



CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL
RHONDDA CYNON TAF
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cyfarfod hybrid o'r CABINET
Dydd Llun, 28ain Chwefror, 2022 am 12.00 pm

Dolen gyswllt: Sarah Daniel – Uned Busnes y Cyngor (Rhif ffôn. 07385086169)

Os bydd Cyngorwyr 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 Iau, 24 Chwefror 2022

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 Cyngorydd 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'r Cod Ymddygiad.

Nodwch:

1. Mae gofyn i Aelodau ddatgan rhif a phwnc yr agendwm 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

Cadarnhau cofnodion o gyfarfod y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd ar 27 Ionawr 2022 yn rhai cywir.

(Tudalennau 5 -
18)

3. POLISI FFIOEDD A THALIADAU'R CYNGOR 2022/23

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol, sy'n cyflwyno i'r Cabinet y diwygiadau arfaethedig i lefelau ffioedd a thaliadau'r Cyngor ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol 2022/23 (pob un i'w gweithredu o 1 Ebrill 2022 neu cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol wedi hynny) a manylion penderfyniadau o ran ffioedd a thaliadau sydd eisoes wedi'u cymeradwyo ac sydd wedi'u cynnwys yn Strategaeth Gyllideb arfaethedig 2022/23.

(Tudalennau 19 -
26)

4. CYLLIDEB REFENIW Y CYNGOR AR GYFER 2022/23

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol, sy'n cyflwyno i'r Cabinet y cynigion a'r canlyniadau sydd wedi bod yn destun ymgynghoriad yn rhan o ail gam yr ymgynghoriad ar y gyllideb, er mwyn i'r Cabinet drafod strategaeth gyllideb ddrafft y bydden nhw'n dymuno ei chyflwyno i'r Cyngor, a'i diwygio yn ôl yr angen.

(Tudalennau 27 -
94)

5. RHAGLEN GYFALAF Y CYNGOR 2022/23 - 2024/25

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol, sy'n cyflwyno i'r Cabinet raglen gyfalaf dair blynedd arfaethedig ar gyfer 2022/23 hyd at 2024/25, a fydd yn cael ei chyflwyno i'r Cyngor i'w chymeradwyo, os yw'n dderbyniol.

(Tudalennau 95 -
124)

6. CYNLLUN LLEIHOU ARDRETHI BUSNES LLEOL 2022/23

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol, sy'n cyflwyno i'r Cabinet fanylion Cynllun Lleihau Ardrethi Busnes Lleol arfaethedig ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn ogystal â diweddariad ar barhad Cynllun Rhyddhad Ardrethi Manwerthu, Hamdden a Lletygarwch Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer 2022/23.

(Tudalennau 125 -
132)

7. RHAGLEN GYFALAF CYMUNEDAU DYSGU CYNALIADWY (YSGOLION YR 21AIN GANRIF YN FLAENOROL) - YSGOL GYNRADD CYFRWNG CYMRAEG NEWYDD YN RHYDFELEN

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol mewn perthynas ag ariannu'r cynigion i adeiladu ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd yn Rhydfelen.

(Tudalennau 133 - 140)

8. CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD PONTYPRIDD

Derbyn adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu, mewn perthynas â'r Cynllun Creu Lleoedd drafft ar gyfer Canol Tref Pontypridd sy'n darparu gweledigaeth drawiadol ar gyfer adfywio'r dref.

(Tudalennau 141 -
200)

**9. DEDDF RHEOLEIDDIO PWERAU YMCHWILIO 2000 (RIPA) -
DEFNYDD O RIPA YN 2020-21 GAN GYNGOR BWRDEISTREF
SIROL RHCT**

Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol mewn perthynas â defnydd y Cyngor o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Pwerau Ymchwilio 2000 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) (RIPA) a defnydd y Cyngor o Gaffael Data Cyfathrebu o dan Ddeddf Pwerau Ymchwilio 2016 (IPA).

(Tudalennau 201 -
206)

10. TRAFOD CADARNHAU'R CYNNIG ISOD YN BENDERFYNIAD

"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 o'r Ddeddf."

**11. CAFFAEL 103-110 STRYD TAF, PONTYPRIDD, CF37 4SL A 13-17
HEOL SARDIS, PONTYPRIDD, CF37 1DX**

Derbyn adroddiad gan Gyfarwyddwr Eiddo'r Cyngor sy'n ceisio cymeradwyaeth y Cabinet i brynu buddiant Rhydd-ddaliadol 103-110 Stryd Taf, Pontypridd a 13-17 Heol Sardis, Pontypridd.

(Tudalennau 207 -
220)

12. MATERION BRYD

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

ADRODDIAD ER GWYBODAETH

Derbyn [Cynllun Dirprwyo diweddaraf yr Arweinydd](#) yn dilyn newid i Aelodau'r Cabinet.



Cyfarwyddwr Materion Cyfathrebu a Phennaeth Dros Dro'r Gwasanaethau
Llywodraethol

Cylchrediad:-

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

Swyddogion: Chris Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr
Barrie Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol
Gaynor Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant
Louise Davies, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned
Richard Evans, Cyfarwyddwr - Materion Adnoddau Dynol
Simon Gale, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu
Neil Griffiths, Head Of Financial Services - Community & Children's Services
Paul Griffiths, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Gwella
Christian Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu
Derek James, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu
Paul Mee, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant
David Powell, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Eiddo'r Cyngor
Andy Wilkins, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol

PWYLLGOR CABINET CYNGOR RHONDDA CYNON TAF CABINET

Cofnodion o gyfarfod rhithwir y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd Dydd Iau, 27 Ionawr 2022 am
11.00 am

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

Y Cyngorydd A Morgan (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorydd M Webber Y Cyngorydd R Bevan
Y Cyngorydd J Bonetto Y Cyngorydd G Caple
Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings Y Cyngorydd R Lewis
Y Cyngorydd C Leyshon Y Cyngorydd M Norris

Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol:-

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr
Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol
Ms G Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant
Ms L Davies, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned
Mr R Evans, Cyfarwyddwr - Materion Adnoddau Dynol
Mr S Gale, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu
Mr P Griffiths, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Gwella
Mr C Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu
Mr P Mee, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant
Mr D Powell, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Eiddo'r Cyngor
Mr A Wilkins, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Ms Zoe Lancelott, Pennaeth Materion Llesiant a Chydnherthedd y Gymuned

Y Cyngorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol eraill oedd yn bresennol:-

Y Cyngorydd P Jarman

96 DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT

Yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, datganodd y Cyngorydd R Bevan fuddiant personol yn eitem 3 gan fod ganddo aelod o'r teulu sy'n gweithio i'r Awdurdod. Cadarnhaodd ei fod wedi cael caniatâd gan y Pwyllgor Safonau i drafod y materion

97 COFNODION

PENDERFYNODD y Cabinet gymeradwyo cofnodion y cyfarfod, a gynhaliwyd ar 13 Rhagfyr 2021, yn rhai cywir.

98 CYLLIDEB REFENIW'R CYNGOR AR GYFER 2022/23

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol yr adroddiad i'r Cabinet. Dywedodd fod yn rhaid i'r gyllideb refeniw ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol sy'n dod i ben ar 31 Mawrth 2023 gael ei llunio yn unol â'r "Gyllideb a'r Fframwaith Polisi" (sy'n gynwysedig yng Nghyfansoddiad y Cyngor). O dan y trefniadau yma, mater i "Brif Swyddogion priodol" y Cyngor yw adrodd i'r Cabinet, ac wedyn dylai'r Cabinet argymhell cyllideb i'r Cyngor.

O ystyried y pwysau ariannol parhaus sydd ar y Cyngor, mae'r Cyfarwyddwr yn dal i fod o'r farn y dylai'r Cyngor gadw lleiafswm o £10 miliwn ym Malans y Gronfa Gyffredinol. Yn rhan o'i strategaeth barhaus, mae'r Cyngor wedi parhau i nodi a chyflawni arbedion yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol bresennol sy'n golygu ein bod ni wedi gallu cynyddu lefel y cyllid pontio sydd ar gael. Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf yw bod y gronfa yma bellach wedi cynyddu i £4.607 miliwn.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr fod Archwilio Cymru yn parhau i bwysleisio bod rhaid i ni barhau i fod yn ddisgybledig ar yr adeg dyngedfennol yma, os ydyn ni eisiau cynnal ein hamcan tymor hir o ran gwella gwasanaethau allweddol yn barhaus, ond mae hyn yn dod yn fwyfwy anodd ei gyflawni yn sgil pwysau ariannol aruthrol o'r fath.

Hysbyswyd yr Aelodau mai'r cynnydd cyffredinol yng nghyllid y Grant Cynnal Refeniw (RSG) ac Ardrethi Annomestig (NDR) ar gyfer 2022/23 ledled Cymru gyfan, ar ôl addasu ar gyfer trosglwyddiadau, yw 9.4% (+£437M). Mae'r setliad ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf yn gynydd o 8.4%.

Er gwaethaf y setliad mwy cadarnhaol gan LIC ar gyfer 2022/23, dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr fod hyn yn dilyn cyfnod parhaus o ostyngiadau gwirioneddol i'n lefelau cyllido, yn ogystal â gwaith adfer yn dilyn difrod storm a'r pandemig. Mae angen i ni benderfynu ar gyllideb gytbwys ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf yn sgil y sefyllfa yma.

Nododd fod cymorth Llywodraeth Cymru i ariannu costau sy'n deillio o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i'r pandemig wedi parhau drwy gydol blwyddyn ariannol 2021/22, a hynny drwy'r Gronfa Galedi. Mae LIC wedi datgan nad ydw'n bwriadu parhau i ddarparu cymorth ychwanegol o'r fath yn y dyfodol ac y bydd yn rhaid i Gynghorau reoli'r goblygiadau yma drwy'r adnoddau ychwanegol a ddarperir yn y setliad. Bydd y Cyngor yn monitro'r goblygiadau ariannol yn agos wrth edrych tua'r dyfodol, gan ddefnyddio unrhyw hyblygrwydd a roddir o fewn ei gronfeydd wrth gefn i drosglwyddo unrhyw gostau ychwanegol parhaol i'r gyllideb sylfaenol yn y tymor canolig.

Atgoffwyd yr Aelodau bod costau Cynllun Gostyngiadau Treth y Cyngor (CTRS) yn effeithio ar yr incwm net a gynhyrchir drwy unrhyw gynnydd yn Nhreth y Cyngor. Bydd cynnydd 1% yn Nhreth y Cyngor yn cynhyrchu incwm ychwanegol i'r Cyngor sydd werth £1.195 miliwn (ar lefel sylfaen drethu 2022/23), ond bydd hefyd yn costio £0.253 miliwn ar gyfer gofynion ychwanegol o ran Cynllun Gostyngiadau Treth y Cyngor. Mae'n dilyn, felly, bydd cynnydd o 1% yn cynhyrchu incwm net ychwanegol sydd werth £0.942 miliwn, neu, mewn geiriau eraill, bydd 21% o unrhyw gynnydd yn Nhreth y Cyngor yn cael ei golli er mwyn cefnogi'r costau cynyddol sy'n gysylltiedig â 'Chynllun Gostyngiadau Treth y Cyngor' Llywodraeth Cymru. Dywedodd felly y cynigir bod lefel Treth y Cyngor ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf bellach yn cael ei hailfodelu a'i gosod ar gynnydd o 1.00%. Byddai hyn yn cyd-fynd â disgwyliadau'r Cabinet o ran lefelau Treth y Cyngor ac yng ngoleuni'r setliad mwy ffafriol, byddai wedi'i gydbwysu yn erbyn y pwysau parhaus a nodwyd gan bob un o'n gwasanaethau.

Mewn perthynas â'r Gyllideb Ysgolion dywedodd y bwriedir ei chynnyddu i dalu, yn llawn, yr holl gostau chwyddiant cyflogau a chostau eraill, gan gynnwys costau Yswiriant Gwladol uwch sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Ardoll Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol. Yn gyffredinol, bydd y cynnig yn cynyddu'r Gyllideb Ysgolion o £163.8 miliwn i £175.0 miliwn, cynnydd o £11.2 miliwn. Mae hyn yn gynydd o 6.8%. O'r herwydd, mae ysgolion yn cael eu hariannu'n llawn ar gyfer 2022/23.

Yn rhan o strategaeth gyllidebol y flwyddyn gyfredol, cafodd arbedion effeithlonrwydd o £4.6 miliwn eu nodi a'u cyflawni, er y nodwyd y byddai angen ystyried cynaliadwyedd parhaus cyflawni arbedion effeithlonrwydd ar y lefel yma. Er bod nodi a chyflawni arbedion effeithlonrwydd flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn yn parhau i fod yn anos heb effeithio ar wasanaethau a darpariaeth rheng flaen, rydym wedi nodi £4.9 miliwn y mae modd ei dynnu o'n gofyniad cyllideb sylfaenol ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf.

Nododd y Cyfarwyddwr fod y Cabinet bob amser wedi canolbwyntio ar ddiogelu ein gwasanaethau rheng flaen ac wedi achub ar bob cyfle i flaenoriaethu neu ailddyrrannu adnoddau i feysydd sy'n cael blaenoriaeth. Mae'r cynigion ar gyfer 2022/23 wedi'u nodi ym mhwynt 9.3 o'r adroddiad i'r Cabinet eu hystyried.

Roedd yr Arweinydd yn falch o glywed am y setliad cadarnhaol gan Lywodraeth Cymru ond dywedodd ei fod yn bryderus na fyddai cronfa caledi. Aeth ymlaen i ddweud bod hyn yn risg fawr i'r Awdurdod gan fod costau'n dal i gael eu hysgwyddo oherwydd y pandemig, a hynny oherwydd bod staff yn dal i orfod cymryd amser i ffwrdd o'r gwaith i ynysu oherwydd COVID.

Siaradodd yn gadarnhaol am y cynnydd o £11.2 miliwn ar gyfer addysg a dywedodd mai hwn oedd y cynnydd mwyaf ers dechrau'i gyfnod yn Arweinydd yr Awdurdod, a bod hyn yn gydnabyddiaeth o'r heriau y mae ein hysgolion yn eu hwynebu.

Roedd hefyd yn falch bod cynnydd ariannol wedi bod ar gyfer meysydd Grantiau Cefnogi Busnes, Newid yn yr Hinsawdd ac Iechyd y Cyhoedd, gan mai dyma'r meysydd y bu'n rhaid i'r Awdurdod dorri'n ôl arnyn nhw dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Roedd yn falch bod modd ail-fuddsoddi yn y meysydd yma.

Aeth ymlaen i ddweud y bydd y cynnydd o 1% yn Nhreth y Cyngor yn cael ei ddefnyddio i wrthbwyso pwysau megis y gostyngiad o £2 miliwn mewn Cyllid Cyfalaf. Ychwanegodd fod y Cyngor wedi ceisio cadw hyn mor isel â phosibl i gefnogi trigolion trwy'r pandemig, ond nododd fod pwysau eraill wedi amharu ar hyn hefyd.

Wedyn, cyfeiriodd yr Arweinydd at gynydd o £75,000 yn y cyllid ar gyfer Pobl Ifainc sydd wedi Arwahanu, a fydd yn cyfrannu at drydydd cerbyd hwb - sy'n golygu y byddai un ym mhob ardal yn RhCT. Byddai hyn yn cyfrannu at ehangu'r rhaglen YEPS i barhau i weithio gyda phobl ifainc; gwaith sydd wedi cael effaith hynod o gadarnhaol hyd yma.

Gan gydnabod y cynnydd arfaethedig o 2.5% mewn ffioedd a thaliadau, er bod chwyddiant dros 5% ar hyn o bryd a'i fod yn parhau i godi, dywedodd yr Arweinydd ei fod yn credu ei bod yn deg ar drigolion a theuluoedd yn y Fwrdeistref bod yr Awdurdod yn amsugno rhai o'r costau, yn hytrach na'u trosglwyddo i deuluoedd a oedd yn dal i gael trafferth gyda chostau byw cynyddol.

Wrth gloi ei sylwadau roedd yn falch o fod mewn sefyllfa gadarnhaol yn dilyn y setliad, ond dywedodd na ddylid tanamcangyfrif y pwysau aruthrol y mae'r gwasanaethau yn dal i'w hwynebu. Er y bydd y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn derbyn rhagor o arian, maen nhw'n dal i wynebu pwysau ar raddfa enfawr a dyna pam y mae'n cynnig mynd ymhellach na chynnig y cyflog byw gwirioneddol i Weithwyr Gofal Cymdeithasol er mwyn sicrhau bod eu safleoedd yn fwy cynaliadwy.

Adleisiodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol sylwadau'r Arweinydd mewn perthynas â'r setliad cadarnhaol, ac mae'n falch bod y Cyngor mewn sefyllfa i barhau i fuddsoddi yn y gwasanaethau yma. Roedd hefyd yn bryderus y byddai dileu'r grant caledi yn effeithio ar gyllid y Cyngor yn ogystal â chostau byw cynyddol. Cafodd yr Aelodau sicrwydd y bydd y gwasanaethau'n rhewi cynifer o Ffioedd a Thaliadau â phosibl, gan gydnabod bod nifer o bobl yn wynebu cyfnod anodd iawn.

Dywedodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd ei bod hi'n galonogol gweld bod nifer gadarnhaol o breswylwyr wedi ymgysylltu â'r Cyngor er gwaethaf y cyfyngiadau COVID, a'i bod hi'n braf gweld bod cefnogaeth gref i'n blaenoriaethau. Aeth ymlaen i ddweud ei bod hi'n amlwg i bawb bod y Cyngor yn wynebu heriau aruthrol, ac roedd yn bryderus iawn am y cynnydd mewn costau byw heb unrhyw gyfarwyddyd gan Lywodraeth y DU ar sut mae modd mynd i'r afael â hyn.

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

1. Nodi bod y gweithdrefnau sy'n ymwneud ag adeiladu cyllideb refeniw, y broses ymgynghori ar y gyllideb, ac adrodd i'r Cyngor, wedi'u nodi yn y "Gyllideb a Fframwaith Polisi" o fewn Cyfansoddiad y Cyngor.
2. Nodi ac ystyried canlyniadau proses cam 1 o ymgynghori ar y gyllideb.
3. Adolygu ac ystyried drafft o Strategaeth Cyllideb Refeniw 2022/23, y manylir arni yn y Papur Trafod sydd ynghlwm 'Atodiad A'.
4. Lefel y cynnydd yn Nhrefn y Cyngor o 1% ar gyfer 2022/23 y byddai'n dymuno ei gynnwys yn y strategaeth i ffurfio'r sail ar gyfer cynnal ail gam yr ymgynghoriad.
5. Yr amserlen ddrafft ar gyfer pennu cyllideb refeniw 2022/23, sydd wedi'i nodi yn Atodiad A2.
6. 6. Derbyn adborth o ail gam yr ymgynghoriad cyllideb er mwyn trafod a phenderfynu ar y strategaeth gyllidebol derfynol i'w chyflwyno i'r Cyngor.
7. 7. Bod y Cyngor yn parhau i gefnogi'r strategaeth ariannol tymor canolig gyda'r nod o sicrhau effeithlonrwydd parhaus wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau, gwaith trawsnewid sy wedi'i dargedu a newidiadau eraill sy'n cynnal cywirdeb ariannol y Cyngor, tra'n dal i anelu at ddiogelu swyddi a gwasanaethau hanfodol yn y modd gorau posibl.

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Materion Ffyniant a Datblygu yr adroddiad i'r Aelodau, a oedd yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynnydd y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol (CDLI) Diwygiedig. Dywedodd fod yr adroddiad yn nodi, er bod gwaith sylweddol wedi'i wneud, nad yw'r Cyngor wedi gallu bodloni'r Cytundeb Cyflenwi ffurfiol. Aeth ymlaen i ddweud bod yr adroddiad yn nodi'r ffordd fwyaf priodol o gydymffurfio â'n dyletswydd statudol i lunio Cynllun Datblygu ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Aeth y Cyfarwyddwr ymlaen i ddweud bod gwaith sylweddol wedi'i wneud ar baratoi'r CDLI Diwygiedig drwy gydol y pandemig Covid. Serch hynny, oherwydd y cyfyngiadau a osododd hyn ar y gallu i ymgysylltu'n llawn â'r cyhoedd a chomisiynu'r cyngor ymgynghorol angenrheidiol, ynghyd â materion allanol eraill sydd wedi codi; nid yw elfennau allweddol o waith paratoi'r CDLI Diwygiedig Newydd wedi'u cwblhau o fewn yr amserlen y cytunwyd arni'n ffurfiol

Ar ôl ystyried yr holl opsiynau, ac mewn ymgynghoriad â Llywodraeth Cymru, cynigir ein bod ni'n rhoi'r gorau i weithio ar y CDLI Diwygiedig 2020–2030 presennol. Yn ei le, byddwn yn dechrau llunio CDLI Diwygiedig Newydd, a fydd ar waith am gyfnod hwy, sef 2022–2037. Byddai hyn yn caniatáu i Gynllun Datblygu gael ei baratoi ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf sy'n ymateb yn llawn i'r materion allweddol sy'n ein hwynebu nawr, gyda Newid yn yr Hinsawdd a lleihau carbon yn greiddiol iddo, yn ogystal â dull gweithredu llawn a strategol o ran cynnal y Fwrdeistref Sirol ar ôl y pandemig ac ar ôl Brexit.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr, yn nhermau cynllunio technegol, fod pryder amlwg mewn perthynas ag un o'r tri 'Phrawf Cadernid' y bydd yr Arolygydd Cynllunio yn eu defnyddio i gytuno ar y CDLI Diwygiedig. Mae hwn yn ystyried a yw'r Arolygydd yn hyderus y gellir gweithredu a chyflawni'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn y cyfnod byr hwn h.y. ei holl nodau, amcanion, strategaethau, a datblygiad yr holl safleoedd a neilltuwyd. Ystyrir felly mai'r opsiwn mwyaf priodol fyddai rhoi'r gorau i lunio CDLI Diwygiedig 2020–2030 a dechrau CDLI Diwygiedig ar gyfer 2022-2037.

Cymeradwyodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Datblygu Menter a Thai yr adroddiad. Dywedodd fod Grŵp Llywio'r CDLI Diwygiedig wedi'i sefydlu a'i fod wedi cyfarfod yn gynharach yn y bore. Dywedodd ei bod hi'n amlwg bod COVID-19 wedi effeithio ar dargedau ac amseroedd cyflawni, yn enwedig y broses ymgynghori gyhoeddus ac ymgysylltu ag ymgynghorwyr. Nododd fod angen i ni nawr adolygu'r sefyllfa i symud ymlaen i lunio CDLI newydd i fynd â ni hyd at 2037.

Ar y pwynt hwn o'r cyfarfod, a chyda chaniatâd yr Arweinydd, anerchodd y Cynghorydd P Jarman y Pwyllgor ynghylch yr eitem yma – cyfeiriodd at Grŵp Llywio'r CDLI Diwygiedig yr oedd hi hefyd yn aelod ohono ac roedd yn falch o'r gwaith hyd yn hyn. Dywedodd eu bod yn brofiadol o ran polisiau cynllunio. Nododd y bydd y Cytundeb Cyflawni Drafft yn cael ei adrodd i'r Cyngor llawn ym mis Mawrth ac y byddai'n cadw sylwadau tan hynny ac yn cyfrannu at y ddat

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

1. Cymeradwyo diwedd y gwaith ar CDLI Diwygiedig 2020–2030.
2. Cymeradwyo'r cynnig i ddechrau CDLI Diwygiedig gyda chyfnod estynedig 2022–2037. Mae hyn gyda'r ddealltwriaeth bod y rhan fwyaf o'r sylfaen dystiolaeth a'r prosesau a gyflawnwyd hyd

yma yn gallu cael eu cario drosodd, a'u diweddaru yn ôl yr angen.

3. Cymeradwyo bod y Cytundeb Cyflenwi Drafft (CC), sy'n nodi Cynllun Cynnwys y Gymuned ac Amserlen ar gyfer llunio'r CDLI Diwygiedig newydd, yn destun ymgynghoriad wedi'i dargedu ac ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus (ynghlwm fel Atodiad 1 yr adroddiad).
4. Bydd unrhyw ddiwygiadau priodol ac angenrheidiol o ganlyniad i'r ymgynghoriad yn cael eu hymgorffori yn y Cytundeb terfynol. Cynigir bod yr argymhellion yn 1 a 2 uchod, ynghyd â'r Cytundeb Cyflenwi terfynol, yn cael eu hadrodd yn uniongyrchol i'r Cyngor Llawn ym mis Mawrth. (Mae angen penderfyniad y Cyngor Llawn er mwyn ceisio cytundeb gyda Llywodraeth Cymru i ddechrau paratoi'r CDLI Diwygiedig newydd).

100 STRATEGAETH ATAL AR GYFER PLANT SY'N DERBYN GOFAL

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth, Gwasanaethau i Blant, yr adroddiad i'r Cabinet a oedd yn rhoi gwybodaeth am y strategaeth atal ar gyfer plant sy'n derbyn gofal. Mae'r adroddiad yn cynnwys amlinelliad o'r gwasanaethau y bwriedir eu datblygu i wella ein harlwy i deuluoedd, a'r adnoddau sydd eu hangen i wneud hynny'n bosibl.

Cytunodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau i Blant fod cefnogi teuluoedd yn flaenoriaeth i CBSRhCT a bydd angen gwasanaethau ychwanegol i gyflawni'r flaenoriaeth hon. Roedd yn falch bod nifer y plant sy'n derbyn gofal yn gostwng yn raddol a bod yr Awdurdod yn datblygu gwasanaethau gwell. Dywedodd fod hyn yn arbennig o bwysig i rieni sydd wedi cael profiad o dderbyn gofal eu hunain.

Ychwanegodd yr Arweinydd bod pwysau ar y gwasanaeth i gadw teuluoedd gyda'i gilydd a braf oedd gweld hynny'n digwydd. Ar ôl mynychu nifer o gyfarfodydd gyda'r Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth, Gwasanaethau i Blant, dysgodd fod astudiaethau wedi datgelu mai'r canlyniad gorau i blentyn yw darparu cymorth Ymyrraeth Gynnar a'i gefnogi i aros o fewn ei deulu.

Ar y pwynt hwn o'r cyfarfod, a chyda chaniatâd yr Arweinydd, anerchodd y Cynghorydd P Jarman y Pwyllgor ynghylch yr eitem - Hysbysodd yr Aelodau y bydd y Strategaeth yn ffocws i'r Bwrdd Rhianta Corfforaethol trawsbleidiol a sicrhodd nad oedd gwleidyddiaeth bleidiol yn ystyriaeth pan ddaw'n fater o ddiogelu plant agored i niwed. Roedd hi'n falch o ddysgu am yr wybodaeth yn yr adroddiad, yn ogystal â'i ddiben, sef gwneud gwahaniaeth a helpu i gadw teuluoedd gyda'i gilydd.

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

1. Nodi'r wybodaeth sydd yn yr adroddiad hwn a rhoi cymeradwyaeth ffurfiol i weithredu'r buddsoddiad arfaethedig a datblygu'r gwasanaeth

Nodi'r cynnig bod y Cyngor yn arwyddo'r Siarter ar gyfer rhieni sydd mewn gofal ac yn gadael gofal, a fydd yn cael ei ystyried mewn cyfarfod dilynol o'r Bwrdd Rhianta Corfforaethol.

101 TRAWSNEWID GWASANAETHAU'R BLYNYDDOEDD CYNNAR YN RHCT

Cyflwynodd y Pennaeth Cymuned, Llesiant a Gwydnwch yr adroddiad i'r

Aelodau, gan amlinellu'r cynnydd a wnaed ar draws rhanbarth Cwm Taf Morgannwg tuag at ddarparu system blynyddoedd cynnar integredig fel rhan o Raglen Trawsnewid y Blynyddoedd Cynnar Llywodraeth Cymru a thrawsnewid gwasanaethau'r Blynyddoedd Cynnar yn RhCT.

Dywedwyd wrth yr Aelodau mai uchelgais Rhaglen Trawsnewid y Blynyddoedd Cynnar Llywodraeth Cymru yw gwireddu'r weledigaeth a nodir "i greu system wirioneddol gydgysylltiedig ac ymatebol sy'n rhoi anghenion unigryw pob plentyn wrth ei chalon". Mae hyn yn golygu bod pob gwasanaeth y daw teuluoedd a phlant ifanc i gysylltiad ag ef yn glir ynghylch y ffordd orau o gefnogi datblygiad plant yn yr ystyr ehangaf. Bydd yn targedu rhieni cyn gynted â phosibl ac yn cynnal cymorth lle bo angen. Mae buddsoddi yn y blynyddoedd cynnar yn fuddsoddiad yn economi a gweithlu'r dyfodol

Dywedodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau i Blant, diolch i contract newydd gyda'r gwasanaethau lechyd, mai ni bellach yw'r unig Awdurdod yng Nghymru i gynnig amserlen gynyddol o asesiadau sgrinio Sgiliau ar gyfer pob plentyn 20 mis oed. Bydd hyn yn gymorth i nodi lle mae angen cymorth cynnar ac ymyrraeth, a bydd o fudd i CBSRhCT wrth symud ymlaen. Nododd hefyd fod y gwerthusiad allanol wedi gallu dangos tystiolaeth bod teuluoedd sy'n elwa ar ymyrraeth gynnar na fyddai wedi bod yn gymwys yn flaenorol.

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

1. Nodi'r cynnydd rhanbarthol a wnaed ers mis Gorffennaf 2017 o ran darparu Rhaglen Trawsnewid y Blynyddoedd Cynnar Llywodraeth Cymru.
2. Nodi'r cynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud yn RhCT ers mis Gorffennaf 2019 o ran darparu gwasanaethau Blynyddoedd Cynnar wedi'u trawsnewid yn RhCT, a chanfyddiadau gwerthusiad allanol Cam 1 o'r model cyflawni newydd sy'n cael ei dreialu.

Sylwch fod yr adroddiad hwn wedi bod yn destun rhag-graffiad gan y Pwyllgor Craffu ar faterion Plant a Phobl Ifanc ar 8 Rhagfyr 2021 ac mae'r sylwadau a wnaed gan Aelodau'r Pwyllgor wedi'u nodi yn adran 10.7 o'r adroddiad hwn.

102 CANLLAWIAU NEWYDD I GYNHALWYR DI-DÂL YN Y GWEITHLE

Cyflwynodd y Pennaeth Gofal a Chymorth i Oedolion yr adroddiad i'r Aelodau i ofyn am gymeradwyaeth y Cabinet i'r canllawiau staff sydd wedi'u cynllunio'n benodol i hysbysu cynhalwyr di-dâl yng ngweithlu'r Cyngor am y cymorth sydd ar gael iddynt helpu i reoli a chydbwyso cyfrifoldebau gwaith a gofalu, ac i egluro'r cymorth hwn yn ffurfiol i reolwyr. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn cyflwyno'r achos busnes i'r Cabinet dros gyflwyno cyfnod newydd o absenoldeb i weithwyr sydd â chyfrifoldebau gofalu di-dâl

Aeth y Pennaeth Gofal a Chymorth i Oedolion ymlaen i ddweud bod yr adroddiad wedi'i ddatblygu ar y cyd â gweithgor RhCT yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o'r garfan Datblygu Pobl, y garfan Amrywiaeth, AD a Gwasanaethau i Oedolion er mwyn cwmpasu'r posibilrwydd o gyflwyno cymorth mwy penodol i gynhalwyr di-dâl o fewn gweithlu RhCT

Mewn ymateb i ganfyddiadau'r arolwg, mae'r gweithgor wedi paratoi Canllawiau i

Gynhalwyr sy'n Gweithio (Atodiad 1). Mae'r canllawiau'n awgrymu mân addasiadau y gellid eu hystyried yn y gweithle i gefnogi cynhalwyr di-dâl

Yn ddiweddar, mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi ei bwriad i gyflwyno absenoldeb di-dâl i gynhalwyr fel hawl statudol, a chynigir bod Cabinet RhCT yn cydnabod yr effaith sylweddol y gall cyfrifoldebau gofalu ei chael ar weithwyr ac yn cymeradwyo'r argymhelliad i ategu'r trefniadau absenoldeb presennol sydd eisoes ar waith i gynnwys mynediad at 5 diwrnod o wyliau â thâl y flwyddyn i gefnogi'n benodol y digwyddiadau canlynol fel y'u nodir yn natganiad cyhoeddedig Llywodraeth y DU ar absenoldeb cynhalwyr.

Ymhellach i'r ddarpariaeth arfaethedig ar gyfer cynhalwyr sy'n gweithio yn y Cyngor mae'r gweithgor hefyd yn argymhell bod y Cabinet yn cymeradwyo'r ymgais i fynd ar drywydd aelodaeth ymbarél o 'Cyflogwyr i Gynhalwyr', a reolir gan Carers UK, sydd â'r nod o "sichrau bod gan gyflogwyr y gefnogaeth i gadw a rheoli gweithwyr gyda chyfrifoldebau gofalu".

Dywedodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd ei bod yn falch o weld y cynigion oedd ger eu bron a chlywed bod mwy a mwy o Awdurdodau Lleol yn meithrin agwedd debyg yn hyn o beth. Mae cynhalwyr di-dâl yng Ngweithlu'r Cyngor yn chwarae rhan arwyddocaol yn eu Cymunedau ac yn y gymdeithas ac mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cyfeirio staff at y cymorth sydd ar gael iddynt.

Roedd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Oedolion yn falch o weld y gydnabyddiaeth i'r cynhalwyr di-dâl yn y gweithlu sydd wedi darparu gofal hanfodol i'r rhai mwyaf agored i niwed yn ystod y pandemig a thu hwnt.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod LIC wedi buddsoddi llawer o adnoddau yn hyn gan ei fod yn ymwybodol o'r pwysau yn y maes hwn, ac os nad oes modd ddarparu'r gefnogaeth hon bydd yn ychwanegu pwysau pellach ar wasanaethau bregus eraill. Ychwanegodd po fwyaf y gallwn ei wneud i gefnogi cynhalwyr, y gorau oll.

Yn dilyn trafod, **PENDERFYNWYD:**

1. Cymeradwyo'r Canllawiau i Gynhalwyr sy'n Gweithio (Atodiad 1) a chefnogi ei weithrediad.
2. Cymeradwyo trefniadau absenoldeb â thâl penodol ychwanegol ar gyfer cynhalwyr di-dâl o fewn y gweithlu hyd at 5 diwrnod y flwyddyn.

Yn cymeradwyo dilyn cynllun achredu cydnabyddedig ar gyfer cynhalwyr sy'n gweithio'

103 DIWEDDARIAD AR Y CYD-BWYLLGOR CORFFORAETHOL

Cyflwynodd y Prif Weithredwr adroddiad yn rhoi diweddariad i'r Aelodau ar gyflwyno Cydbwyllgorau Corfforaethol yn unol â darpariaeth Deddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) (Cymru) 2021.

Nododd fod Swyddogion Bargaen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd a'r Corff Atebol wedi bod yn rhoi'r holl gamau cyfreithiol, cyfrifyddu ac ymarferol ar waith i sichrau y gellir creu'r Cydbwyllgor newydd ar 28 Chwefror 2022. Fodd bynnag, mae wedi dod yn amlwg na fydd y risgiau a'r materion penodol a amlygwyd yn wreiddiol gan Brifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd gyda Llywodraeth

Cymru yn cael eu datrys yn ddigonol i gefnogi trosglwyddo Bargen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd i'r Cydbwyllgor erbyn dyddiad gosod cyllideb y Cydbwyllgor ar 31 Ionawr 2022. Mae hyn yn bennaf oherwydd nad yw'r materion y mae angen eu datrys, sef statws A.33 (TAW), wedi'u hystyried gan LIC wrth osod y Rheoliadau. O ganlyniad mae arnom angen cymeradwyaeth Cyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi (HMRC) a Thrysorlys Ei Mawrhydi (HMT) i gymeradwyo'r statws trethiant cywir.

Yn ogystal, mae materion pellach wedi codi mewn perthynas â Threth Gorfforaeth. Mae hwn yn fater cymhleth nad yw'r Rheoliadau wedi rhoi sylw iddo hyd yma; a gallai fod â goblygiadau sylweddol i fodel gweithredu Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd oni bai yr eir i'r afael â'r mater yn yr un modd trwy gais i HMT am ollyngiadau perthnasol. Mae gwaith ar y gweill i fynd i'r afael â hyn, gyda Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd yn cefnogi cais achos busnes LIC i CThEM am y gollyngiadau perthnasol.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod hwn yn gam i'r cyfeiriad cywir ar gyfer cydweithio a llunio trefniadau, cyn belled â bod y newid yn ddi-dor i drigolion gyda gwasanaethau'n parhau i gael eu darparu, yna byddai hyn yn gadarnhaol. Nododd ei bod yn bwysig bod yr Awdurdodau Lleol yn penderfynu pa wasanaethau fydd yn cael eu darparu drwy'r Cydbwyllgorau a bod penderfyniad lleol ar wasanaethau sydd angen gwahanol anghenion mewn ardaloedd Awdurdodau Lleol gwahanol. Mynegodd ei bryderon y gallai rhai datblygiadau y tu allan i drefi gael effaith andwyol ar ganol trefi felly byddai angen cydweithio agosach ag Awdurdodau Lleol ar gyfer hyn.

Dywedodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd y bydd trefniadau Craffu yn allweddol i'r Cydbwyllgorau i gynnwys ymgysylltiad ehangach Aelodau a Chymunedau i fesur eu heffaith. Dywedodd fod CBSRhCT eisoes wedi cefnogi newid sylweddol yn nhrefniadau craffu presennol Bargen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd

Ar y pwynt hwn o'r cyfarfod, a chyda chaniatâd yr Arweinydd, anerchodd y Cynghorydd P Jarman yr aelodau ar yr eitem. Dywedodd er nad yw'n cefnogi Cyd-bwyllgorau Corfforaethol, ar ôl craffu ar y ddeddfwriaeth, derbyniodd eu bod yn fodel o Lywodraethu Rhanbarthol. Holodd pam nad yw materion a diweddariadau wedi dod gerbron y Cyngor Llawn i bob aelod gael diweddariad ar faterion a bod angen bod yn agored ac yn atebol. Dywedodd hefyd ei bod yn siomedig nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi negodi gyda Llywodraeth y DU cyn gweithredu'r Cyd-bwyllgorau Corfforaethol ar faterion trethiant.

Cytunodd yr Arweinydd â'r sylwadau ynghylch y materion trethiant. Ychwanegodd y ceisiwyd cyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol a bod Cabinet Bargen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd wedi gwneud popeth o fewn eu gallu i symud ymlaen. Ychwanegodd ei bod yn siomedig nad oes unrhyw benderfyniad nac eglurhad wedi'i roi gan Lywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth Cymru ar y mater gan fod angen ei ddatrys cyn y gellir gwneud penderfyniadau strategol allweddol ar faterion lle mae goblygiadau ariannol. Sicrhodd fod Awdurdodau Lleol o fewn Bargen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd bellach yn canolbwyntio ar fwrw ymlaen â hyn a gwneud i hyn weithio

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

1. Nodi bod y wybodaeth a ddarparwyd i'r Cabinet ar 18 Hydref 2021 mewn perthynas â chreu a datblygu Cydbwyllgor Corfforaethol De-ddwyrain

Cymru wedi'i ddiweddar. Yn benodol, penderfyniad Cabinet Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd i gyflwyno model llywodraethu a chyflawni interim ar gyfer gweithredu Cyd-bwyllgor Corfforaethol De-ddwyrain Cymru (CJC) hyd nes y bydd nifer o faterion statws trethiant a risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Rheoliadau wedi'u datrys;

2. Nodi'r gofyniad i'r CJC osod a chymeradwyo cyllideb ar neu cyn 31 Ionawr 2022;
3. Nodi'r cais a wnaed gan Brifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd o ran gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ddiwygio rheoliadau'r Cyd-bwyllgor Corfforaethol i newid y dyddiad y mae dyletswyddau uniongyrchol yn cychwyn o dan y Rheoliadau o 28 Chwefror 2022 i 30 Mehefin 2022, i alinio â'r tri Cydbwyllgor arall yng Nghymru;
4. Nodi llythyr y Gweinidog Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol ar 20 Rhagfyr 2021 yn ymgynghori â'r Cyngor ar ddiwygio dyddiad cychwyn Cyd-bwyllgor Corfforaethol De-ddwyrain Cymru i 30 Mehefin 2022 ac ymateb Prif Weithredwr y Cyngor, mewn ymgynghoriad ag Arweinydd y Cyngor, yn cadarnhau cefnogaeth y Cyngor i'r gwelliant. Daeth yr ymgynghoriad i ben ar 21 Ionawr 2022; a

Nodi'r gwaith sy'n mynd rhagddo gan Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd a'i Gyngorau cyfansoddol i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru, Llywodraeth y DU, Archwilio Cymru a chynghorwyr fel y bo'n briodol, i helpu i lywio'r gwaith o ddatrys y materion sy'n weddill lle bynnag y bo modd

104 ADNODDAU RHEOLI DIOGELWCH TOMENNYDD

Cyflwynodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Rheng Flaen yr adroddiad i'r aelodau i ofyn am gymeradwyaeth i sefydlu Carfan Rheoli Diogelwch Tomennydd o fewn Gwasanaethau Rheng Flaen a fyddai'n canolbwyntio holl elfennau cyfredol diogelwch tomennydd gwastraff, gan gynnwys rheoleiddio, rheoli a chynnal a chadw i mewn i un Garfan Rheoli Diogelwch Tomennydd benodol.

Ers Storm Dennis, mae buddsoddiad cyfalaf mewn diogelwch tomennydd ynghyd â rhaglen fawr o waith cynnal a chadw tomennydd, a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cymru, wedi'i gyflawni gan Bennaeth Rheoli Asedau Seilwaith newydd y Cyngor, gan ddefnyddio cyfuniad o staff presennol, ymgynghorwyr, arbenigwyr ar secondiad a'r Awdurdod Glo. Mae hyn wedi galluogi Carfan Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd a Thomennydd i ganolbwyntio'n fwy penodol ar ofynion cynyddol Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd.

