buddsoddi Adfywio wedi'i Dargedu gan Llywodraeth Cymru tuag at gaffael, ffioedd cysylltiedig a chostau dymchwel adeilad yr hen Neuadd Bingo a Chlwb Nos Angharad's ar Stryd Fawr, Pontypridd.
4. Derbyn adroddiad ar y cyd pellach gan Gyfarwyddwr Eiddo'r Cyngor a'r Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu ar ddymchwel ac ailddatblygu'r safle.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 11.05 am

**Cllr A Morgan
Cadeirydd.**

Tudalen wag



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

21st MAY 2020

UPDATE ON COVID 19 POSITION IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (COUNCILLOR A MORGAN)

Author: Chris Bradshaw, Chief Executive

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update of the action taken by the Council as a result of the COVID 19 national emergency.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the action taken by the Council to date in response to the Covid 19 pandemic;
- 2.2 Request that a report estimating the potential financial impact of the Council's response to the pandemic is presented to the next Cabinet meeting;
- 2.3 Request that further reports that set out how the Council plans to reopen key services and public areas such as town centres and transport hubs are presented to future Cabinet meetings.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To provide a comprehensive summary for Cabinet of the action taken by the Council since the Covid 19 restrictions were imposed by the UK and Welsh Governments; and set out future steps the Council will take to prepare for the future phased lifting of these restrictions.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In a televised address to the UK on 23rd March, the Prime Minister announced unprecedented lockdown measures to stop the spread of the Covid 19 virus between households, changing the way in which everyone in the UK lives their daily lives. This resulted in an initial three week lockdown of the movement of people, forcing people to remain at home, other than key workers, a significant increase in the UK Government's response from the changes introduced on:
- 16th March, which focused on avoiding all non-essential contact with others;
 - 20th March all bars, pubs, cafes and restaurants were closed, followed by the closure of schools and childcare facilities, except for the children of key workers.
- 4.2 The purpose of the lockdown has been very clear as set out in the four UK governments' messages of Stay at Home; Protect the NHS; Save Lives. The overwhelming focus has been to delay the virus and ensure the demand for NHS services does not exceed the supply, which could result in many hundred thousands of deaths.
- 4.3 There is a requirement in the new lockdown legislation that the respective governments review the position every three weeks and determine whether they increase, decrease or maintain the existing lockdown restraints across the UK. The most recent review of the current lockdown was at the weekend of the Victory In Europe celebrations on 8th May. The First Minister for Wales stated that whilst the virus infection rate had fallen and fewer people were being admitted to hospital, progress had not been sufficient to lift the lockdown restrictions, other than to ask local authorities to consider re-opening libraries and community waste recycling centres. The message from the Welsh Government remains the same – Stay at Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives.

5. HOW HAS THE COUNCIL RESPONDED TO COVID 19?

- 5.1 To respond to the challenges posed by the Covid 19 lockdown, the Council is continuing to operate the majority of its key functions, with reduced staffing levels.
- 5.2 The following bullet points provide more detail for Members on the level of service provided in response to this pandemic based on the Corporate Plan priorities of People, Place and Prosperity:
- **People**
 - Despite the impact of the pandemic across the country, our staff continue to provide social care services to vulnerable people in very difficult circumstances across the County Borough in people's own homes, residential homes, nursing homes, supported living and hostels;

- In order to manage the impact of the pandemic on the wellbeing of our most vulnerable adults and children and ensure safeguarding issues are addressed during this time we have established multi-agency regional and local Command responses to coordinating the critical safeguarding activities of our partner agencies;
- The Environmental Health, Procurement and the Social Care Commissioning teams working together to provide infection control support and guidance along with PPE to the care sector across the County Borough;
- Homelessness services, domestic abuse services and substance misuse services to vulnerable people. Over the past few weeks we have seen further rises in cases across these services;
- Community Meals services to the elderly. We have seen a significant increase in the take up of this service since with 635 people are receiving daily meals in their homes. A further 413 frozen meals are delivered each week to shielded vulnerable individuals who are unable to cook for themselves.
- We are also coordinating the Shielding Scheme and made contact with 6,726 people identified by the NHS as vulnerable to Covid 19 and are providing them with regular deliveries of food and medicines. This is managed and coordinated by staff displaced from services such as the Leisure Service;
- Key step down social care services for people leaving hospital to ensure the hospitals have the capacity to deal with Covid 19 patients
- The new extra care facility in Aberaman opened on 4th May and as at 12th May, 4 people have moved in and a further 5 new residents will be supported to take up occupancy over the next two weeks. The extracare facility will also provide some temporary respite accommodation in the short term to enable step up/down from people's own homes, where appropriate;
- The Community Services teams working with the HR and Prosperity teams have put in place the Shielding Scheme for vulnerable individuals and families, providing a service at a level well beyond that imagined by Welsh Government. The new service is managed and coordinated by staff displaced from a range of services such as the Leisure Service. The team has also made contact with 6,726 people identified by the NHS as vulnerable to Covid 19 and are providing them with regular deliveries of food and medicines;
- The Shielding Scheme is superbly supported by our Resilient Families Service and 361 community volunteers whose contribution has been appreciated by the Council and the local residents they are supporting;
- Our Children's Services, Attendance & Wellbeing Service and our schools are keeping in touch with some of our most vulnerable children and families. In addition, our education psychologists and specialist teachers are providing wellbeing support, advice and guidance to the individuals and families that require it, in these very stressful and uncertain times;

- In terms of back office functions a number of initiatives have been ongoing including the development of a Well-Being Helpline and counselling service that we have made available to all staff (including the independent care sector) who may be feeling worried, anxious and isolated which is available throughout the week;
- Whilst, on average, we have had over 1,600 staff unavailable for work due to sickness, self – isolating; being part of the shielded list; have underlying conditions that places an individual at risk, such as being pregnant; or lives in the same household as someone that needs to be shielded, many staff have offered to undertake different roles. Through an ongoing staff survey, 3,000 employees have already responded to the survey to say they will undertake work in the Care Sector and other essential services. So far 365 employees have been assigned to the Care sector, 200 employees have been assigned to the Community Hubs, 95 employees have been assigned to the telephone service to contact shielded residents and 25 employees have been assigned to the food distribution centre;
- To support the communication of key information to residents, the Council's web-pages have provided key service and public health messages. The Council has developed and promoted its own social media content to communicate the importance of social distancing measures and has proactively targeted these messages during key times, such as bank holidays to compliment the 'Stay at Home' public message . During this period the Council has communicated 2,400 social media messages relating to coronavirus, which have been viewed over 16M times to date; the Council's coronavirus webpages have also received 1.1M visits over this eight week period.
- **Place;**
 - The level of waste and recycling that is being collected is the equivalent of a Christmas period nearly every week, yet the waste collection and disposal services across the County Borough continue to provide the usual high levels of service.
 - Street cleansing, fleet maintenance, parks, and the essential highways maintenance teams are continuing to ensure communities are clean, and essential roads maintenance continues;
 - The highways and land reclamation engineering teams continue to address the flooding issues that caused so many problems for communities a few weeks before the lockdown and are monitoring (weekly in some cases) former colliery tips and addressing water issues to ensure their safety;
 - Our youth services, library services, and adult education services are delivering a wide range of provision on-line and the increased take up of these services has been considerable;
 - Increasing the capacity of our crematoria and burial services to cope with the extra demand and ensure funerals can be held with dignity and within a reasonable timescale;
- **Prosperity;**

- Business grants – we have processed and provided over £38m of business grants to over 3,300 businesses, 2,000 (£23m) of which were processed during the first week of the scheme;
- Business Support – we have been proactively working with small businesses who are finding it difficult to navigate the range of Government support measures available. This includes identifying support they could be eligible for and providing a brokerage service liaising with other Council services and external organisations such as Business Wales. The majority of business owners have expressed their appreciation for the support;
- Free school meals – for the first few weeks we provided 1,600 daily packed lunches to FSM pupils from their local primary school. Nearly 100% of the families of the 9,300 children eligible for free school meals are having payments direct to their parent’s bank accounts. This has been quite an administrative achievement;
- Emergency childcare provision is made in school settings for vulnerable children between the ages of 4-19, including children looked after, on the child protection register, young carers or have additional learning needs. Provision is also made for the children of key workers, as defined by the Welsh Government from 8am-6pm, 7 days a week including holiday periods and bank holidays. Initially, all the schools offered this provision, but for the past six weeks it has been delivered on a hub basis with Headteachers in a cluster coordinating the staffing of this provision, which includes their own attendance at the hub facilities. On average 420 children are attending 13 hubs on a daily basis each week, 130 of whom are vulnerable children. In addition, provision is also made available for over 200 children aged 0-4 years as part of the Coronavirus Childcare Assistance Scheme in 42 different settings;
- Digitally Excluded Learners - Welsh Government have pledged to provide an additional £3M across Wales to support continuity of learning arrangements for digitally excluded learners. An audit has been undertaken in partnership with schools to identify 3,048 digitally excluded learners and 1,709 surplus devices will be repurposed for the most disadvantaged. Mobile connectivity devices will also be provided for those who require it. A total of 246 devices have already been made available and a further 1,651 new devices will be disseminated for those with the greatest need.
- We have seen a significant increase in the applications and changes in circumstances for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support from individuals and families across the County Borough. To date we have seen over 900 new CTRS entitlements awarded since the lockdown started, more than any other Council in Wales; we have also awarded Free School Meal entitlement to an additional 400 pupils;
- Through home working, many other key administrative services such as Council Tax and Business Rates billing and collection, paying our staff and administering the pension fund with the thousands of pensioners being paid each month, have continued;