Nododd fod integreiddio agweddau diogelwch tomennydd o gyfrifoldebau'r Cyngor fel tiffeddiannwr gyda'i gyfrifoldebau o dan y "Ddeddf Awgrymiadau" yn darparu canolbwynt ar gyfer yr holl faterion diogelwch tomennydd ac yn galluogi sefydlu carfan ymroddedig i gyflawni'r dyletswyddau hyn yn effeithiol.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr wrth yr Aelodau y bwriedir sefydlu Carfan Rheoli Diogelwch Tomennydd pwrpasol a fydd yn adrodd i Bennaeth Rheoli Asedau Isadeiledd y Cyngor o fewn Gwasanaethau Rheng Flaen.

Pan fydd yn cael ei sefydlu, bydd y garfan Perygl Llifogydd a Diogelwch Tomennydd presennol yn dod yn Garfan Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd gyda theitlau swyddi'n cael eu haddasu yn unol â hynny. Daeth i'r casgliad y byddai'r garfan

arfaethedig yn cynnwys 6 swydd y manylwyd arnynt yn yr adroddiad gydag atodiad marchnad posib yn ofynnol i ddenu ymgeiswyr i'r swyddi.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod y carfanau diogelwch tomennydd glo pwrpasol yn adnodd y mae mawr ei angen o fewn yr Awdurdod. Rhagwelir y byddant yn gweithio ar rai o'r gwaith Cyfalaf sy'n dod ymlaen a hefyd gwaith adfer yn ardaloedd Tylorstown a Wattstown. Telir y costau o gyllid Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Rhaglen Gyfalaf. Ychwanegodd y bydd y ffordd newydd arfaethedig o weithio hefyd yn lleddfu'r pwysau ar y Garfan Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd

Diolchodd yr Aelod Cabinet Menter Tai a Datblygu i'r swyddog a'i garfan am ddod â'r adroddiad ymlaen a dywedodd fod gwir angen y garfan yma gan ein bod yn wynebu nifer o bwysau hefyd yn deillio o Newid yn yr Hinsawdd, felly roedd yn hanfodol cynyddu ein harbenigedd yn y maes i sicrhau diogelwch y cyhoedd.

Cytunodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd mai'r cynigion oedd y ffordd gywir ymlaen i roi sicrwydd diogelwch i'n preswylwyr.

Gyda chaniatâd yr Arweinydd, anerchodd Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol P. Jarman y pwyllgor ynglŷn â'r eitem yma. Dywedodd ei bod yn derbyn yn llwyr yr angen i wneud y mwyaf o'r cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflawni rhaglen waith gwerth miliynau o bunnoedd ynghyd ag amserlen o waith diogelwch blaenau a hefyd i geisio sefydlu canolfan ragoriaeth yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, roedd y Cynghorydd Jarman yn bryderus ei fod wedi gadael y cyhoedd yn cwestiynu ai dim ond oherwydd prinder sgiliau y gellir cyflawni'r ganolfan ragoriaeth yn genedlaethol. Gofynnodd felly a ragwelwyd a fyddai'r swyddi i greu'r garfan ddiogelwch tomennydd yn cael eu hysbysebu'n fewnol neu'n allanol. Mynegodd bryder pe na bai'r cyllid yn parhau y byddai'r swyddi yn peidio â bod yn hyfyw. Anogodd pe bai hyn yn digwydd y dylai'r Cyngor barhau i ariannu'r swyddi er mwyn cadw'r arbenigedd. Dywedodd hefyd fod y cyhoedd yn parhau i fod yn anfodlon nad yw'r Awdurdod wedi cyhoeddi categorïau newydd o awgrymiadau, yn wahanol i Awdurdodau Lleol cyfagos a gofynnodd pryd y gallwn ddisgwyl i hyn ddigwydd.

Sicrhaodd yr Arweinydd ar y pwynt ariannu nad oedd yn bryderus ar unwaith na fyddai'r cyllid yn parhau gan Lywodraeth Cymru a dywedodd fodd bynnag y byddai'r Awdurdod yn parhau i ariannu'r swyddi pe bai angen hynny.

Cadarnhaodd Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Rheng Flaen y bydd swyddi'n cael eu hysbysebu'n allanol mewn ymgais i ddenu sgiliau a phrofiad newydd i'r Awdurdod ac efallai y bydd angen gwneud cais am atodiad marchnad i ddenu ymgeiswyr. Dywedodd fod darpar ymgeiswyr mewnol eisoes yn cyflawni rolau hollbwysig. Daeth i'r casgliad bod angen hyn ar RhCT ar hyn o bryd, a dyma'r flaenoriaeth wrth symud ymlaen, os bydd y gwasanaeth yn trawsnewid i fod yn rhanbarthol yn y dyfodol yna bydd hyn yn cael ei adolygu.

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

Cytuno i sefydlu Carfan Rheoli Diogelwch Tomennydd penodol o fewn Gwasanaethau Rheng Flaen i;

- Rheoli cyfrifoldebau'r Cyngor o dan Ddeddf Mwyngloddiau a Chwareli (Tomennydd) 1969,

- Rheoli cyfrifoldebau diogelwch y Cyngor fel tirlfeddiannwr nifer sylweddol o domennydd gwastraff glo ar draws RhCT.

105 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."

106 CYNLLUN RHEOLI ASED AU CORFFORAETHOL – Y DIWEDDARAF

Yn dilyn trafod adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Materion Eiddo'r Cyngor, sy'n cynnwys Gwybodaeth Eithriedig fel y diffinnir ym Mharagraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A o'r Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 (fel y'i diwygiwyd), sef gwybodaeth ynglŷn â materion ariannol unigolyn penodol (gan gynnwys yr awdurdod sy'n dal yr wybodaeth honno), **PENDERFYNWYD:** nodi cynnwys yr adroddiad

107 SYLFAEN CYFLOG BYW GWIRIONEDDOL

Yn dilyn ystyried adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant sy'n cynnwys gwybodaeth eithriedig fel y'i diffinnir ym Mharagraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol, 1972 (fel y'i diwygiwyd), sef gwybodaeth sy'n ymwneud â materion ariannol unrhyw rai penodol (gan gynnwys yr awdurdod sy'n dal y wybodaeth honno), **PENDERFYNWYD:**

1. Ymrwymo'n ffurfiol i weithredu'r cynnydd i'r Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol ar gyfer yr holl weithwyr gofal a gyflogir yn allanol o 1 Chwefror 2022
2. Cytuno bod y cynnydd blynyddol yn y Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol ar gyfer unrhyw staff y Cyngor yr effeithir arnynt gan y cynnydd, yn cael ei weithredu am eleni o 1 Chwefror 2022; a
3. Dirprwyo cyfrifoldeb i'r Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant (mewn ymgynghoriad â'r Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol) i ymgysylltu â darparwyr a gwneud y diwygiadau cytundebol angenrheidiol; a

Dirprwyo cyfrifoldeb i'r Cyfarwyddwr Adnoddau Dynol i gymhwyso'r cynnydd yn y Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol i'r holl staff sy'n gweithio i'r Cyngor y mae'r cynnydd yn effeithio arnynt.

108 DILEU DYLEDION NAD OES MODD EU CASGLU

Yn dilyn ystyried adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol sy'n cynnwys gwybodaeth eithriedig fel y'i diffinnir ym Mharagraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol, 1972 (fel y'i diwygiwyd), sef gwybodaeth sy'n ymwneud â materion ariannol unrhyw rai penodol (gan gynnwys yr awdurdod sy'n dal y wybodaeth honno), **PENDERFYNWYD:**

Dileu'r cyfrifon sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr atodlen sydd wedi'i hatodi i'r Ddarpariaeth o Ddyledion sydd wedi'i chynnwys yng nghyfrifon y Cyngor (gan geisio taliad os daw rhagor o wybodaeth am unrhyw ddyled i'r amlwg).

109 **Materion Brys**

Dim

**Y Cyng A Morgan
Cadeirydd.**

Tudalen wag



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

COUNCIL FEES AND CHARGES POLICY

2022/23

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Author: Barrie Davies (01443) 424026

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out:

- Proposed revisions to Council fees and charges levels for the financial year 2022/23 (all to be effective from 1st April 2022 or as soon as is practicable thereafter); and
- Details of fees and charges decisions previously approved and included in the 2022/23 proposed Budget Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Consider and, if appropriate, approve the proposed revised levels for all areas of the Council's fees and charges as set out at section 5 and detailed at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Subject to fees and charges proposals being agreed, build the net budgetary impact (£45k for 2022/23) into the budget strategy proposals for consideration by Cabinet and Council as appropriate (paragraph 5.3).
- 2.3 Note the fees and charges decisions previously approved and included in the 2022/23 proposed Budget Strategy (paragraph 5.4 / Table 2).

3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To agree the Council's fees and charges for 2022/23, required as part of the annual budget setting process.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council provides a wide range of services across the County Borough and the ability to apply a charge is an important funding source to support the cost of maintaining service provision.
- 4.2 As part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Planning arrangements, fees and charges are reviewed regularly and, as part of this process, account is taken of funding levels received through the Local Government Settlement; the implications of decisions already approved; Corporate Plan priority areas; feedback received as part of the consultation process; and the level of inflation (i.e. the 12 month Consumer Prices Index (CPI) to December 2021 is 5.4%).
- 4.3 Where appropriate, agreement of the proposed revisions is now required in order to put in place the necessary steps for their implementation from 1st April 2022 (or as soon as is practicable thereafter).

5. REVIEW

- 5.1 Cabinet have reviewed fees and charges levels having regard to the information set out in Section 4 with the objective to continue to provide a comprehensive range of quality services at affordable prices.
- 5.2 The outcome of Cabinet's review is a proposed 2.50% standard increase to fees and charges (allowing for rounding adjustments as appropriate), with the Council absorbing the implications of not applying a standard uplift in line with the CPI rate of inflation. In addition, a number of areas are proposed to be subject to specific treatment, as set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Summary of proposed fees and charges not subject to the proposed standard increase

Area of Charge	Proposed Exception
Leisure for Life – Membership	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Meals on Wheels / Day Centre Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
School Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Car Park Charges	Freeze
Summer and Winter Playing Fees (sports clubs)	Freeze
3G Pitch Hire	Freeze
Licenses (Hackney Carriage / Private Hire)	Freeze
Lido / Rhondda Heritage Park	Freeze
Pest Control Service Charges (Domestic / Public Health)	Freeze

- 5.3 The impact of the proposals set out in Table 1 would reduce income by £45k in a full year (compared to the Council's budget modelling for 2022/23).
- 5.4 In addition, a number of fees and charges decisions have previously been approved and accordingly have already been incorporated into the Council's 2022/23 proposed Budget Strategy. These are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2 – Summary of decisions already approved

Area of charge	Decision approved
Adult Social Care Charges (non-residential care services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £100 per week in line with the current limit determined by Welsh Government (Cabinet 18th July 2017)
Fixed Penalty Notice (for environmental crimes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set at £100 with effect from 1st April 2018 (Cabinet 25th January 2018)
Houses in Multiple Occupation - Licenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> License fees set for the period 2019/20 to 2023/24 (Cabinet 14th February 2019)
Bereavement fees and charges for war veterans and service men and women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25% reduction to all Council bereavement fees incurred by families of deceased war veterans and service men and women resident in Rhondda Cynon Taf (Delegated Decision 8th May 2019)

- 5.5 As Members will be aware, a pilot was approved at the [21st November 2019](#) Cabinet meeting to apply a reduced cremation fee for funeral directors offering a Direct / Simplicity cremation service in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Following consideration of the results of the pilot at the [29th April 2021](#) Cabinet meeting, it was agreed that the provision of a Direct / Simplicity cremation service would continue in 2021/22 at the rate applied for the pilot scheme and, for 2022/23 onwards, the fee level would be determined as part of the annual fees and charges process.
- 5.6 For completeness, a full list of all fees and charges across all Council services can be accessed [here](#), now including the proposed level of charges for 2022/23.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, namely the Public Sector Equality Duty and Socio-Economic Duty.

6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and concluded that the recommendations set out in the report are in line with the above legislation.

7. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no Welsh language implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 A comprehensive budget consultation exercise has been undertaken in relation to the 2022/23 budget requirements.

8.2 The proposals included in this report do not require any specific additional consultation exercises to be undertaken.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 As outlined in section 5 of the report, the proposed revisions to fees and charges levels for 2022/23 would reduce income by £45K in a full year if Cabinet decide to take forward the proposed recommendations (as compared to the Council's budget modelling for 2022/23).

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

10.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

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

11.1 Fees and charges income is a critical component of the funding arrangements for many services. At a local level, the proposals intend to ensure the continued provision of a comprehensive range of quality services at affordable prices for users to support the Council's work in delivering its Corporate Plan priorities; improving the provision of essential services; and at the same time 'living within its means'.

11.2 The proposals also complement the requirements of the Well Being of Future Generations Act in helping to provide Services with adequate resources to continue their work in shaping provision fit for the future and, in doing so, enable positive contributions to be made toward meeting the seven national wellbeing goals.

12. CONCLUSION

12.1 This report sets out proposals for the level of Council fees and charges for the forthcoming year, and, if approved, will be incorporated within the recommended 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy to Council on 9th March 2022.

Other Information

Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee

PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2022/23

Group	Service Area	Type Of Income	2022/23 Proposed Increase
Chief Executive	Land Charges	Land Charges (excluding those set nationally)	2.50%
Community and Children's Services	Environmental Health (Pollution) and Licensing (where applicable)	Licences (General)	2.50%
		Licenses (Hackney Carriage and Private Hire)	0%
		Houses in Multiple Occupation – Licenses	Price set in line with previous decision
	Food Standards	Course Fees General	2.50%
	Bereavement Services*	Cremation Fees (including Direct / Simplicity cremations)	2.50%
		Burial Fees	2.50%
		All supplementary fees & charges	2.50%
	Registrar	Booking Fees	2.50%
		Attendances	2.50%
	Leisure Centres and Swimming Pools	Pay & Play Fees	2.50%
		3G Pitch Hire	0%
		Membership Fees	0% (frozen until January 2023)
	Rhondda Heritage Park	<u>Admission Fees - Schools</u>	
		Welsh Mining Experience (underground tour)	0%
		Santa's Grotto	0%
		<u>Admission Fees - External</u>	
		Welsh Mining Experience (underground tour)	0%
		Santa's Grotto	0%
		Miscellaneous Sales / Souvenirs	2.50%
	Lido – Pontypridd	Leisure Sales Income	0%
	Park & Dare & Coliseum Theatres	Bars & Catering	2.50%
		Room/Venue Hire	2.50%
		Ticket Sales	Internally set based on act / performance
Cinema (entrance fee)		2.50%	
Community Centres	Rental Income / Hire Charges	2.50%	
	Leisure Sales Income	2.50%	

Group	Service Area	Type Of Income	2022/23 Proposed Increase
Community and Children's Services	Parks & Recreation Grounds	Summer Fees (Sports Clubs)	0%
		Winter Fees (Sports Clubs)	0%
	Dare Valley Country Park	Hire Charges	2.50%
		Rental Income	2.50%
	Day Services	Catering Income	2.50%
		Meals Sales	0% (frozen until 2023)
		Hire Of Premises	2.50%
		Produce Sales	2.50%
	In-House Residential Services	Board And Lodge Income	2.50%
		Meals Sales	2.50%
	Domiciliary Care (Adults)	Non Residential Care Charges	In line with previous decision: maximum weekly charge payable set by Welsh Government (and based on individual financial circumstances)
	Nurseries	Day Nursery Fee Income	2.50%
	Telecare	Lifeline Income	2.50%
	Pest Control	Pest Control Service Charges (Domestic / Public Health)	0%
		Other Pest Control Service Charges	2.50%
	Libraries	Library Fines	2.50%
		Hire Charges	2.50%
		Photocopy & Printing Charges	2.50%
		All Other Sales	2.50%
	Adult Education	General Course Fees	2.50%
Hire Charges		2.50%	
Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services	Street Cleansing Operations	Fixed Penalty Notice (environmental crimes)	Price set in line with previous decision
	Allotments	Rental Income	2.50%
	Parks Services	Rental Income	2.50%
		Income From Outside Bodies	2.50%
	Commercial Waste	Trade Refuse Charges (Residual)	2.50%
		Trade Refuse Charges (Recycling)	2.50%
	Waste Collection	Bulky Waste Collection Income	2.50%
		Replacement Bin Charges	2.50%
	Parking Services	Season Ticket Parking Fees	0%
		Parking Fees	0%
		Residential Parking Permits	0%
	New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA)	Licences	2.50%
Home To School	Sale of Surplus Seats	2.50%	
Traffic Management	Fees	2.50%	

Group	Service Area	Type Of Income	2022/23 Proposed Increase	
Education and Inclusion Services	School Meals Income	School Meals Sales	0% (frozen until 2023)	
	Catering Training	Miscellaneous Contributions	2.50%	
	Meals on Wheels	Clients Meals Sales	0% (frozen until 2023)	
	Peripatetic Music Service	Course Fees General		2.50%
		Performances - Ticket Income		2.50%
Equipment Hire			2.50%	

* Bereavement Services – in line with previous decision: 25% reduction to all Council bereavement fees incurred by families of deceased war veterans and service men and women resident in Rhondda Cynon Taf

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

COUNCIL FEES AND CHARGES POLICY 2022/23

Background Papers

None

Officer to contact: Barrie Davies



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

THE COUNCIL'S 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CLLR A MORGAN

AUTHOR: Barrie Davies (01443 424026)

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 At its meeting on the 27th January 2022, the Cabinet agreed draft budget proposals for the 2022/23 revenue budget strategy.
- 1.2 These proposals have now been consulted upon as part of a second phase of budget consultation and the results are now available for Cabinet to consider and amend as necessary the draft budget strategy which they would wish to recommend to Council.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Review and, if appropriate, amend their Budget Strategy which they wish to recommend to Council on the 9th March 2022; and
- 2.2 Authorise the Director of Finance and Digital Services to amend the level of contribution from the Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve as a consequence of any change to the Council's resource levels announced in the Final Local Government Settlement.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On the 27th January 2022, Cabinet agreed draft proposals for the revenue budget strategy for financial year 2022/23.

- 3.2 These proposals have been subject to a second phase of consultation which ran from the 28th January to the 13th February 2022. The results of this consultation exercise are now available for Cabinet.
- 3.3 The proposals have been incorporated into a draft budget strategy report to Council and this is attached at Appendix A. The results of the Phase 2 consultation process is also attached to that report.
- 3.4 It is now for Cabinet to consider the feedback received from Phase 2 and determine whether they would wish to amend the draft budget strategy.

4.0 THE FINAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT FOR 2022/23

- 4.1 The timing of the Local Government Settlement for 2022/23 has followed the UK Government Autumn Budget and Spending Review (SR21), with the provisional settlement being announced on the 21st December 2021.
- 4.2 The Final Local Government Settlement for 2022/23 is expected to be received on the 1st March 2022.
- 4.3 There are no indications of any significant changes between the provisional and final settlement but such a risk clearly remains.
- 4.4 In order to ensure that Cabinet are able to recommend a balanced budget to Council on the 9th March 2022, and given the timing of the Final Settlement (1st March 2022), it will be necessary to authorise the Director of Finance and Digital Services to amend the budget to deal with any change between Provisional and Final Settlement. It is proposed that any change is dealt with by means of amending the contribution from our Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve. This reserve has a remaining balance of £3.636M and is set against the context that a 0.5% change in the level of our settlement would amount to £2.207M.

5.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY

- 5.1 Due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, namely the Public Sector Equality Duty and Socio-Economic Duty.
- 5.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and concluded that the recommendations set out in the report are in line with the above legislation.

6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The allocation of resources, as set out in the proposed 2022/23 Budget Strategy, is based on supporting the Council's service delivery requirements and associated statutory responsibilities for the forthcoming year. In doing so, the proposed strategy is in line with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The proposed approach to budget consultation for 2022/23 was set out in the Cabinet report dated 18th October 2021. It comprised 2 phases as follows :

Phase 1 - provided residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to feedback their views on some of the key strategic building blocks used to construct the Council's budget.

Phase 2 - once Cabinet agreed the draft budget strategy, and in light of the provisional local government settlement, then this draft strategy was consulted upon as part of Phase 2.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The financial modelling assumptions and implications are set out in Appendix A of this report.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS or LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The Council has a legal duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to set a balanced budget and also a legal duty under the Local Government Act 2000 for it to be reported to and approved by Full Council. The construction of the draft 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy in line with the "Budget and Policy Framework", as set out in the Council's Constitution, will support compliance with the above legal requirements.