- We have worked with contractors to continue to safely deliver major construction projects such as Llys Cadwyn, the new industrial unit at Coed Ely, the new primary school in Hirwaun, completing the projects at Tonyrefail and Treorchy schools and reinstatement works following the flood damage.
- 5.3 The Council's staff across all services have been exceptional in the manner in which they have responded to the challenge of the Covid 19 pandemic and have been willing to come forward and do whatever has been necessary. Particular praise must go to those in frontline roles, particularly colleagues in Social Care, Meals on Wheels, School Hubs, Waste and Streetcare, and the Shielding Scheme & Food Distribution Centre.
- 5.4 It is also recognised that the Council's ICT and Digital Services team within the space of a few days transformed the way in which the Council works, with over 3,000 staff across the Council now working from home enabling them to undertake and support many of the tasks and actions highlighted in the paragraphs above. We all recognise this significant change and it has been welcomed by all staff.
- 5.5 The Senior Leadership Team also appreciates the support from the trade unions for the way in which they have engaged with the Council and provided constructive support and guidance.

6 THE NEXT STEPS?

- 6.1 Over the next few months, the UK and Welsh Governments will seek to phase the release of the lockdown measures, and try to ensure that the infection rate remains at a level at which the NHS can meet the demand for its services. In doing so, the Council has five key tasks:
- Contact Tracing;
 - Recovery and Service Planning;
 - Decision Making & Democratic Engagement;
 - Counting the Cost (now and into the future); and
 - Economic Resilience.
- 6.2 **Contact Tracing** – The Council is playing a key role in leading on Contract Tracing across Cwm Taf Morgannwg in partnership with the local health board, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil Councils and Public Health Wales. The purpose of contact tracing and case management is to interrupt chains of transmission in the community by identifying cases of COVID19 (confirmed and suspected), tracing the people who may have become infected by spending time in close contact with them, and then requiring and supporting those close contacts to self-isolate so that they are less likely to transmit it to others.

- 6.3 The Council's Director of Public Health, Protection & Community Services is leading this process in Cwm Taf Morgannwg supported by other members of SLT. This task is quite a challenge as we are seeking to initially establish six teams across the region with over 300 staff from principally from local government before the end of the month. The team will initially focus on high risk settings such as care homes, school hubs, supported living, homeless accommodation etc, before expanding the number of teams to thirteen and providing a response to community clusters and actively testing the wider population.
- 6.4 **Recovery and Service Planning** - The Council's Senior Leadership Team has been preparing recovery plans that consider how the Council can begin to reopen services when the Welsh Government begins to lift the restrictions. In preparing these plans we are taking into account the changes we have been forced to make to our services, the different ways of engaging residents and clients, and the way we work taking into account that social distancing is likely to become the "norm" for quite a while. The UK Chief Medical Officer Chris Whitty has said *"This disease is not going to be eradicated, it is not going to disappear... The UK will have to maintain some forms of social distancing until a vaccine or effective treatment for Covid19 are developed, both of which are unlikely this year"*.
- 6.5 In planning for the future:
- The Director of Education & Inclusion Services has begun to test out options with Headteacher groups to understand how social distancing could be managed in schools and what lessons can be learnt from other countries that have begun to re-open schools to specific groups of pupils.
 - The Director of Corporate Estates is reviewing the Council's office accommodation to ascertain the maximum number we could base in each setting, and then work with the respective managers to balance the mix between office, agile and home working. Similar discussions are ongoing with leisure, libraries, theatres, visitor attractions and other services across the Council.
 - The Group Director of Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services is reviewing how social distancing could work in town centres, transport hubs and other locations across the County Borough and put in place, initially temporary measures, to facilitate social distancing.
 - The Group Director of Community & Children's Services is considering how to resume the full range of services the community will require in the coming months and has plans to:
 - Review safeguarding issues when all partners, including schools and communities, have more direct contact with children, families and adults;

- Review the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children, young people, adults and families, as some have found the lockdown period very difficult;
 - Complete Court work that has been started in the period such as care orders, revoking orders such as placements with parents, and adoption orders;
 - Review the Children Looked After placements and where appropriate make changes, as this has been very difficult during the lockdown.
- 6.6 SLT has also challenged services to learn from this experience and ensure we do not routinely return to “normal – as we were” but take the benefits of working from home, delivering services digitally or in a different way. The use of technology such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams has changed the way many managers and staff have engaged with each other over the past few months and the verbal feedback we have received suggests that we are more productive as a result of this technology. Through HR, a further survey is being undertaken with over 3,000 staff to capture their views and experiences of agile/homeworking over the past few weeks.
- 6.7 One of the big lessons we have learnt, is that we can be very decisive and move mountains in a very short time if we all pull together. In a week, we enabled the 3,000+ workers to have the technology to work from home – it would normally have taken us three years to do the same. Yes, it’s not perfect, but we can continue via trial and error to solve any problems we encounter.
- 6.8 We also need to take into account that if we do not have a vaccine or treatment for the virus there are groups of residents that will still have to self isolate for a long period and they will need our continued support. In doing so, we need to consider how we will continue to engage the army of volunteers that have provided a sterling service to support the Council.
- 6.9 Over the next few weeks, as guidance becomes available from the two governments, further reports will be made available to Cabinet on how the Council could begin to reopen key services in a phased approach.
- 6.10 **Decision Making & Democratic Engagement** - Since the lockdown, decision making and governance has continued to operate in compliance with the Council’s Constitution. Key Executive decisions such as closing services have been made by the Leader of the Council and/or the relevant Cabinet member in discussion with the Chief Executive and relevant Senior Leadership Team Director(s). A variety of decisions have been taken either as part of the wider coordinated CV19 emergency response, or as mandated by the laws that have been enacted as part of the response. All of these decisions have been within

the normal delegated powers of Chief Officers, and where possible taken after consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

- 6.11 Due to social distancing, no Committees have met. Weekly briefings of the Cabinet with the Senior Leadership Team have been held weekly via Microsoft Teams and more recently Zoom video conferencing. The Senior Leadership Team has also met daily, with the Leader also in attendance. This has allowed the Senior Leadership Team to make appropriate operational decisions in consultation with the Leader, which has enabled immediate action to occur which has been important. I consider that this method of open discussion and decision making between the Leader and officers has been extremely effective.
- 6.12 However, Covid 19 is likely to be with us for at least a further year along with social distancing requirements, and we need to ensure that the committee processes of local government are reinstated. The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 have changed the pre-existing laws to enable fully remote meetings to take place as long as those participating can hear and be heard. It also provides for the distribution and publication of all associated documents via electronic means only. . As a result, the Council will incrementally resume its committee functions. In consultation with the Chairs of the the Committees, arrangements are being made to hold virtual meetings in the near future, starting with Cabinet and Planning.
- 6.13 Holding large committee meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams can be a challenge, and all participants need to understand how to use the technology and the protocols and practices that need to be adopted to ensure the meetings operate effectively and everyone can engage in the meeting. Therefore, it has been proposed, in consultation with the Group Leaders, to adopt a phased approach to the resumption of committee meetings. All members are having the opportunity to have their respective devices updated to include the appropriate virtual conferencing technology and shortly training will be available to all members.
- 6.14 A draft timetable for the roll out of the virtual committee meetings is being considered by the Committee Chairs. This timetable will need to be flexible as members and officers learn and adapt to holding committee meetings in this way, over the coming weeks and months.
- 6.15 **Counting the Cost (now and into the future)** – The additional cost to the Council of responding to the Covid 19 pandemic will be significant particularly with the likely restrictions being in place for the remainder of the calendar year. The Council is losing income it would have generated from a range of services such as leisure, car parking, theatres, visitor attractions, school meals, the sale of recycled waste materials, and other sundry sales. In addition, sickness rates

and the need to shield or self isolate have created additional pressures on staffing resources across key services. Furthermore, the level of demand for a range of community based services has risen, including a doubling of the provision of community meals to the vulnerable, supporting care homes to remain financially viable, providing suitable responses to children who need to be looked after, the increase in waste disposal costs and the need to supplement the supply of PPE available where necessary across services. It is initially estimated that the financial impact on the Council of the pandemic is at least £4.5m per month over and above its existing resources with further modelling being undertaken around for example the cost implications of future service planning and delivery requirements as referenced above.