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

- 10.1 The draft budget strategy will be a key enabler for the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and in doing so will support wider partnership objectives and the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

11.0 CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The feedback from the second phase of budget consultation is now available for Cabinet to review and, if appropriate, amend their draft budget strategy proposals which they wish to recommend to Council on the 9th March 2022.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN
DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CLLR A MORGAN**

ITEM: THE COUNCIL'S 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

**OFFICER TO CONTACT - Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital
Services**

Tudalen wag

APPENDIX A

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021-2022

**COMMITTEE:
COUNCIL**

9th March 2022

REPORT OF:

THE CABINET

AUTHOR: Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services Tel. No. 01443 424026

AGENDA ITEM NO.	
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THE COUNCIL'S 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY	
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1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report provides information on the provisional local government settlement for 2022/23 and sets out the recommendations of the Cabinet with regard to the Council's Revenue Budget and the level of Council Tax for the year ending 31st March 2023.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the written statement from the Minister for Finance and Local Government (Rebecca Evans MS) and the table on the 2022/23 Provisional local government settlement, reproduced at Appendix 1;
- 2.2 Note the implications for the Council and the remaining budget gap as set out at section 5;
- 2.3 Agree a Council Tax increase for 2022/23 of 1.00%;
- 2.4 Agree the uplift to the aggregate Schools Budget as detailed at section 8;
- 2.5 Agree the budget strategy proposals as set out at paragraphs 10.3(a) to 10.3(i);
- 2.6 Agree the use of the 'Medium Term Financial Planning & Service Transformation Reserve' as transition funding, totalling £0.971M for 2022/23;

- 2.7 Approve Tables 3 and 4 in Section 13 of the report as the basis of allocating resources to the Individual Schools Budget (ISB), to other Council Services, and to meet its corporate financing requirements; and
- 2.8 Agree the Council's overall budget for 2022/23 at £566.792M, in order to pass the necessary statutory resolutions to set the Council Tax for the forthcoming financial year by the statutory deadline of the 11th March 2022.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Council meeting on the 29th September 2021, the Council's audited accounts were presented which reported General Fund Balances amounting to £8.505M.
- 3.2 Given the continuing financial pressures the Council is working under, it remains the view of the Director of Finance and Digital Services (Section 151 Officer) that the Council should hold a minimum of £10M as General Fund Balances, (i.e. its working balance). This level is set given the context of the need for continued strong financial management that is felt to be essential to ensure that the Council maintains financial flexibility and stability going forward.
- 3.3 During the financial year 2019/20 our reserves were used to support our residents and businesses in the immediate aftermath of Storm Dennis. Whilst reducing our reserves below what is considered to be the minimum level, it was wholly appropriate that they were used in this way and for this purpose. The Director of Finance and Digital Services is satisfied that plans are in place to replenish General Fund Reserves to the minimum level over the period of our Medium Term Financial Plan, with £0.5M built into our base budget from 2021/22.
- 3.4 Members will be aware that in addition to General Fund Reserves, the Council also holds a number of earmarked reserves that are kept under continuous review and are assessed each year by Audit Wales. Included in these reserves is a Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve that has successfully supported transitional funding as part of the Council's Medium Term Service Planning arrangements. It has achieved this through helping to smooth the delivery of budget savings over a number of years, whilst still allowing an annual balanced budget to be delivered. The starting point for the Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve as at the 31st March 2021 was £3.691M. As part of our ongoing strategy, we have continued to identify and deliver savings in-year which means we have been able to increase the level of transitional funding available and the latest position is that this reserve has now increased to £4.607M (additional in year savings to date of £0.988M).

- 3.5 Audit Wales continue to emphasise that we must remain disciplined, if we are to maintain our long-term goal of driving forward continuous improvement of key services, though this becomes increasingly harder to achieve following a period of such severe financial pressures.
- 3.6 The Audit Wales assessment is an accurate one and it is clear that Members continue to take their fiduciary duty extremely seriously as evidenced by the positive reports received from the regulators and the track record of budgetary control across services. The challenge, therefore, is to construct a prudent, equitable and fair revenue budget for the financial year ending the 31st March 2023. This must involve an approach which publicly demonstrates sound financial stewardship; which does not take unnecessary risks; which maximises income generation; continues to deliver (as far as possible, and where available) year on year efficiency savings and which delivers the services that are needed and we can afford, as well as protecting as many jobs as possible.
- 3.7 In the context of this overall financial position, the Cabinet, assisted by the Senior Leadership Team was able to commence initial work on its budget strategy for 2022/23. The broad objectives of next year's proposed strategy are to:
- (i) Support the delivery of our key strategic priorities -
 - People – Are independent, healthy and successful
 - Places – Where people are proud to live, work and play
 - Prosperity – Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper
 - (ii) Retain the support of Audit Wales for the approach the Council has adopted to securing strong financial management;
 - (iii) Continue with the delivery of our key services and protect as many local jobs as possible; and
 - (iv) Take a responsible approach to the level of Council Tax.

4.0 THE 2022/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT

- 4.1 On the 21st December 2021, the Minister for Finance and Local Government (Rebecca Evans MS) announced the Provisional 2022/23 Local Government Settlement. The Minister's statement and key data table is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The "headlines" of the 2022/23 Provisional Settlement are as follows:-
- a. The overall increase in Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) funding for 2022/23 (of unhypothecated funding) at an all Wales level, after adjusting for transfers is 9.4% (+£437M).

- b. The settlement for Rhondda Cynon Taf, amounts to an increase of 8.4% which is below the average all Wales increase. Settlement figures across Wales range from 8.4% to 11.2%.
- c. No 'floor' protection has been included for 2022/23.
- d. The Settlement figures for 2022/23 include transfers into the settlement in respect of Food and Residual Waste Management Gate Fee Support (£13.3M), Social Care Workforce Grant (£5.0M) and the Coastal Risk Management Programme (not applicable to this Council). The values for this Council are £2.430M and £0.408M respectively.
- e. The Settlement also provides indicative all Wales settlement levels for the next 2 financial years, at 3.5% for 2023/24 and 2.4% for 2024/25. The figures are indicative and dependent on NDR income over the period and on the funding provided to WG by UK Government.
- f. Provisional figures and indicative estimates for a 3 year period are also included for specific grants, at an all Wales level. The Social Care Workforce Grant has been partially transferred into RSG as detailed above. This continues to fund our core base budget.
- g. The Council's General Capital Funding allocation has reduced by £2.165M to £11.599M.

5.0 COUNCIL BASE BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2022/23

- 5.1 In anticipation of the 2022/23 local government settlement, the Council's service managers have constructed the base budget requirements for next financial year. Those initial calculations provided for:-
 - Estimated national wage awards, pension costs and National Insurance Contribution levels;
 - Non-pay (i.e. goods and services) inflation, including energy and fuel;
 - Corporate financing requirements and levies; and
 - Full year effects of any additional burdens imposed on the Council and the implications of demand led pressures.
- 5.2 The Council's updated budget requirement was reported to Council on the 19th January 2022 alongside the implications of the Provisional Local Government Settlement which was announced on the 21st December 2021.
- 5.3 After taking into account the updated budget requirement and the provisional settlement increase of 8.4%, in addition to the Council's updated Tax Base, the Council was faced with a **remaining budget gap of £0.229M**.

5.4 It was against this position which the Cabinet have considered their further budget strategy options for 2022/23.

6.0 DEVELOPING AN EQUITABLE, DELIVERABLE AND BALANCED BUDGET FOR 2022/23

6.1 Notwithstanding the positive settlement from WG for 2022/23, it does follow a sustained period of real term reductions to our funding levels and more recently significant storm damage and the pandemic, and it is against this context that we need to develop a balanced budget for next year. There remain significant pressures upon many of our services together with a limited ability to increase Council Tax income, and a low tax base. Within these parameters, we will therefore need to take appropriate decisions to ensure that next year's budget is equitable for all, does not compromise our financial stability and protects and develops our key services.

6.2 The Council's overall financial position was set out at Section 3 of the report. It is vital that we continue with the strategy we have adopted to date that takes account of the importance of sound financial management, including the level of General Fund balances and appropriate use of the "Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve" as transitional funding, whilst targeting any available resources toward our high priority, customer-focused public services.

6.3 Every year, there are certain corporate financial provisions that must be "top sliced" locally, before service budgets can be allocated. Next year will be no different. There will be a requirement for:

- a) A provision to meet levies from External Bodies;
- b) A provision for Capital Charges;
- c) A provision for all other "Miscellaneous Finance" items (Audit Fees, Insurance Costs, Bank Charges, etc.) which are non-specific to any particular Service; and
- d) Resources to fund the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

6.4 As part of our updated budget requirement, appropriate sums have been set aside for these corporate financial requirements.

6.5 Welsh Government support to fund costs arising as a direct consequence of the pandemic has continued through the 2021/22 financial year via the Hardship Fund. WG have stated that they do not intend to continue to provide such additional support going forward and that councils will have to manage these implications through the additional resources provided in the settlement. The Council will need to monitor the financial implications closely moving forward, using any flexibility afforded within its available reserves to

transition any permanent additional costs into the base budget over the medium term.

7.0 COUNCIL TAX LEVELS

- 7.1 This Council has always acted reasonably when setting its Council Tax, balancing the impact upon services and the ability of the public to pay, recognising that those eligible will receive support through the Welsh Government's Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). The proposal is to increase Council Tax in 2022/23 by 1.00%, that is, less than the 2.65% originally modelled. This proposed increase equates to 20p per week for a person living in a Band A property and 30p per week for a person living in a Band D property (42% of properties in Rhondda Cynon Taf are Band A). Increasing Council Tax by 1.00% will increase the remaining budget gap by £1.554M.
- 7.2 Members will be aware that the cost of the CTRS is impacted by changes in caseload and by changes to the level of Council Tax. This impacts on the net income generated through any increase in Council Tax. A 1% increase in Council Tax will generate an additional income for the Council of £1.195M (at the 2022/23 tax base level) but will also cost £0.253M in additional CTRS requirements. It therefore follows that a 1% increase generates a net additional income of £0.942M, or stated another way, 21% of any Council Tax increase is lost to support the increased costs associated with Welsh Government's CTRS.

8.0 SCHOOLS BUDGET (ISB)

- 8.1 Members have always viewed our schools as being a key priority and have ensured that they have been treated favourably in comparison with other council services.
- 8.2 The Schools Budget (ISB) is proposed to be increased to cover, in full, all pay and non pay inflationary costs, including increased NI costs associated with the Health and Social Care Levy. Pupil number pressures, NDR increased costs, energy increases and Additional Learning Need delegated funding increases are also included. Unlike other Council services there is no efficiency target or expectation albeit schools may need to take local action to absorb the financial implications of decisions taken locally.
- 8.3 In overall terms, the proposal sees the Schools Budget (ISB) increase from £163.8M to £175.0M, an increase of £11.2M (6.8%). Schools are therefore fully funded for 2022/23.

9.0 EFFICIENCY

- 9.1 Council services have for many years now delivered against ambitious efficiency targets, making considerable budget reductions without adversely impacting on front line service provision.
- 9.2 As part of the current year's budget strategy, efficiencies of £4.6M were identified and delivered albeit it was noted that the ongoing sustainability of delivering efficiencies at this level would need to be considered.
- 9.3 The pandemic has clearly impacted on our normal practises of considering our budget setting on a continuous basis, working across services in identifying efficiencies and budget reduction options and delivering on them early. The focus of our service managers has clearly and appropriately continued to be prioritised on supporting and protecting our residents, businesses and communities.
- 9.4 Notwithstanding this however, our senior finance officers have continued to work alongside service managers and have again identified budget reduction measures which can be delivered without adversely impacting on our front-line services. Indeed, at as the quarter 2 performance report presented to Cabinet on the 15th November 2021, we were able to release £988k of in year base budget reductions.
- 9.5 Whilst identification and delivery of efficiencies continues to be more difficult year on year without impacting on front line services and delivery, we have identified £4.9M which can be removed from our base budget requirement for next year.

10.0 BUDGET STRATEGY PROPOSALS

- 10.1 This Council has taken a proactive approach to dealing with the budget pressures it continues to face including delivery of saving proposals early with a clear focus maintained across the medium term planning horizon. The Council has continued to deliver robust, balanced budgets and taken the opportunity to use our Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve, as transition funding, to sensibly support the overall budget strategy. It is recommended that this approach is continued.
- 10.2 As a Cabinet we have always been focussed on protecting our front line services and have taken any opportunities to prioritise or reallocate resources to areas of priority.
- 10.3 For 2022/23, the following proposals are recommended to Council.

a. NDR Local Relief Scheme

Cabinet have previously determined (13th February 2020) to implement a local Business Rate Reduction Scheme for 2020/21 providing relief of £300 per qualifying business, which would supplement the Welsh

Government High Street and Retail Rate Relief Scheme. This local relief was increased to £350 per qualifying business for the 2021/22 financial year.

Welsh Government subsequently provided an enhanced level of support to the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality sectors (linked to the impact of the pandemic), with that support continuing into 2022/23 with a 50% reduction in NDR liability.

It is now proposed that an additional £100k is added to the budget bringing the level of support available to businesses to £300k. The detail of this proposal will be subject to a separate report to Cabinet in February 2022, alongside details of WG NDR support.

The cost of this proposal is **£100k**.

b. Climate Change and Carbon Reduction

The Council's commitment to responding to climate change and carbon reduction is well documented, with the Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group continuing to meet regularly since 2019. The initial work programme set out in December 2019 has been delivered alongside an ambition to be further impactful and a community leader in this area, recognising the wider role that our residents, businesses and partners must play.

The latest meeting of the steering group considered an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and Implementation Plan, an updated Carbon Footprint report, Key Energy Generation Projects, progress with the Cardiff Capital Region Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV) Strategy, the Biodiversity and Local Nature Partnership in Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Active Travel Strategy, Measures and Issues in the County Borough.

This demonstrates the range and scale of work which the Council is already delivering. Examples of current investment includes a Carbon (energy) Reduction Programme (£1.6M), Taffs Well Spring (£0.5M), Biodiversity Projects linked to our living landscapes (£0.154M), an ongoing Tree Planting Programme (current year funding £0.050M) in addition to our Active Travel Investments (£4.5M), EV Infrastructure (£0.300M) and our 21st Century Schools Programme which is committed to achieving net zero carbon buildings and to BREEAM excellent standard.

In order to ensure that this delivery is maintained and enhanced wherever possible it is proposed that further base budget resources are set aside, alongside existing resources, for our work in this regard.

The cost of this proposal is **£500k**.

c. Public Health and Protection Services – Additional Resources

The Public Health and Protection service has continued to play a key role in ensuring the public health and wellbeing of our residents, communities and businesses, providing advice and guidance and delivering initiatives such as the Test Trace Protect programme.

The additional investment proposed for the service (further to the additional £200k invested in 2021/22) will enable further consolidation, strengthening the team and providing future resilience for the service.

The cost of the proposal is **£200k**.

d. Sustainable Social Services

Our Social Services provision has been under extreme pressure throughout the pandemic coupled with resourcing issues across the sector generally. It is acknowledged that we need to be developing different models of service provision, aimed at earlier intervention and prevention with a clear focus on impact and on positive outcomes for our most vulnerable residents. Increasing demand and complexity of need requires additional investment to ensure services are sustainable for the future.

The additional investment will support the development of our workforce, including initiatives to build capacity, strengthen career pathways and develop our existing staff in critical service areas. It will support the remodelling and integration of community services with partners to help address ongoing and growing pressures in the health and social care system, ensuring people are safe and well cared for at home. Preventing children becoming looked after and reunification of families is a priority. Additional investment will be made in our preventative services to respond to complex needs and mental health needs as well as increasing capacity for placements to deliver the best possible outcomes for children and young people as close to home as possible.

The cost of the proposal is **£1,500k**.

e. Minimum Rate of Pay - £10 Per Hour

The Council has been a Real Living Wage employer for many years, paying our own staff in line with the appropriate rate, and has extended that commitment to paying a real living wage for all independent sector social care staff employed by our commissioned service providers (effective from the 1st December 2021). The Real Living Wage was announced as increasing to £9.90 in November 2021 and this Council has determined to bring forward the implementation of this rate to 1st February 2022 (ordinarily the Council implements increases from 1st April following the announced increase).

It is proposed that we locally determine to further increase this level of minimum remuneration to £10 per hour and that this be effective from the 1st April 2022. This would apply to our own staff plus commissioned social care staff.

The cost of this proposal is **£550k**.

f. Funding for Investment

The Council has already invested over £129M (over and above the normal Capital Programme) in areas supporting key Corporate Plan priorities since October 2015, the latest investment (£6.500M) being agreed by Council in September 2021.

This has delivered a vast range of new infrastructure developments and significant improvements to our existing assets across all areas of the Council and across all our communities.

In order to ensure that we maintain the pace of this ambition going forward it is proposed that revenue base budget (recurring) funding is identified to be used alongside resources which are secured from the ongoing early delivery of our medium term saving and efficiency plans.

The cost of the proposal is **£1,000k**.

g. Detached Youth

The impact of the pandemic on young people across the County Borough continues to be seen and it is essential that we maximise the opportunity to ensure that we continue to engage as much as we can, providing much valued services and activities through a range of service provision models.

The cost of this proposal is **£75k**.

h. Car Mileage Rate

Since 2015 (effective from 1st May 2015) the Council has applied a Car Mileage reimbursement rate, payable to staff who utilise their vehicles for work related purposes, of 35p per mile. It is proposed that this rate now be increased to 40p per mile.

The cost of this proposal is **£118k**.

i. Fees and Charges

A final report on the proposed level of Fees & Charges for 2022/23 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2022.

The Council reviews the level of fees and charges on an annual basis in the context of the rate of inflation. The current level of inflation (CPI to December 2021) is 5.4%.

It is proposed that for the year ahead, the general rate of increase across our fees and charges is set at a lower level of 2.5%, with the Council absorbing the implications of not applying an uplift in line with inflation.

There are a number of proposed exceptions as shown in the table below.

Area of Charge	Proposed Exception
Leisure for Life – Membership	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Meals on Wheels / Day Centre Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
School Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Car Park Charges	Freeze
Summer and Winter Playing Fees (sports clubs)	Freeze
3G Pitch Hire	Freeze
Licenses (Hackney Carriage / Private Hire)	Freeze
Lido / Rhondda Heritage Park	Freeze
Pest Control Service Charges (Domestic / Public Health)	Freeze

The cost of this proposal (net of that assumed at latest MTFP) is **£45k**.

10.4 The implications of the above strategy proposals, including the proposed reduction in the level of Council Tax increase and the delivery of efficiencies, on the remaining budget gap position is shown in table 1.

Table 1 : Budget Strategy Proposals 2022/23

	£'000	
Remaining Budget Gap		229
Efficiencies	- 4,900	
NDR Local Relief Scheme	100	
Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	500	
Public Health and Protection Services	200	
Sustainable Social Services	1,500	
Minimum Rate of Pay - £10 Per Hour	550	
Funding for Investment	1,000	
Detached Youth	75	
Mileage Rate	118	
Fees and Charges	45	
Council Tax at 1.0%	1,554	
		742
Remaining Budget Gap		971

10.5 *Medium Term Financial Planning and Service Transformation Reserve (Transitional Funding)* – We have for many years used our transition funding reserve sensibly as part of our balanced budget strategy, at a level which does not compromise the robustness of our budget and which can be replenished with some certainty, given our ongoing strategy of delivering savings early.

10.6 As previously referenced the reserve currently stands at £4.607M, having been replenished during this year (2021/22) by £0.988M to quarter 2. Accordingly, to address the remaining budget gap, it is proposed that an allocation of £0.971M is made from this reserve for 2022/23. This would facilitate a balanced budget for 2022/23 and would leave £3.636M in the reserve (subject to the year-end assessment of reserves). Processes are now sufficiently well embedded to ensure that savings are achieved in-year and that this reserve can continue to be replenished.

Table 2 : Budget Strategy Proposals 2022/23 – Balancing the Budget

	£'000
Remaining Budget Gap	971
Use of Transition Funding	- 971
Remaining Budget Gap	-

10.7 The above provides a robust and balanced budget strategy for financial year 2022/23 which is now recommended to Council.

11.0 SERVICE PRIORITIES

11.1 Even after a period of significantly reducing resources and hence financial pressure on all services, this Council remains committed as far as it possibly

can to continue to deliver its key services, stronger communities and social justice.

- 11.2 The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 sets out that our key purpose is to provide strong community leadership and create the environment for people and businesses to be independent, healthy and prosperous.
- 11.3 In addition to our revenue base budget requirements, opportunities also continue to be taken to deliver investment in key strategic areas through one off funding made available via a risk based review of earmarked reserves and through the early identification of opportunities to deliver in-year savings. The Council has already invested over £129M (over and above the normal Capital Programme) in areas supporting key Corporate Plan priorities since October 2015, the latest investment (£6.500M) being agreed by Council in September 2021.
- 11.4 A report setting out the updated capital programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 will be reported for Members consideration alongside this revenue budget strategy.

12.0 THE 2022/23 BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 12.1 As in previous years, the Council has been keen to consult with the public and other interested stakeholders on its general budget strategy and how services are delivered.
- 12.2 The approach to budget consultation for 2022/23 was set out in the Cabinet report dated 18th October 2021. It comprises 2 phases as follows:
- Phase 1** - provided residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to feedback their views on some of the key strategic building blocks used to construct the Council's budget.
- Phase 2** - once Cabinet agreed a draft budget strategy, and in light of the provisional local government settlement, then this draft strategy was consulted upon as part of Phase 2.
- 12.3 The Phase 1 Consultation report was considered by Cabinet on the 27th January 2022 alongside the initial budget proposals which were then consulted upon as part of Phase 2.
- 12.4 The Phase 2 Consultation report is now attached at Appendix 2. The phase 2 consultation process ran from the 28th January 2022 to the 13th February 2022 and included:
- On-line questionnaire via the Let's Talk website;

- Young persons engagement, through face-to-face and on-line zoom meetings, with a Comprehensive School, the Environmental Youth Forum, Young Editors and Members of the Youth Parliament;
- Promotion through social media and through the Disability Forum, Community Hubs and Veterans Groups;
- A telephone consultation option through the Council's Contact Centre and a freepost address for postal responses;
- On-line Zoom meetings with:
 - Older Persons Advisory Group (31st January 2022);
 - School Budget Forum (1st February 2022);
 - The Council's Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee (2nd February 2022); and
 - Joint Consultative Committee (10th February 2022).