- 6.16 Furthermore, the Covid 19 costs are in addition to the significant costs the Council has had to incur due to Storm Dennis, which occurred during the February half term holidays. The Council is actively working with the WLGA and Welsh Government to ensure the additional costs incurred as a result of Storm Dennis and the Covid 19 pandemic will be supported in full in due course. The Director of Finance and Digital Services will provide an update on the 2019/20 year end position and the estimated financial impact for 2020/21 financial year at the next Cabinet meeting.
- 6.17 The Council's capital programme is an important contributor to the local economy providing a valuable work programme to local building and highways contractors, which many rely upon as their stable income. As a result, the Leader approved the Education and Highways Supplementary Capital Programmes, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members, encouraging local contractors to come forward and tender for up to £30m of work. Clearly, a requirement of the contracts will be the need to ensure the safety of the contractors and the general public and strict application of the social distancing requirements.
- 6.18 **Economic Resilience** - Our primary focus will always be on our residents wellbeing and protecting lives, we also need to deal with the economic disaster that the virus has created. We can see globally that many countries in the first wave of the virus are struggling to get the right balance between opening up the economy and managing virus infection rates.
- 6.19 Despite, this difficult message, there are opportunities for businesses in the County Borough. The big lesson for us all is not to rely on overseas imports for key supplies and services. As a country we need more resilience in terms of our supply chain, and therefore more manufacturing in the UK. This will require the public sector in Wales to undertake a radical re-evaluation of our supply chains.

- 6.20 We have already made progress on this. We have local companies manufacturing visors, we have two distilleries manufacturing hand sanitiser and a local company manufacturing bottles and filling them with the sanitiser, and a company has ordered machinery to manufacture face masks for local government and the NHS, with the aim of starting production in early summer. This local procurement has already protected and created many jobs, and it is something we need to consider urgently across our supply chain.
- 6.21 Whilst, the UK and Welsh Governments have put in place a range of interventions to support businesses across a wide range of sectors, locally we need to work with Welsh Government and the Cardiff Capital Region to understand the potential impact of social distancing on the financial viability of our town centres. A number of national chains have recently gone into administration, such as Debenhams, Warehouse, Oasis, and Bonmarche and other key national chains such as Peacocks, Next, Primark and the Arcadia Group are reported, in the national press, to be under financial pressure from low sales.
- 6.22 Therefore, it is likely that fewer national stores will be reopened in the future. Over the coming months we will look to work with local businesses to see how we can best support our town centres and develop an offer that attracts residents to shop locally and support local businesses.

7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 An Equality and Diversity Assessment has not been carried out in connection with the recommendations set out in this report as the contents and actions do not require a policy or service change, resulting in no reasonably foreseeable differential impacts.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 There is no requirement to consult on this report, it is primarily for information.

9 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 9.1 The financial implications of the Council responding to the Covid 19 pandemic are considered in paragraphs 6.15-6.17 of this report.

10 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 10.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

11 LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.

- 11.1 This is an information report on progress in responding to the Covid 19 pandemic. No decisions are being taken in this report.

12 CONCLUSIONS

- 12.1 The past few months have been challenging on an unprecedented scale for the Council, local businesses and residents with the Covid 19 pandemic quickly following Storm Dennis. To date we have all pulled together, communities supporting each other and the vast majority of people complying with the lockdown restrictions. However, life is unlikely to return to normal for many months if not a couple of years, and the Council and communities of Rhondda Cynon Taf need to change the way we live and work, where social distancing, personal hygiene and shielding the vulnerable becomes the norm.
- 12.2 To date, the Council has responded to these challenges efficiently and effectively, and the staff have been outstanding in their response, and particular thanks go to the frontline social care staff.
- 12.3 Throughout this pandemic, the Council has put in place the necessary plans to effectively respond to the potential impacts of COVID 19 and it has continued to deliver essential services and protect local communities and our staff. As we look forward into the future, it is impossible to plan for every eventuality, but it is inevitable that we will see further spikes in the virus as the lockdown restrictions are eased. Based on our experience to date the Council has many challenges to overcome but we are confident that we have the capacity and capability to respond to every situation.