12.5 With regard to the consultation activity undertaken with the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee, School Budget Forum and Joint Consultative Committee, the extracts of the minutes from these meetings are attached at Appendices 3, 4 and 5 respectively.

13.0 THE 2022/23 MACRO REVENUE BUDGET

13.1 In arriving at a strategy for 2022/23, the Cabinet has taken into consideration its key commitments, its views on service delivery and relevant charges for services and the need to minimise the tax burden on local residents. Consequently, and after careful deliberation, the Cabinet has concluded that it can now propose a balanced revenue budget which will meet all of the fundamental requirements of its preferred strategy **and** minimise the Council Tax increase for next year.

13.2 Table 3 below illustrates how the revenue resources available to the Council could be utilised, with a Council Tax increase of 1.00%:

Table 3: Proposed Resources in 2022/23

	£'000
2022/23 Net Revenue Spending	566,792
LESS: Revenue Support Grant & NDR Contribution	441,433
LESS: Social Care Workforce Grant	3,668
Sub total	121,691
LESS: Release of Earmarked Reserves	971
To be met from Council Taxpayers	120,720

- 13.3 Table 4 below, shows the overall effect on services of applying the principles of the Cabinet's recommended outline 2022/23 budget strategy.

Table 4: Application of the 2022/23 Outline Budget Strategy

BUDGET REQUIREMENTS	2021/22	2022/23	Increase/ (Decrease)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Corporate Requirements</u>			
Capital Financing	19,950	21,308	1,358
Levies	12,874	13,174	300
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	25,334	25,587	253
Miscellaneous	14,205	15,647	1,442
	72,363	75,716	3,353
<u>Individual School Budgets (ISB)</u>			
Individual School Budgets	163,784	174,966	11,182
<u>Other Council Services</u>			
Community & Children's Services	168,586	183,619	15,033
Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services	60,372	65,993	5,621
Chief Executive's	30,857	32,673	1,816
Education & Inclusion Services	31,941	33,825	1,884
Net Revenue Spending	527,903	566,792	38,889

14.0 SPECIFIC GRANTS

- 14.1 For next year, the Welsh Government is to provide over £1.1Bn in Specific Revenue Grants to Welsh Local Authorities.
- 14.2 Whilst specific grants dilute local accountability, such funding does enable us to undertake projects and deliver services that otherwise may not have been possible. Whilst we will continue to make representation for such funding to be transferred into the Revenue Support Grant, until they do so then specific grants will continue to supplement our base revenue budget.
- 14.3 By their nature, specific grants are often directed toward specific spend areas or policy objectives and are not certain in terms of their ongoing continuation nor value, presenting uncertainty in terms of forward planning.
- 14.4 The allocation of specific grants, however, remains a key feature of the annual local government settlement, albeit there is a commitment to reduce

such hypothecation. There are also a number of specific grants which have been introduced to deal with recurring cost pressures (eg Social Care Workforce Grant) and it is important that we seek to ensure their continuation beyond 2022/23.

15.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY / SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 Due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, namely the Public Sector Equality Duty and Socio-Economic Duty.
- 15.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and concluded that the recommendations set out in the report are in line with the above legislation.

16. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 16.1 The allocation of resources, as set out in the proposed 2022/23 Budget Strategy, is based on supporting the Council's service delivery requirements and associated statutory responsibilities for the forthcoming year. In doing so, the proposed strategy is in line with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

17.0 CONSULTATION

- 17.1 Consultation and engagement has been undertaken as part of formulating the recommended 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy, the detail of which is set out in Section 12 of the report.

18.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 18.1 The financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the main body of the Report.

19.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 19.1 The Council has a legal duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to set a balanced budget and also a legal duty under the Local Government Act 2000 for it to be reported to and approved by Full Council. The recommended 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy and its reporting to full Council ensures compliance with these legal duties.

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

20.1 The recommended 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy has been formulated to support the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities, as set out within the Corporate Plan "Making a Difference" 2020 – 2024. The plan is aligned to the goals and principles included within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

21.0 CONCLUSIONS

21.1 The Council's overall financial position remains sound, with a clear plan in place to replenish the level of General Reserves to the recommended minimum level of £10M.

21.2 On the 21st December 2021, the Minister for Finance and Local Government (Rebecca Evans MS) announced the Provisional 2022/23 Local Government Settlement which showed this Council's increase in resources was set at 8.4%.

21.3 The Cabinet's proposals properly address the corporate financial requirements of the Council and allocate an adequate financial uplift to the Individual Schools Budget. The remaining resources available are allocated to fund all other services and to support our key priorities in 2022/23.

21.4 The Cabinet has recommended setting the 2022/23 revenue spending and budget at £566.792M which will require a Council Tax increase of 1.00% for the financial year ending the 31st March 2023.

21.5 The Council continues to deliver year on year balanced budgets alongside an investment programme supporting key priorities. The challenge does remain for positive and proactive management from the Senior Leadership Team and clear direction from Members to produce a robust and financially sustainable budget into the medium term in what continues to be a challenging financial climate.

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WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **Provisional Local Government Settlement 2022-23**
DATE **21 December 2021**
BY **Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government**

Today, I am publishing details of the core funding allocations for local authorities for the forthcoming financial year through the Provisional Local Government Revenue and Capital Settlements for 2022-23 (the Settlement). I am also publishing Wales-level indicative core funding allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Adjusting for transfers, the core revenue funding for local government in 2022-23 will increase by 9.4% on a like-for-like basis compared to the current year. No authority will receive less than an 8.4% increase. In 2022-23, local authorities will receive £5.1bn from the Welsh Government in Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and non-domestic rates (NDR) to spend on delivering key services.

In addition to this, I am publishing information on revenue and capital grants planned for the following three years. For 2022-23, these amount to more than £1.1bn for revenue and over £700m for capital. We are providing these indicative grant values now so local authorities are able to plan their budgets efficiently. This information will be further updated in the final settlement.

The indicative Wales-level core revenue funding allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25 are £5.3bn and £5.4bn respectively – equating to an uplift in the first year of £177m (3.5%) and, in the second year, of £128m (2.4%). These figures are indicative and dependent on both our current estimates of NDR income over the multi-year settlement period, and the funding provided to us by the UK Government through the 2021 Comprehensive Spending Review.

Indications are that specific revenue grant funding will continue to be above £1.1bn annually for the duration of this multi-year settlement, and capital grants will be in excess of £700m each year.

As in recent years, our priorities continue to be health and local government services. This significantly increased Settlement will enable local authorities to continue to deliver the services their communities want and need as well as supporting national and local ambitions for the future, including responding to the climate and nature emergency and contributing to our Net Zero Wales plan.

This is a good Settlement for local government, including Wales-level core funding allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25. It provides local authorities with a stable platform on which to plan their budgets for the coming financial year and beyond. We have worked closely with local government and we appreciate the pressures local government is facing. We will continue to protect local government, particularly at this difficult and challenging time.

In making decisions about the level of funding for local government, I have responded to the need to ensure that hardworking staff receive well-deserved pay rises in the future. In particular I have included funding to enable local authorities to meet the additional costs of introducing the real Living Wage for care workers as set out by the Minister for Health and Social Services yesterday. This allocation includes a transfer of £5m, for which the base of the Settlement has been adjusted, from the Social Care Workforce and Sustainability grant.

The funding provided through this Settlement also recognises the decision made around the 2021/22 teachers' pay deal and includes funding for the costs arising from the 2022/23 pay deal, which fall within this Settlement year. Accordingly, I will not be making any further funding available in-year in recognition of the 2022/23 teachers' pay deal, and authorities' budget planning must accommodate these costs in the light of this Settlement.

More widely on public sector pay, this Settlement includes funding to cover the increased costs local authorities will face arising from the UK Government's announcement to increase National Insurance contributions for employers.

Alongside the Settlement, we are continuing to provide funding to support local government to waive fees for child burials. This shared commitment ensures a fair and consistent approach across Wales.

In line with our focus on countering the effects of poverty, we remain committed to protecting vulnerable and low-income households from any reduction in support under the Council Tax Reduction Schemes, despite the shortfall in the funding transferred by the UK Government following its abolition of council tax benefit. We will continue to maintain full entitlements under our Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for 2022-23 and are again providing £244m for CTRS in the Settlement in recognition of this.

As I announced yesterday, I am maintaining the approach taken in 2021-22 and am continuing to freeze the non-domestic rates multiplier for 2022-23. I have provided an additional £35m in RSG in 2022-23 to offset the reduced income and a further £1m for the following two years. Through this Settlement, I am also continuing to provide £4.8m for authorities to deliver additional discretionary rates relief for local businesses and other ratepayers to respond to specific local issues.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (the Act) provides for the creation and ongoing development of corporate joint committees to allow authorities to work together on specific functions such as transport, economic development and planning. Following one-off specific grant funding this financial year to support preparatory work, I am delivering ongoing additional funding to support the core operation of these committees through the Settlement.

A robust democracy is an essential feature of local government. In determining the overall Settlement, I have sought to recognise the need to build the capacity of electoral services to deal with Welsh electoral reform, following our reforms in the Act and to support our future work.

The progress of the pandemic and its ongoing impact on public services continues to be highly uncertain. The comprehensive spending review did not provide any additional financial support, which is a concern, especially following the emergence of the new Omicron variant. I have carefully considered how to manage pandemic support for local authorities and concluded the balance lies in providing funding in the first year through the Settlement. But in determining the overall Settlement, I have recognised the ongoing impact of the pandemic on services which authorities will need to manage.

I will continue to engage closely with local government through the WLGA.

I set out the position on capital funding for the Welsh Government as part of my budget statement on Monday. The capital funding we received from the UK Government was disappointing and is not sufficient to meet our ambitions to invest in Wales' future.

Following a review of our capital budgets, general capital funding for local government for 2022-23 will be set at £150m. This will increase to £200m for the following two years, including £20m in each year to enable authorities to respond to our joint priority of decarbonisation.

Attached to this statement is a summary table setting out the Settlement allocations (Aggregate External Finance (AEF)) by authority. The allocations are derived using the formula agreed with local government. As a result of the formula and related data, the table shows the range of the funding allocations, from an 8.4% increase over the 2021-22 settlement to an 11.2% increase. Given the significant increases, I am not proposing to include a floor this year and have allocated all the available funding in this Settlement.

Further details will be sent to all local authorities and published on the Welsh Government's website: <https://gov.wales/local-government-revenue-and-capital-settlement-2022-2023>

While this is a good Settlement building on improved allocations in recent years, I recognise that this does not reverse the years of constraint as a result of overall austerity in public finances. Local authorities will still need to make some difficult decisions in setting their budgets and it is important they engage meaningfully with their local communities as they consider their priorities for the forthcoming year.

The setting of budgets, and in turn council tax, is the responsibility of each local authority. They will need to take account of the full range of funding sources available to them, as well as the pressures they face, in setting their budgets for the coming year.

This announcement commences the formal seven-week consultation on the Settlement. This will end on 8 February 2022.

This statement is being issued during recess in order to keep members informed. Should members wish me to make a further statement or to answer questions on this when the Senedd returns, I would be happy to do so.

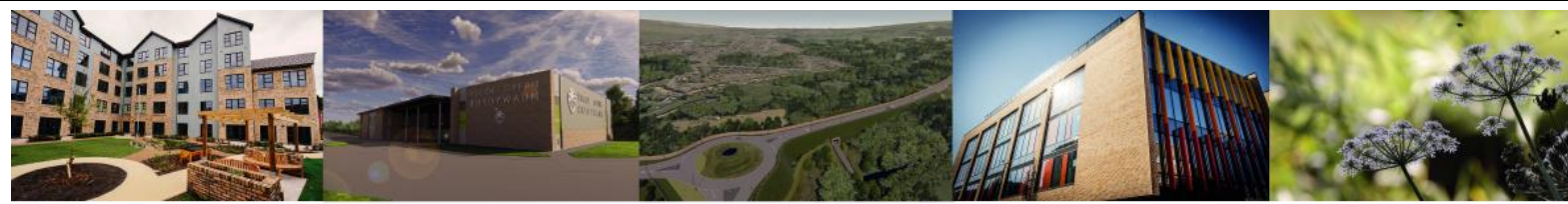
Summary Table

2022-23 provisional Settlement – comparison of 2021-22 AEF (adjusted for transfers) and 2022-23 provisional AEF, and distribution of the 2021-22 Council Tax Reduction Schemes funding (distributed within AEF) (£000s)

Authority	2021-22 adjusted AEF ¹	2022-23 provisional AEF	% change on adjusted 2021-22 AEF	Rank	Council Tax Reduction Schemes (within AEF)
Isle of Anglesey	104,872	114,549	9.2%	12	5,240
Gwynedd	195,905	213,210	8.8%	17	8,263
Conwy	167,356	183,308	9.5%	5	9,189
Denbighshire	159,060	173,637	9.2%	15	8,536
Flintshire	212,608	232,174	9.2%	14	9,680
Wrexham	189,233	207,060	9.4%	7	9,275
Powys	192,088	210,257	9.5%	6	8,978
Ceredigion	110,006	119,419	8.6%	19	5,126
Pembrokeshire	179,422	196,253	9.4%	8	8,180
Carmarthenshire	285,262	311,597	9.2%	11	14,006
Swansea	353,571	386,585	9.3%	9	19,339
Neath Port Talbot	237,289	258,068	8.8%	18	15,955
Bridgend	212,755	232,364	9.2%	13	12,866
The Vale Of Glamorgan	168,128	186,011	10.6%	3	9,088
Rhondda Cynon Taf	407,050	441,433	8.4%	21	21,005
Merthyr Tydfil	101,493	110,616	9.0%	16	5,627
Caerphilly	292,712	317,453	8.5%	20	12,651
Blaenau Gwent	120,657	130,795	8.4%	22	8,166
Torfaen	146,560	160,117	9.3%	10	8,500
Monmouthshire	101,003	112,275	11.2%	1	5,918
Newport	240,957	265,612	10.2%	4	10,337
Cardiff	492,095	544,715	10.7%	2	28,076
All Unitary Authorities	4,670,080	5,107,507	9.4%		244,000

Note: Total may not sum correctly due to rounding

1. 2021-22 AEF adjusted transfers of £18.585m (at 2021-22 prices) into and out of the Settlement and for the latest, 2022-23 tax base.



APPENDIX 2

**Dewch i
siarad RhCT
Let's talk
RCT**



BUDGETCONSULTATION**2022/23** (P H A S E 2)

RHONDDA CYNON TAF CBC
FEBRUARY 2022



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This section provides a summary of the main findings from the Phase 2 Budget Consultation 2022/23.
- The consultation was conducted in-house. The consultation period ran from the 28th January and ended on the 13th February 2022.
- A digital approach that included the following methods to consult with a range of stakeholders:
 - Publication of key information on the Rhondda Cynon Taf “Let’s Talk” website, which included;
 - A survey
 - Two “Quick Polls”
 - The option to leave longer responses as “Ideas”
 - A simplified “Easy Read” survey that could be downloaded and printed for use by any audiences that felt unable to engage with the full survey format
 - Promotion through social media
 - An online Older Persons Advisory Group Meeting (OPAG)
 - A meeting with the Pontyclun 50+ Forum
 - Correspondence with the Disability Forum
 - Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee virtual meeting
 - School Budget Forum virtual meeting
 - Joint Consultative Committee virtual meeting
 - Face-to-face and on-line sessions with young people in schools and youth groups
 - An email sent to key stakeholders and the Citizens’ Panel
- The Council provided a number of alternatives to online engagement, as it is important to continue to consider hard to reach groups, those having reduced or no access to the Internet and those who prefer to engage through traditional methods.
- The majority of survey respondents felt that the proposed 1% increase in Council Tax was reasonable (80.2%).
- 91.2% of respondents agreed with the ongoing prioritisation of Schools and Social Services.
- 78.2% of respondents agreed with the approach for the delivery of efficiency savings for next year.
- 79.8% of respondents agreed with the proposals for fees and charges.
- 78.4% of respondents agreed with the proposed additional investment of £100K in the Local Business Rate Reduction Scheme.

- 81.1% of respondents agreed with the proposed £500K investment to support the Council' ongoing work on climate change and carbon reduction.
- 88.2% of respondents agreed with the proposed £550K investment to increase the minimum rate of pay for Council staff and contracted staff.
- 78.8% of respondents agreed with the proposed £200K investment to provide additional resources to Public Health and Protection Services.
- 87.4% of respondents agreed with the proposed £1.5M investment in Sustainable Social Services.
- 82.9% of respondents agreed with the additional £1M Funding for Investment proposal.
- 79.4% of respondents agreed with the additional £75k investment within the Detached Youth Service.
- 81.8% of respondents agreed with the use of £970K in transitional funding to address the remaining budget gap.
- Over 700 people were engaged in the phase 2 budget consultation.
- Overall (including Phase 1) over 1,700 people were engaged in the Council's budget setting process.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of the Phase 2 Budget Consultation 2022/23.
- 1.2 Section 2 outlines some brief background to the consultation process.
- 1.3 Section 3 details the methodology.
- 1.4 Section 4 provides the results of the Let's Talk engagement tools and the feedback received from the Older Persons Advisory Group.
- 1.5 Section 5 provides feedback on the young persons' engagement.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council undertakes a comprehensive approach to its annual budget consultation, involving a large number of residents and key stakeholders.
- 2.2 The widespread approach we use and the range of views we capture provides senior managers and Cabinet Members with the necessary information they need to set the budget for the year ahead.
- 2.3 Rhondda Cynon Taf's 2022/23 Budget Consultation is a phased approach, so that we can ensure residents and stakeholders have as much opportunity as possible to provide views on the budget and to make sure that views are informed by the most up to date and relevant information.
- 2.4 Phase 1 provided residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to feedback their views on some of the key strategic building blocks used to construct the Council's budget.
- 2.5 The Phase 1 consultation report was available to support the preparation of the budget strategy proposals and was presented to Cabinet on the 27th January 2022, where a draft budget strategy was agreed.
- 2.6 This report presents the findings of **phase 2** of the budget consultation, which asked for views on the draft budget strategy for 2022/23.
- 2.7 Phase 2 of the consultation started on the 28th January and ended on the 13th February 2022.

3. METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 This section provides a summary of the methodology used for the Phase 2 Budget Consultation 2022/23. The consultation was conducted in-house.
- 3.2 The consultation period ran from the 28th January and ended on the 13th February 2021.
- 3.3 The 'digital by default' approach included the following methods to consult with a range of stakeholders:
- Publication of information on the Rhondda Cynon Taf "Let's Talk" website, which included
 - A survey
 - Two "Quick Polls"
 - The option to leave longer responses as "Ideas"
 - A simplified "Easy Read" survey that could be downloaded and printed for use by any audiences that felt unable to engage with the full survey format
 - Promotion through social media
 - An online Older Persons Advisory Group Meeting (OPAG)
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 - Joint Consultative Committee virtual meeting
 - Face-to-face and on-line sessions with young people in schools and youth groups
 - An email sent to key stakeholders and the Citizens' Panel

The Council provided a number of alternatives to online engagement, as it is important to continue to consider hard to reach groups, those having reduced or no access to the Internet and those who prefer to engage through traditional methods. This included:

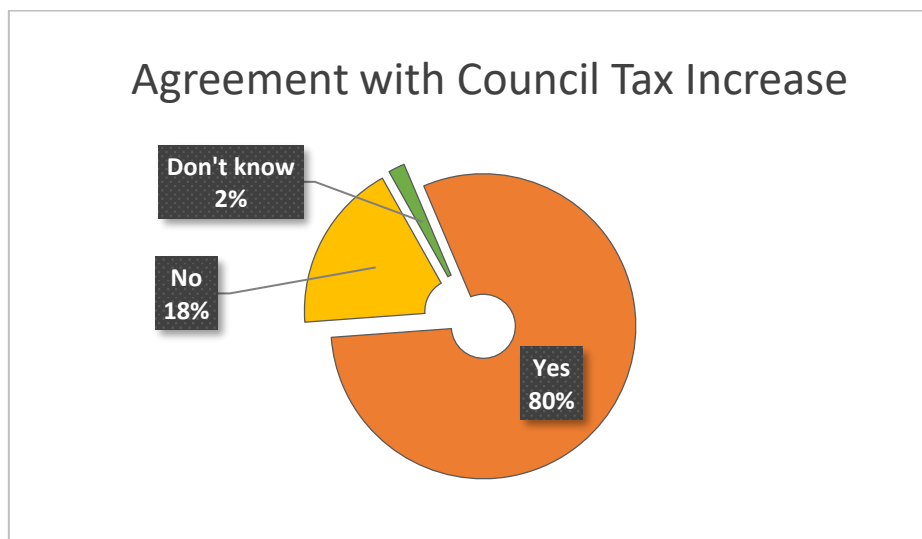
- Paper surveys and information available on request.
 - Consultation freepost address for postal responses.
- 3.4 The Team designed an Easy Read/Plan English Document in paper format and online, to simplify some of the consultation materials.
- 3.5 Over 700 people were engaged in the phase 2 budget consultation. Overall (including Phase 1) over 1,700 people were engaged in the Council's budget setting process.

4. Consultation Findings

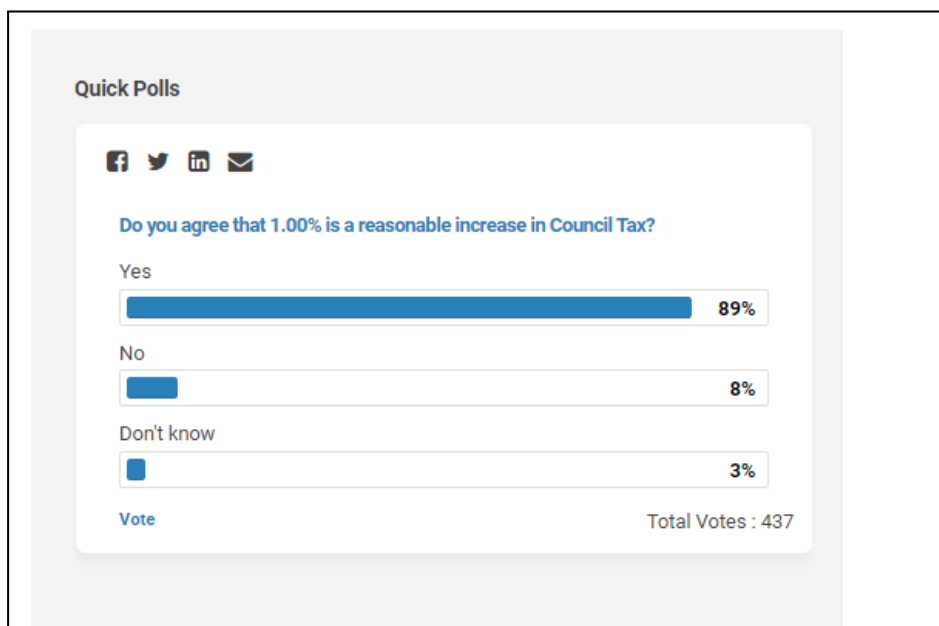
- 4.1 The following section outlines the results from the phase 2 budget consultation questionnaire, which received 172 responses, and also includes the feedback received from the Older Persons Advisory Group. A selection of comments are provided, and the full list of comments will be provided to Cabinet and senior officers to assist with decision making.

Council Tax

- 4.2 The Council is proposing that Council Tax be increased by 1% for next year. **The majority of respondents to the questionnaire felt that the increase was reasonable (80.2%).**



The Poll question on the Let's Talk Budget Engagement site was completed by 437 people, with 89% in agreement.



- 4.3 Many comments were in favour of the proposed increase being lower than that previously consulted upon.

“I would have been content with 2.65% but understand the need to reduce the cost on residents at this time”

“1% is very reasonable”

“Thought (the increase) would have been higher so really pleased”

“That’s very reasonable”

- 4.4 A number of comments noted that any additional increase to the cost of living would be unwelcome.

“With all the increases in other things energy Nat ins etc it is not the time for increase at all”

- 4.5 Some comments raised concern with property bandings (noting that this is outside of the Council’s control) and relative Council Tax rates compared to other Local Authority areas.

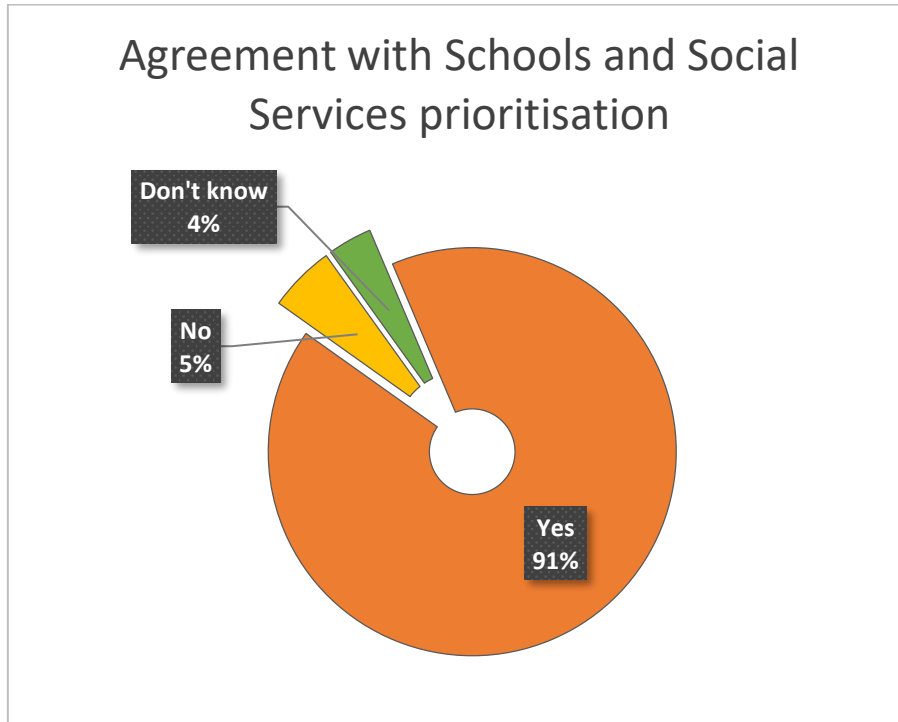
“Increases in Council Tax should be kept at a minimum & there should be a fairer system for calculating council tax”

- 4.6 OPAG members overall agreed with the proposed Council Tax level of 1%.

“Obviously we’d prefer no increase at all, but in the real world this is better than the 2.65% mentioned before”

Schools and Social Services Funding

- 4.7 The Council is proposing to increase the Schools Budget by £11.2M (6.8%) to fully fund increased costs, and to increase the Social Services (Community and Children’s Services) Budget by over £15M (8.91%). **91.2% of respondents agreed with the prioritisation of these services.**



- 4.8 The majority of comments welcomed this proposal.

“Schools need it for the future of the area”

“These services are vital”

- 4.9 Some comments noted in respect of efficiency within these service areas:

“Whilst priority should be given to funding in these areas, cost cutting and economic exercises should also be carried out to minimise wasteful expenditure”

“Schools and social services are important services within RCT, but efficiencies can still be made within these services”

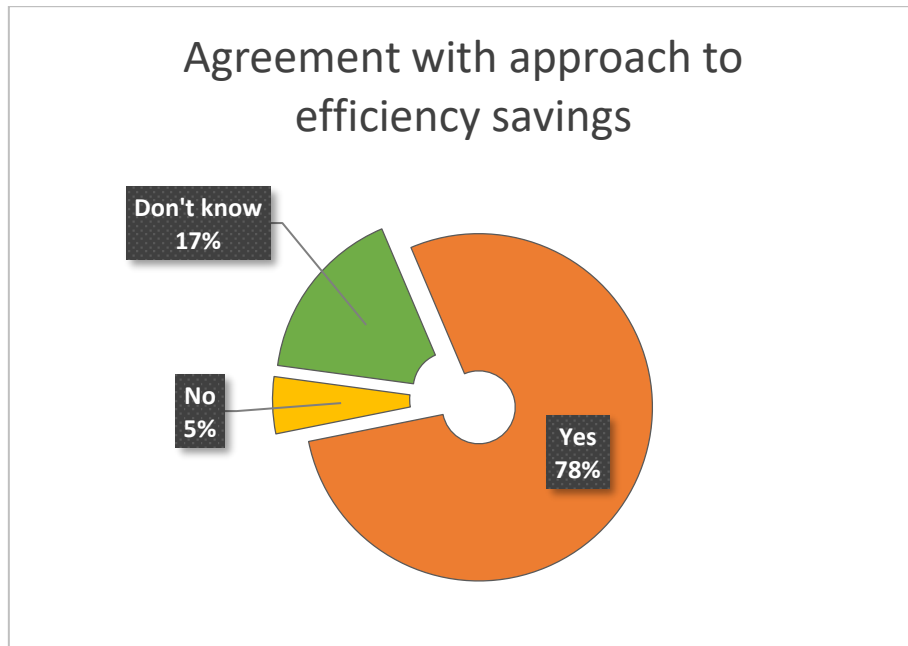
- 4.10 Further comments asked what other service areas would be deprioritised as a result of this proposal.

“As opposed to prioritising what other areas?”

“Agree they are important, but other areas should not suffer”

Efficiencies

- 4.11 The Council’s budget strategy has identified efficiency savings of £4.9M for 2022/23 that will not impact on frontline services. **78.2% of respondents agreed with the proposal for the delivery of efficiency savings for next year.**



- 4.12 Most of the comments on this proposal noted the importance that efficiencies should not be found at the expense of staffing levels or support.

“Any efficiency savings which do not impact services and jobs should always be at the forefront of savings strategy”

“Increasing efficiency is good as long as it doesn’t strain the system and the people who run it”

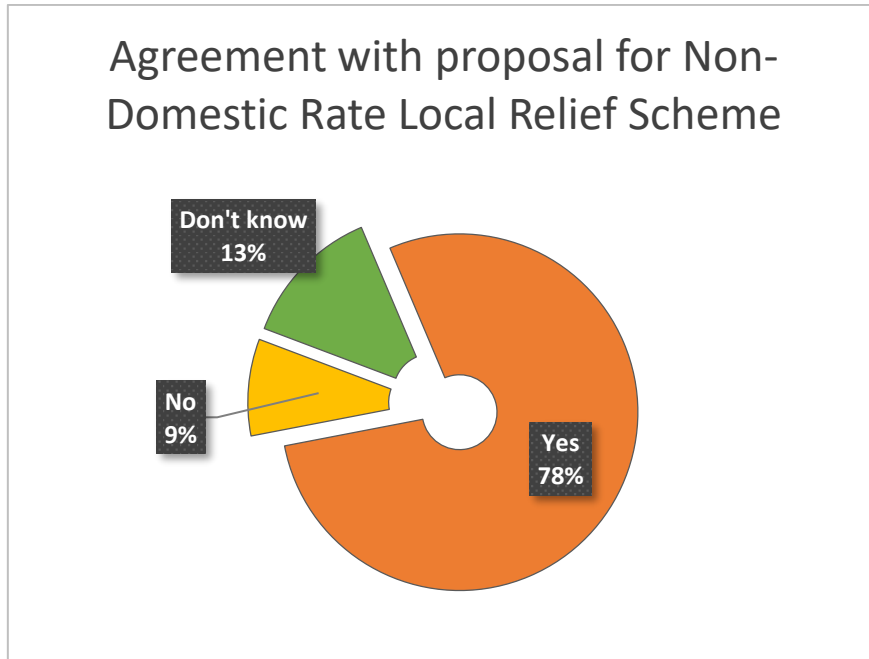
- 4.13 Some comments asked whether further savings are possible due to increased flexible working across the Council.

“I think you are saving quite a bit of cash with employees WFH”

“Working from home should continue, it frees up council buildings”

Non-Domestic Rate Local Relief Scheme

- 4.14 The Council is proposing an additional £100K be added to the existing Non-Domestic Rate Local Relief Scheme implemented in 2021/22. **78.4% of respondents agree with this proposal.**



- 4.15 The majority of comments are supportive of this proposal, welcoming support for small businesses that have been hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

“Businesses have struggled greatly in the pandemic, its lovely to see further support offered to them”

“People need to work and we need to support this as best we can”

“We need to help & encourage small businesses in our towns”

“This is an excellent initiative”

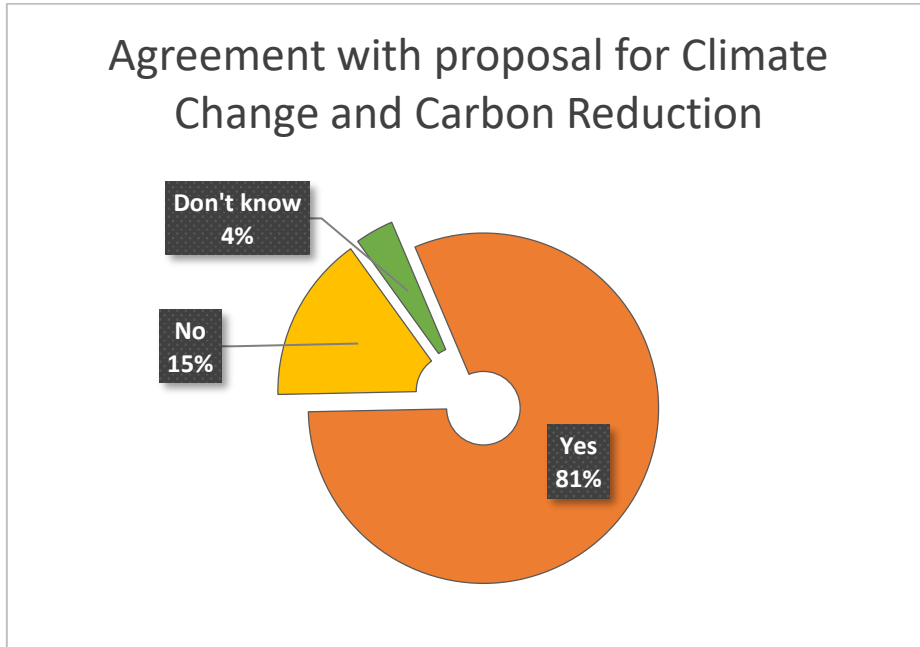
- 4.16 A number of comments provided examples over how funds should be allocated.

“The relief scheme should be allocated depending on the profit the business is making”

“Would like assurances that any financial support is given only to employers who agree to an ethical charter”

Climate Change and Carbon Reduction

- 4.17 The Council is proposing £500K be put in place alongside existing resources to maintain and enhance delivery of work responding to climate change and carbon reduction. **81.1% of respondents agree with this proposal.**



- 4.18 There was a wide range of comments on this area, with some welcoming the investment and also calling for higher funding rates and more focus on this area.

“This additional investment is a welcome one but will need to be increased in years to come”

“It’s important we support reducing the carbon footprint”

“Despite difficult times I agree Climate Change and care for the environment must be a priority”

“More needed to safeguard our future!”

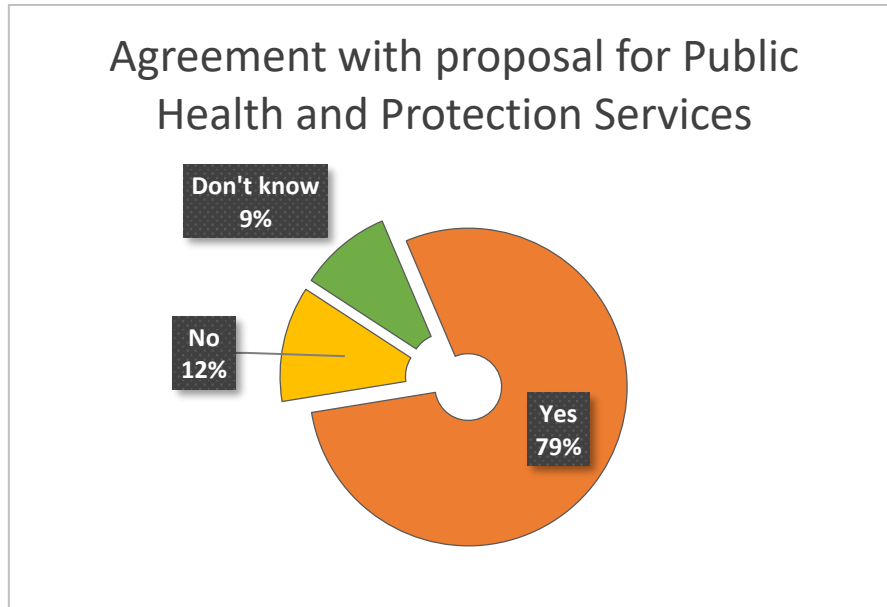
- 4.19 A number of comments noted that the level of investment detracted from other service areas.

“Investment in viable schemes is justified but not to the amount of £500k when there are so many other services that would benefit from additional funding”

“This figure is far too high, when you have residents who have to choose to heat or eat”

Public Health and Protection Services

- 4.20 Additional investment of £200K is being proposed, further to the £200K invested in 2021/22, to support the Public Health and Protection Service. **78.8% of respondents agree with this proposal.**



- 4.21 There was praise for the Council's role during the pandemic and some comments that the funding may not be needed for this purpose in the future.

"PH&P have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and it is great to see further investment in the department."

"My experience of Rhondda Leisure Centre for vaccines and tests has been excellent. I commend the council and the staff & volunteers there for their efficiency and cheerfulness."

"sounds like money well spent"

"If this 200k investment is targeted towards Covid etc, then I feel going forward this money should be used elsewhere"

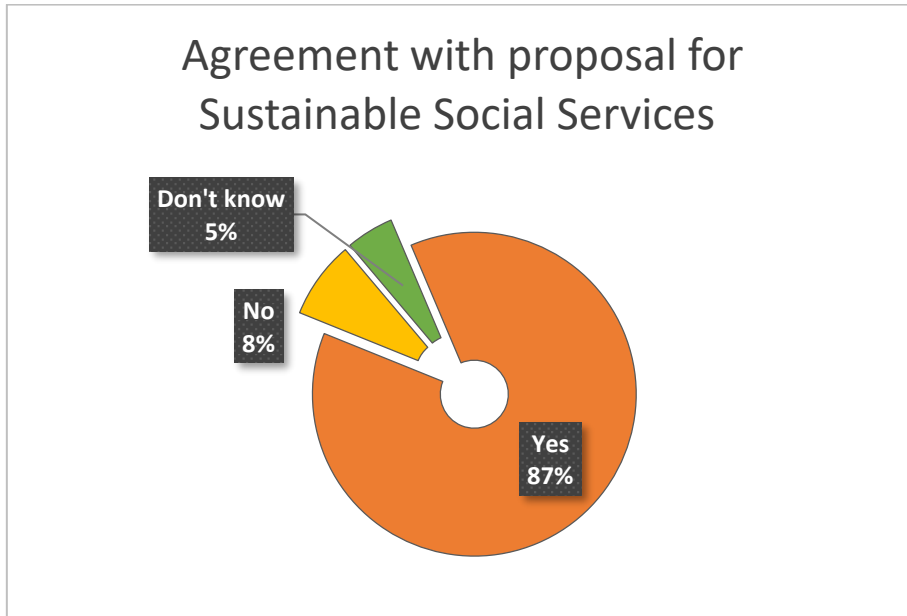
- 4.22 Some comments noted that other service areas should receive attention.

"More needs to be done on dog fouling. Dog Patrols should not just finish at 3pm."

"Please concentrate on street cleaning"

Sustainable Social Services

- 4.23 The Council has proposed that additional investment of £1.5M is made to support our Social Services provision, developing different models of service provision and the remodelling and integration of community services with partners. **87.4% of respondents agree with this proposed investment.**



- 4.24 A number of comments raised the issue of partnership working and restructuring Social Service provision to increase effectiveness and efficiency.

"(I) wonder if the monies would be better spent engaging with local communities and the voluntary sector"

"Third sector and community organisations play an important part in sustainability"

- 4.25 Other comments expressed a desire to see social services and related work brought more fully into the Council's remit.

"Would support this proposal as long as services are brought back into council control"

"Bring social care back under the council. No outsourcing."

- 4.26 Multiple comments related to staffing levels and support for front line staff and services.

"More front-line workers that are appreciated and valued are needed"

“Services have been overstretched and unable to meet the needs of individuals due to the number of people referred and the stagnant level of staff”

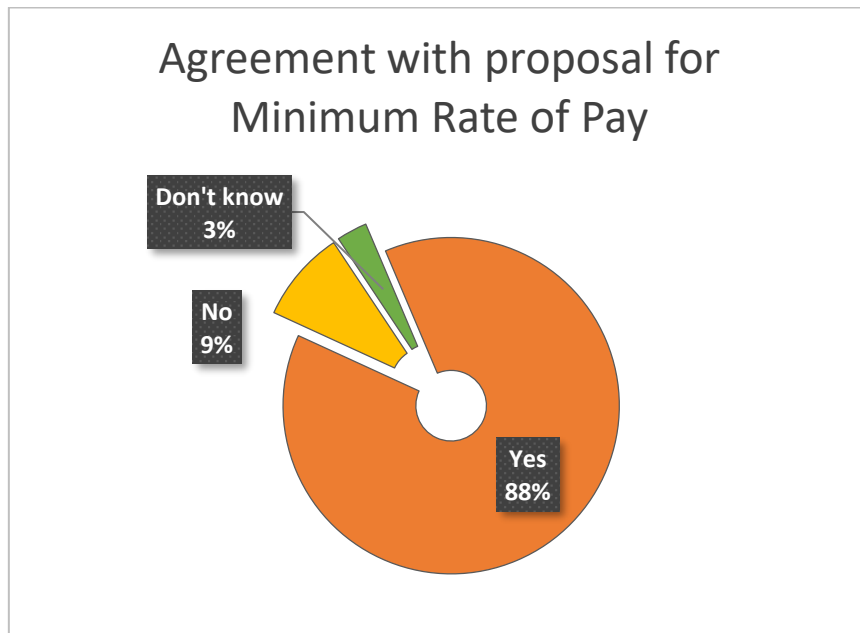
- 4.27 A number of comments praised existing staff and services and reflected the importance of Social Services across RCT.

“This service is vital to the community”

“Social services are relied heavily upon through all aspects of life”

Minimum Rate of Pay

- 4.28 The Council has been a Real Living Wage employer for many years and has proposed to increase the minimum pay for all Council staff and commissioned social care staff to £10 per hour from 1st April 2022. **88.2% of respondents agree with this proposal.**



- 4.29 In general comments were in agreement with the proposal, with a number of comments stating that the rate of pay is still too low.

“This is an excellent move by RCT”

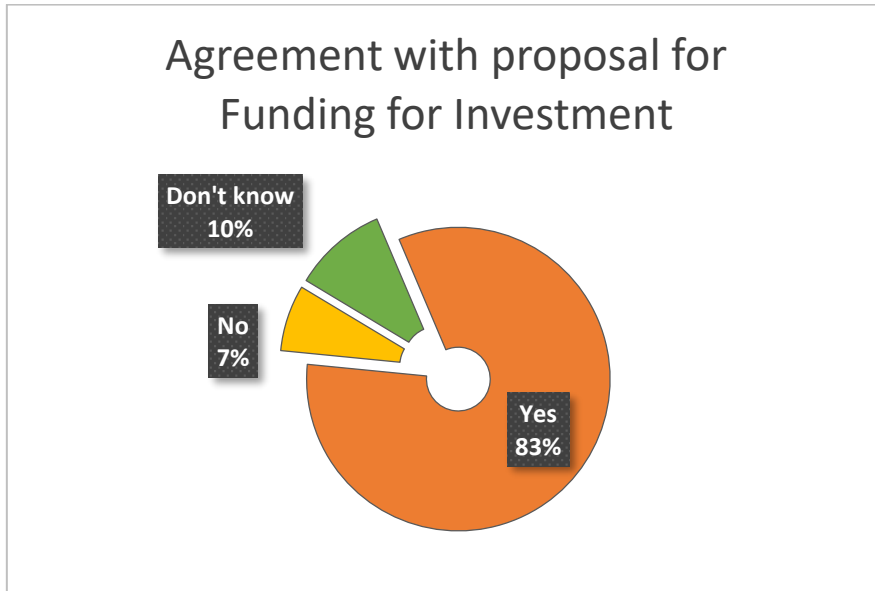
“This is a good way to retain staff”

“Probably needs to be more but a (good) start”

“The lowest paid jobs have been critical throughout the pandemic and should be paid accordingly”

Funding for Investment

4.30 The Council has already invested over £129M since October 2015 in key corporate plan priorities and infrastructure developments. The proposal is for an additional £1M investment to further support ongoing and key projects. **82.9% of respondents agree with this proposal.**



4.31 Many comments offered suggestions on specific areas that respondents felt needed further investment and/or development.

“Invest in the infrastructure of Tonypanyd which was once a vibrant town, now a ghost town”

“Llanharan bypass is much needed”

“A good investment (...) would be to provide lighting on the A4059 between Abercynon and Cwmbach”

“We definitely need more money invested in supported living accommodation”

4.32 Some comments noted that new developments are diverting funds that could support key services.

“We need to recover from the effects of Covid-19 before investing in further schemes”

“Coming out of the pandemic we need to divert funds to Social Services and schools”

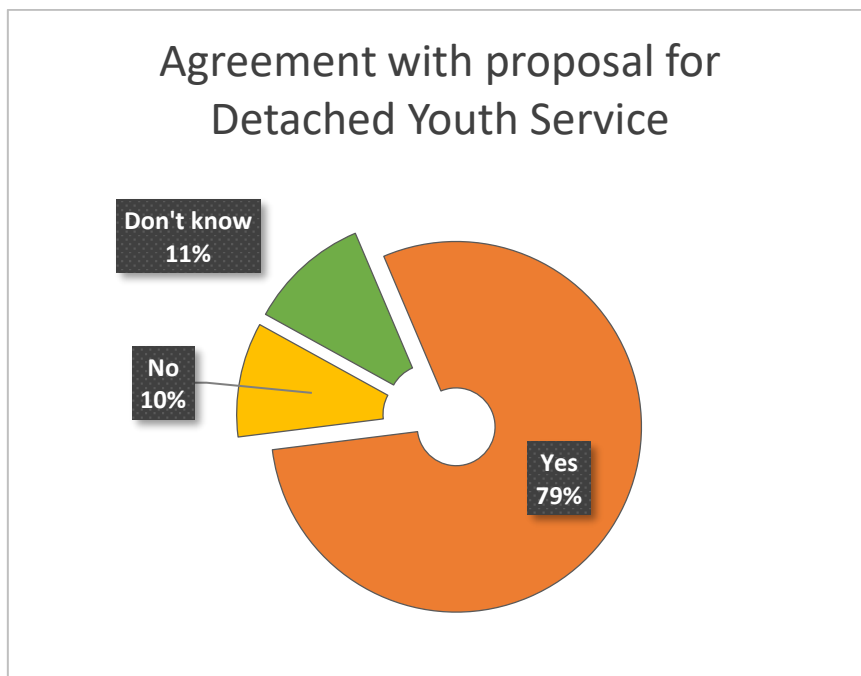
4.33 OPAG members were generally supportive of the proposal but raised some points.

“Please consider extra funding to tackle dog fouling problems that are always brought up in community forums and groups as major problems”

“It is so difficult to find large venues to use for community events and groups – could the Council invest, for example, in a large marquee and hire this out/ put it up for community groups to use for events. Example: the Platinum Jubilee – no venues available for community groups to organise any celebrations”

Detached Youth Service

- 4.34 The Council has proposed an additional £75K investment to support the on-going work to support young people across RCT. **79.4% of respondents agreed with this proposal.**



- 4.35 A number of comments mentioned perceived increases in antisocial behaviour and many welcomed any investment to continue to address this issue.

“The investment needs to deliver results. The amount of anti-social behaviour taking place at the moment is out of control”

“We should invest much more in keeping our youth out of drugs and antisocial behaviour”

“We need more youth club type activities to get the young people off the streets and away from anti-social behaviours”

- 4.36 A large number of comments called for a greater level of investment in youth services and facilities.

“Needs to be much more investment than 75k”

“This should be increased further. Children and young people need more support and services”

“Not enough money. More needs to be invested in youth facilities.”

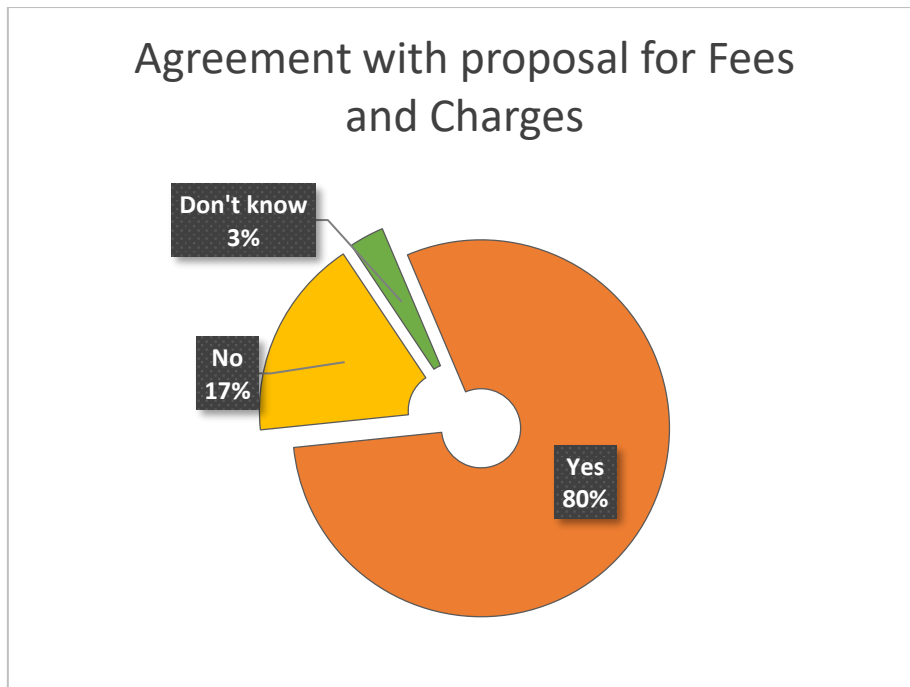
Fees and Charges

- 4.37 A standard increase of 2.5% is proposed on all fees and charges with a number of specific exceptions.

Area of Charge	Proposed Exception
Leisure for Life – Membership	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Meals on Wheels / Day Centre Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
School Meals	Freeze (in line with prior decision)
Car Park Charges	Freeze
Summer and Winter Playing Fees (sports clubs)	Freeze
3G Pitch Hire	Freeze
Licenses (Hackney Carriage / Private Hire)	Freeze
Lido / Rhondda Heritage Park	Freeze

This proposal would lead to a reduction in income of £44K.

79.8% of respondents agreed with the proposals for fees and charges.



4.38 Comments on this point varied - some questioned the charges that are proposed to be frozen.

“You could put some of these up, even slightly”

“Make sure charges keep pace with increased costs”

“I don’t see why a small increase cannot be considered as long as users of the facilities are warned in advance”

4.39 Other comments welcomed the freezes or called for further areas to be frozen.

“I think this will encourage people to access these facilities and in turn the town centres injecting life back into them”

“Pest Control fees and Bulk Collection charges should be frozen or reduced”

“Welcome lots of these fees being frozen due to the cost of living crisis everyone says is coming”

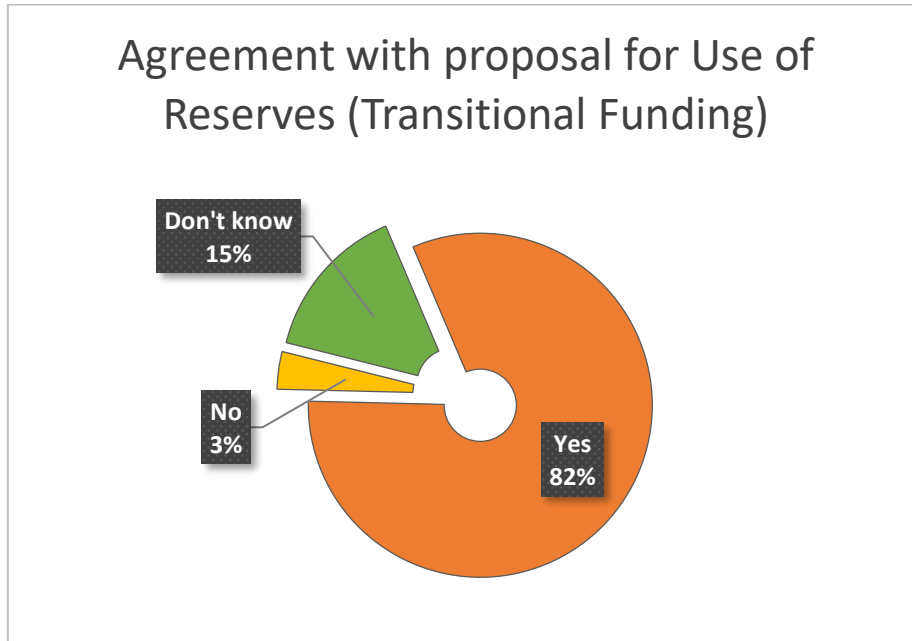
4.40 OPAG members agreed with the proposals, with the following comments.

“Increases will still be out of reach for some, but realistically it is needed”

“We need to keep people active, so it is particularly important to freeze sports and leisure fees”

Use of Reserves (Transitional Funding)

- 4.41 After taking account of the above proposals, proposed level of Council Tax, the delivery of efficiencies and other budget requirements the remaining budget gap is £970k, which the Council proposes to be funded through Transitional Funding Reserves. **81.8% of respondents agreed with this proposal.**



- 4.42 A lower number of comments were received on this area, with some expressing confusion over how reserve funding is secured and maintained.

“You shouldn’t keep spending more than the budget, eventually savings run out.”

“Eventually the reserves will runout... what then?”

Other Comments

- 4.43 A wide range of general comments were received regarding the budget. A number of them praised the proposals and the consultation exercise.

“I have looked at what other councils do and Rct has one of the most inclusive and engaging processes for residents to make their views known”

“Setting a budget during the most scary time in our history and RCT has succeeded more than other councils but there will always be areas that require more attention than others”

“It appears to me that priorities are correct in the main”

“Seems the council is very socially minded which is how it should be”

“On the whole I am pleased with the value for money that the council provide”

- 4.44 Some respondents commented that they felt specific areas were not directly addressed in the proposals.

“Not sure if the higher allocation in 21/22 will be drastically reduced next year”

“I(n)vest in safety, research the structural integrity of the underground tunnels and the tips. Remove the tips”

“(I) would like the authority to have a strategy for taking over vacant properties which are empty and in disrepair as a way of supporting the homeless in the short term”

“The proposed budget strategy is on the whole very good but it could be improved by being more radical by bringing services back in house”

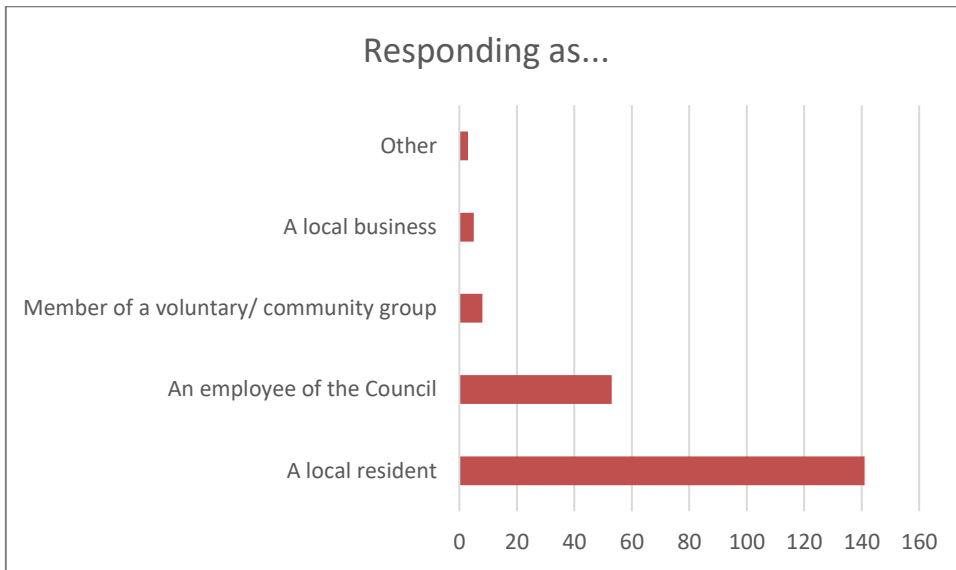
- 4.45 OPAG members raised the following comments outside specific focus sections.

“The schools funding is vital – as a Chair of Governors, I understand the extreme budget pressures in some schools.”

“Congratulations to the Council on committing to the Real Living Wage – this is very important particularly in recruitment of staff in social care, which is in crisis”

About You

4.46 The majority of respondents to the survey were residents (67.1%).



A local resident	67.1%
An employee of the Council	25.2%
Member of a voluntary/ community group	3.8%
A local business	2.4%
Other	1.4%

Note: This was a multiple response question.

4.47 A number of points were raised in the comments regarding impacts due to protected characteristics.

“I’m disabled and the lack of investment in (my area) leaves people like myself isolated.”

“The budget could offer more support in regards to working class people and childcare... there should be much more support for working families”

“I am a pensioner and homeowner so increases in council tax really do affect me”

“As I’m getting older my reliance on public services increases so budget proposals are beneficial”

4.48 There were also a number of comments regarding impacts on the use of the Welsh Language.

“I think there should be provision for Welsh learners to be able to meet up with Welsh speakers to help them increase their confidence and hear the language being spoken in a natural setting”

“English is now treated as second class in wales, welsh speakers seem to get priority for good jobs”

“In my opinion too much money wasted on bilingual bills, signs etc”

“We should be doing more to encourage local cultural events which reflect the priorities of local communities”

“Positive effects could be increased with continued free Welsh courses”

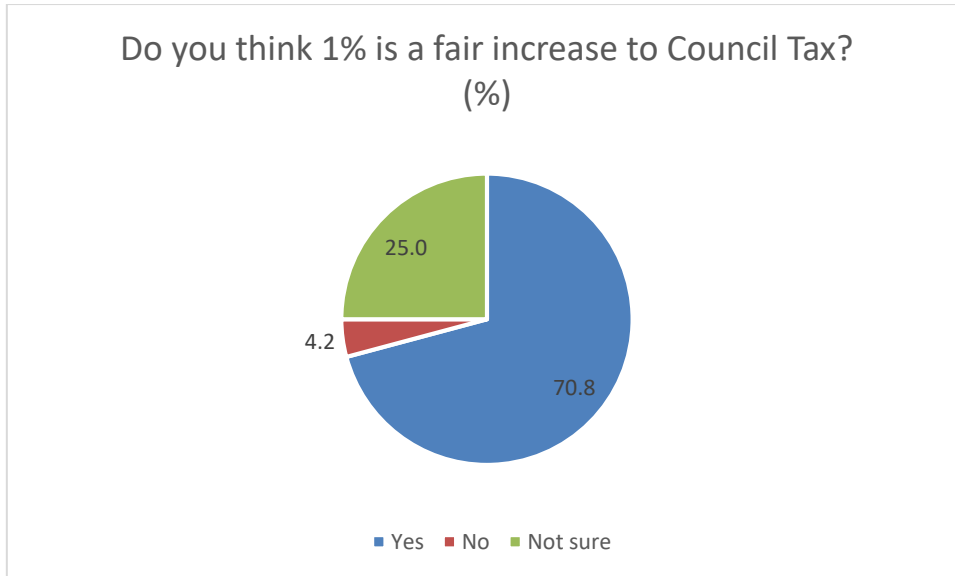
“Supporting schools with additional funding will only strengthen the promotion of the Welsh language”

5. YOUNG PERSONS ENGAGEMENT

- 5.1 In previous years the Consultation Team have held face to face sessions with secondary schools and young people across the Borough. Due to the restrictions because of the pandemic, we were unable to consult face to face in Phase 1 of the consultation. Phase 2 was slightly different, and we managed to arrange to meet with 4 groups of young people.
- 5.2 The Youth Engagement Participation Service (YEPS) arranged 2 school groups at Pontypridd High School (year 9 and sixth form) and 2 virtual sessions via Zoom, with the Environmental Youth Group and the Young Editors and Members of Youth Parliament. They also posted details of the phase 2 consultation on Instagram and other social media sites.
- 5.3 The sessions at Pontypridd High School were attended by a member of the Consultation Team along with the YEPS Communication and Rights Officer. During the sessions, the young people were shown the Easy Read consultation document which explained the Council's plans and proposals. The groups were asked questions which helped aid discussions.
- 5.4 The questions were centred around Council Tax levels, Efficiencies, Fees and Charges, Schools and Social Services budget, helping local businesses, Climate Change, Public Health & Protection, the Detached Youth Service and investments.
- 5.5 In total we engaged with 25 young people and a summary of their responses will follow in this section. The sessions were well supported, and all young people engaged well with the format.

Council Tax

- 5.6 We asked the groups ***“Do you think 1% is a fair increase to Council Tax to keep services at current levels?”***



5.7 Of the 25 young people we spoke to, there was general agreement with increasing Council Tax by 1%, although they were only in favour of this after seeking confirmation that core services would not be affected. Some young people fed back that a 1% Council Tax increase was affordable and a reasonable increase. One person commented that the increase will hit less well-off families more and could cause them to struggle.

Efficiencies

5.8 We discussed the requirement for the Council to aim to be as efficient as possible and asked for the groups’ views on this approach and if they had any ideas of ways in which the Council could become more efficient. The groups all felt that looking for ways to become more efficient was a useful task and lots of ideas and comments were generated.

5.9 **Feedback included:**

" Better quality items should be bought so they last longer."

"Investing in better quality equipment/resources that lasts longer, rather than getting cheaper things than need constant replacing."

"Savings should be used on community improvements such as bins or recycling points."

"The money that is saved should be used for other services like youth services etc."

Fees and Charges

- 5.10 We asked the young people **“Do you think it is a good idea to spend £44,000 to keep some fees the same?”**. 80% of young people responding agreed that £44,000 should be used to keep some fees the same. 20% were unsure.

Comments included:

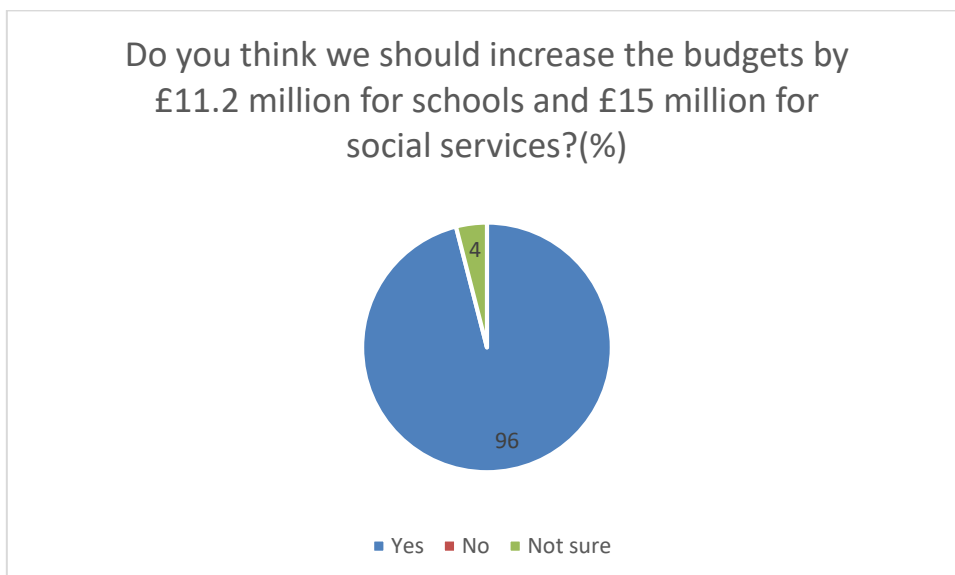
“Keeping prices, the same will help those on low incomes to afford things like school dinners or leisure activities.”

“Some services should stay the same such as meals on wheels and day centre meals.”

“However, things like Rhondda Heritage Museum and Lido entry could be charged more for.”

Schools and Social Services Budget

- 5.11 When asked whether the groups agreed with the Council’s approach to protect and prioritise the Schools and Social Services budget, **“Do you think we should increase the budgets by £11.2 million for schools and £15 million for social services?”**, 96% of young people agreed with this. There was agreement that education is an important service area for young people and is something that should continue to receive adequate funding. The groups acknowledged that the increased budget could be used to provide better buildings and school equipment, specifically better IT, to give learners the best experience possible.



5.12 **Feedback included:**

“Schools should have more spent on them.”

“We need more laptops to get on with work. There aren’t enough laptops for us.”

“Toilet facilities in this school need to be maintained better.”

“More equipment such as pens etc are needed.”

“We feel teachers should be paid more because without them we don’t get a good quality education.”

“We feel that funding for schools should be increased by more than £11.2 million.”

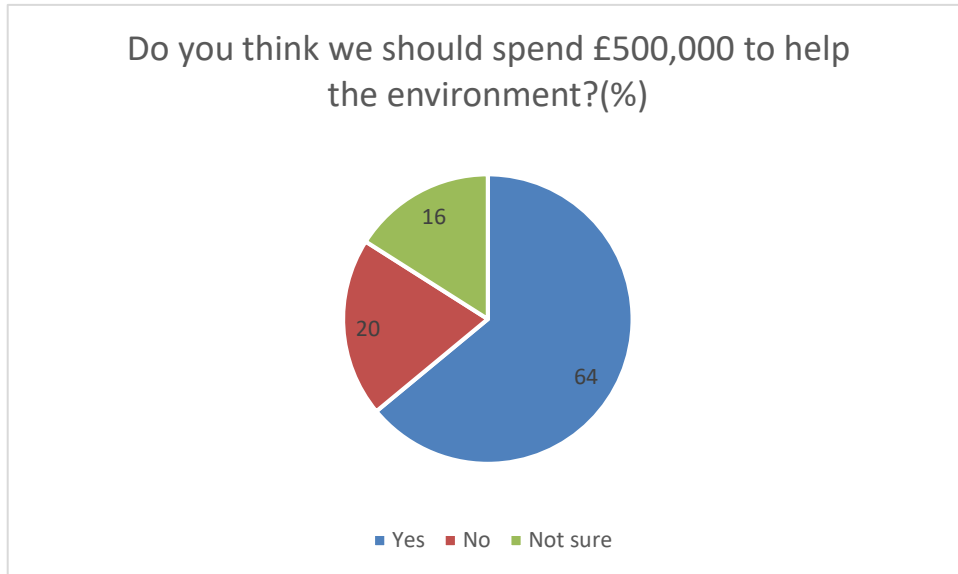
Helping Local Businesses

5.13 The conversation moved on to helping local businesses. We explained to the young people that the Council started a local Business Rate Reduction Scheme two years ago which helps local businesses with some of the costs they have to pay. We asked, **“Do you think we should spend £100,000 more on helping businesses?”**

5.14 96% of young people agreed that the Council should help local businesses, however comments received suggested that £100,000 doesn’t seem so much to help all businesses in RCT and whether more money could be spent - a young person asked *“How is the money spent to support local businesses?”*

Helping the environment / Climate Change

5.15 We asked the groups **“Do you think we should spend £500,000 to help the environment?”**



5.16 64% of young people agreed with the £500,000 investment to help the environment, however 20% disagreed and 16% said they were unsure.

5.17 **Feedback included:**

“Use money to help businesses reduce their CO2 footprint. Individuals can make changes themselves to help. More effective recycling for people, fines for those who don’t comply, like people who leave dog mess.”

“More money should be spent on helping tackle climate change now to help with the future.”

“We think that more than £500,000 should be spent to help save the environment and reduce everyone’s’ carbon footprint.”

Public Health & Protection Services

5.18 The Public Health and Protection service has played an important role this year in making sure the public health and wellbeing of our communities is protected. They have provided advice and help and are leading on things such as the Test Trace Protect programme. We explained to the group that more money will help us employ more people, making sure we are able to help as many people as possible and making sure we are ready for any challenges this year.

We asked the groups ***“Do you think we should spend £200,000 on this service?”***

5.19 The majority of young people agreed with the Council’s approach to spend £200,000 on Public Health and protection; however they felt that more money could be spent on these services.

Detached Youth Services

- 5.20 The Council wants to make sure young people across RCT have services and activities to support them and would like to spend £75,000 to let the Detached Youth Service organise this.

We asked the groups ***“Do you think we should spend £75,000 to help the Detached Youth Service?”***

- 5.21 96% of young people agreed that £75,000 should be spent to help the Detached Youth Service but they agreed that more should be spent.

Investments

- 5.22 We explained that the Council has invested in buildings, projects, and schemes for a long time. This has let us create new buildings and improve others, to help people and businesses across Rhondda Cynon Taf.

We asked, ***“Do you think we should spend £1 million to invest across RCT?”***

- 5.23 Again, most young people agreed that money should be spent to invest across RCT, but they agreed it should be more than £1 Million.

- 5.24 **Feedback included:**

“Potholes and pavements to be fixed.”

“More than 1 million pounds should be spent to regenerate older buildings so they can be enjoyed by people again.”

Instagram and Facebook

- 5.25 Budget content was created and shared on the YEPS' Instagram account. 2 posts went out on February 7 advertising the Budget Consultation and detailing how young people could take part. There was a link to the Consultation's Let's Talk website which had a dedicated Budget project page consisting of web polls, an 'Idea' tool and the Council's main survey.

- 5.26 The Council's Budget Content was also shared by YEPS' Facebook account.



APPENDIX 3

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee held on
Wednesday, 2 February 2022 at 5.00 pm.

County Borough Councillors - Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-

Councillor M Powell (Chair)

Councillor G Thomas	Councillor S Bradwick
Councillor S Evans	Councillor A Fox
Councillor E George	Councillor J Williams
Councillor T Williams	Councillor R Yeo

Officers in attendance:-

Mr P Griffiths, Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services
Ms W Edwards, Service Director – Community Services
Ms S Davies - Head of Education & Financial Reporting
Ms N Lewis - Programmes Co-ordinator
Mr A Wilkins – Director of Legal Services
Mrs T Watson – Senior Democratic & Scrutiny Officer
Mrs S Handy – Members’ Researcher & Scrutiny Officer

County Borough Councillors in attendance:-

Co-Opted Members in attendance:

Mr J Fish – Parent/Governor Representative

44 Scrutiny Research Function

The Members’ Researcher and Scrutiny Officer referenced the research facilities that were available to Members within the Council Business Unit. Members were advised that if they have any specific queries to email them to Scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk.

45 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

Extract from the minutes

Budget Consultation 2022/23 (Phase 2)

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, the Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services provided Members with an overview of the Budget Consultation 2022/23 (Phase 2) and updated the Committee on the following 6 areas:

- Introduction – 2022/23 Draft Revenue Budget Strategy
- Council's Current Financial Position (2021/22)
- Phase 1 Budget Consultation – Headlines
- Provisional Local Government Settlement 2022/23 – Headlines/Implications for Rhondda Cynon Taf
- Cabinet Proposed Budget Strategy 2022/23
- Next steps and key dates

Further to the Service Director's overview of the Cabinet's proposed Budget Strategy, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions and feedback their views on each of the following six areas:

- Council Tax
- Schools Budget
- Social Services Funding
- Efficiencies
- Fees and Charges
- Targeted Investment
- Use of Reserves

The Chair asked if it was acceptable for written feedback to also be submitted following the meeting. The Service Director confirmed that the phase 2 consultation runs until 11th February and all points of clarity and feedback would be welcomed within this timeframe.

Councillor Fox referred to the additional investment and commented that the areas highlighted for additional funding were completely justified and was in full support of them. Councillor Fox also fed back that it was particularly pleasing to see the proposal for the minimum rate of pay increase to £10 for the Council's own staff and commissioned social care staff, above the Real Living Wage rate of £9.90, and emphasised this was the real living wage level calculated on the true cost of living, as opposed to the national living wage. Councillor Fox added that Rhondda Cynon Taf needed to lead by example and this proposal would improve the lives of some of the lowest paid in employment.

Councillor Evans referred to the Council Tax slide and stated that it was good to see such consistent year-on-year low council tax rises and highlighted that the proposal for 2022/23 would equate to an increase of 20p per week for a Band A property and an increase of 30p a week for a Band D property. Councillor Evans fed back that the 1% proposed increase was the right decision for people at this time and struck the right balance between affordability of Rhondda Cynon Taf residents to pay and the range of services provided, and also considering the other budget strategy proposals that will see additional investment in schools, social care and a number of frontline services.

Councillor Bradwick referred to car parking charges and supported the freeze in prices and also supported the approach to the delivery of efficiency savings that do not impact on frontline services, noting the positive position where £16.5M of efficiencies had been delivered in the past 3 financial years. Members of the

Committee were also in agreement with the position in respect of efficiencies. Councillor Bradwick also requested clarification on whether pest control fees would be frozen and the Service Director fed back that the proposal is for pest control fees to be increased by 2.5%. Councillor Bradwick and Councillor T Williams fed back a preference for pest control fees to be frozen and Councillors Yeo and Fox noted that although they would prefer the prices to be frozen, they recognised the high standard of service delivered by the Council's Pest Control Service and this being competitively priced. Councillor Bradwick went on to thank Council Officers for their work in supporting the budget setting process and was pleased that the proposed budget will see schools fully funded for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Yeo referred to page 18 of the presentation that set out the proposal for Community and Children's Services funding to be increased by over £15M next year and noted that this was extremely welcomed and asked what this increase would equate to in percentage terms. Councillor Yeo also supported the increases to the other budget areas and the proposed fees and charges areas to be frozen, noting the significant squeeze on the cost of living for households that included the National Insurance rise, increases in fuel and a freeze in Universal Credit. Councillor Yeo went on to say that against this difficult backdrop for households, the 1% increase in Council Tax was also welcomed alongside the proposed areas for additional investment and increase to the minimum rate of pay for Council staff and commissioned social care staff. Councillor Yeo added that the proposed budget strategy will do the right thing for residents across the County Borough and thanked officers for their work in supporting the budget setting process.

The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services provided feedback on the question raised by Councillor Yeo in respect of what the proposed increase in the Community and Children's Services budget would equate to in percentage terms, this being an 8.9% increase.

Councillor T Williams was supportive of the proposed freezes to specific fees and charges, noting that these areas demonstrate that the Cabinet is looking to prioritise the right things. Councillor T Williams added that the proposals will prioritise the needs of the people of Rhondda Cynon Taf and was supportive of the 2022/23 budget strategy.

Mr Fish, the Parent/Governor Representative commended the schools' budget and fed back it was pleasing to see this area once again being protected, along with other Council services, and the positive position of school pay and non-pay inflationary pressures proposed to be fully funded. Mr Fish referred to the likelihood of volatile inflationary pressures during 2022/23 and requested clarity around what further support the Council could provide and also requested the period over which school meal prices will be frozen. The Service Director fed back that the proposed budget strategy has allocated all available funding to school and non-school service areas, and the Council will continue to work closely with schools to ensure the continuation of robust financial management arrangements; opportunities to deliver cost savings through areas such as the on-going effective deployment of procurement processes and energy efficiency measures; and ensuring school reserve levels are optimised to provide some flexibility to meet in-year cost pressures during the next financial year. The Service Director went on to confirm that school meal prices will be frozen for the 2022/23 financial year. Mr Fish added that he also had questions in relation to the medium-term outlook and the impact on education provision; however, as

these did not directly impact on the proposed 2022/23 budget strategy, Mr Fish indicated that he would email these to Council officers separately.

Councillor Bradwick requested an update on electric charging points, particularly in Aberdare and Pontypridd car parks and also the position with regard to trialling electric taxis. The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services fed back that resources have been allocated to support the electric charging vehicle infrastructure within the County Borough and work is on-going to apply for external funding to also support this work. The Service Director indicated that he would obtain an update on the current position with regard to works at Aberdare and Pontypridd car parks and trialling electric taxis.

The Chair continued the discussion and noted the proposal to increase the mileage rate from 35p to 40p per mile for staff who use their vehicles for Council business at a cost of £0.118M. The Chair indicated that this equates to 2,316,000 miles being travelled per year and requested clarity on how this aligns with the Council's carbon zero ambitions by 2030 and the impact of more staff working from home as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services fed back that the 2021/22 budget strategy included a significant reduction in the budget for car mileage expenses, this reduction being achievable due to staff working from home / remotely, on-going digitisation of processes that did not require attendance at office locations and undertaking specific functions and meetings virtually via Teams / Zoom. The Service Director added that the 2022/23 proposed budget strategy includes a further, albeit lower, reduction in the car mileage budget, and reflected an overall reducing trend around the level of business mileage being required. The Service Director went on to indicate that many Council Services, due to their nature, require Council officers to incur business mileage, for example, to have face to face contact with clients from an Adult Services and Children's Services perspective, and also Public Health and Protection Services in working directly / inspecting businesses across the County Borough. The Chair wished to clarify his point that was focussed on the need for the Council to give on-going consideration to actions that would help reduce the Council's carbon footprint rather than the proposed increased to the mileage rate.

The Service Director asked if Members had any other comments in respect of budget strategy proposals and Committee Members fed back they had no further questions.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services concluded the presentation by informing Members of the range of stakeholders being engaged as part of phase 2 of the consultation process and also set out the 2022/23 budget setting timetable. There were no further questions from Members and the Chair thanked the Service Director for the presentation.

SCHOOL BUDGET FORUM MEETING – 1ST FEBRUARY 2022

THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY – PHASE 2 CONSULTATION

Extract from the minutes

With the aid of a PowerPoint Presentation, the Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services provided Members with an update in respect of the Council's Budget Consultation 2022/23 and covered the following areas: Introduction – 2022/23 Draft Revenue Budget Strategy; Council's Current Financial Position (2021/22); Phase 1 Budget Consultation – Headlines; Provisional Local Government Settlement 2022/23 – Headlines/Implications for Rhondda Cynon Taf; Cabinet Proposed Budget Strategy 2022/23; and Next steps and key dates.

Following the overview by the Service Director, Forum Members were informed that their feedback would be considered by Cabinet, alongside feedback received from all other stakeholders, as part of Cabinet meeting later in February 2022 to finalise its recommended Budget Strategy.

Forum Members were requested to provide feedback on the following questions.

Council Tax

Forum Members fed back that they agreed with the proposed 1% Council Tax increase in order to help maintain as many services as possible at the current level.

Schools Budget

Forum Members agreed that the Council should fully fund schools for next year and requested that further information be provided on the estimated pay award for next year to aid budget planning. The Service Director indicated that further information would be provided to schools as part of budget setting preparations for the forthcoming year.

Efficiencies

Forum Members agreed with the approach to efficiency savings for next year and that the Council should continue to become more efficient going forward in future years.

Fees and Charges

Forum Members agreed with the standard increase of 2.5%, in the context of the current rate of inflation being 5.4%, and agreed with the proposals for a number of specific fees and charges areas to be frozen for next year.

Use of Reserves

Forum Members noted the use of reserves and agreed with the approach taken by the Council.

Proposed Targeted Additional Investments

Forum Members agreed with the proposed targeted additional investments and the approach being taken by the Council.

Following discussion, Forum Members **RESOLVED** to note the 2022/23 Budget Consultation and for their comments to be incorporated into the Phase 2 Consultation Report to be presented to Cabinet later in February 2022.

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on Thursday, 10 February 2022 at 12.00 pm

Joint Consultative Committee Members in attendance:-

Councillor A Crimmings – Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Heritage
Councillor R Lewis - Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Communities
Councillor R Bevan - Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development & Housing
Mr C Jones, Representing GMB
Mr P Crews, Representing Unison
Ms L Davies, Representing Unite Teaching Unions:
Mr M Cleverly - The Teacher's Union (NASUWT)
Ms Mererid Lewis Davies - Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)

Officers in attendance

Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication
Mr R Evans, Director of Human Resources
Mr P Griffiths, Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

Extract from the minutes

2. BUDGET CONSULTATION 2022/23 (PHASE 2)

The Service Director - Finance and Improvement Services provided Members with a Powerpoint presentation on the Council's Phase 2 Budget Consultation for 2022/23 and covered the following areas:

- Introduction – 2022/23 Draft Revenue Budget Strategy
- Council's Current Financial Position (2021/22)
- Phase 1 Budget Consultation – Headlines
- Provisional Local Government Settlement 2022/23 – Headlines/Implications for Rhondda Cynon Taf
- Cabinet Proposed Budget Strategy 2022/23
- Next steps and key dates

The Service Director concluded his presentation by informing the Committee that the feedback provided by consultees as part of the Phase 2 process will be reported to Cabinet on the 28th February 2022 as part of the Cabinet finalising its recommended budget strategy for the forthcoming year.

Members of the Committee thanked the Service Director for the overview and provided the following comments for consideration by the Council's Cabinet.

Council Tax increase

Members fed back their support for the proposed 1% increase in Council Tax if this would ensure that services and jobs would be protected, and noted that an increase was part of the proposed strategy to enable a balanced budget to be set. Members also noted the rising cost of living for households across the County Borough many of which were Trade Union members.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Communities commented that the budget setting process is a balancing act, recognising the need to continue to deliver good quality services alongside residents' ability to pay. The Cabinet Member went on to indicate that the settlement from Welsh Government is more favorable than the Council had modelled, noting that this does follow 10 years of austerity, and emphasized that the indicative funding levels for years 2 and 3 included in the Settlement represent a challenge for the Council as services continue their recovery out of the pandemic and rising cost pressures for both residents and the local authority. The Cabinet Member added that in order to protect vital frontline services, a proposed 1% increase in Council Tax is the right approach to adopt.

Schools Budget

Members agreed that the Council should fully fund schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf and recognized the financial pressure they are facing, for example, the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal (Wales) Act. Members also fed back that the proposed position is positive and noted that some schools may still be faced with financial pressures to manage.

Members expressed concern that the Welsh Government Hardship Fund will cease at the end of the current financial year, even though it is likely that schools will face additional on-going costs as recovery from the pandemic continues, for example, staff absences that need to be covered with supply staff. Members asked for clarity how the hardship fund is awarded to schools and what further support could be provided to schools.

The Service Director fed back that the full year forecasted additional costs and income losses that will be incurred by the Council (including schools) as a direct result of the pandemic for 2021/22 is £30M and is reimbursed to the local authority by Welsh Government on a claims basis, noting that the claims submitted are based on actual expenditure and income losses incurred. The Service Director added that the proposed 2022/23 budget strategy has allocated all available funding to school and non-school service areas, and the Council will continue to work closely with schools to identify cost saving opportunities; ensuring school reserve levels are optimised to provide some flexibility to meet in-year cost pressures during the next financial year; and continue its dialogue with Welsh Government to explore all potential additional funding opportunities.

Social Services Funding

Members were supportive of the £15M allocation of additional funding for Community and Children's Services and the proposal for the minimum rate of pay to increase to £10

per hour, above the Real Living Wage rate of £9.90 per hour. Members went on to indicate that the pressures across social care are unprecedented and requested clarity on where the funding is proposed to be allocated, linked to its adequacy to meet all requirements, and noted that the challenges being faced are the same across Wales. One Member added that they would like consideration to be given to bring services fully in-house, for example, domiciliary care, and assurance was requested around commissioned social care providers passing on the £10 per hour minimum rate of pay to its employees.

The Service Director fed back that the proposed allocation of the £15M additional funding relates to £10M to Adult Social Care, nearly £4M to Children's Services and over £1M for Community Services that includes services such as Public Health and Protection, Libraries and Leisure Services, and added that subject to approval of the budget, Services will be allocating the funding to the required areas. With regard to commissioned service providers paying their staff the £10 minimum rate of pay, the Service Director fed back that the Council will be continuing to work closely with providers, as part of their funding arrangements, to ensure that the payment at the increased rate is in place.

Efficiency savings

A Member requested assurance that there will be no compulsory redundancies as a result of the proposed efficiency savings and another Member requested that where efficiency savings are planned, that this information is provided to Trade Union representatives to enable potential impacts to be understood and discussed.

The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services fed back that the £4.9M efficiency savings proposed to be incorporated into the 2022/23 budget strategy have been reviewed and challenged internally and assurance is in place that they are deliverable and do not impact on frontline services. The Service Director went on to indicate that the proposed efficiency savings for 2022/23 include approved staffing restructures, ensuring full cost recovery of services, on-going effective deployment of the Council's procurement strategy, additional rental income and reductions in consumable budgets.

The Director of Human Resources also provided specific feedback in respect of no compulsory redundancies, indicating that this is the commitment rather than a guarantee, and the Council and Trade Unions have a good track record of working together to achieve this. The Director added that the Council is fully committed to continuing this approach into the future.

Members asked if buildings that are surplus to requirements have been considered for efficiencies due to the number of staff now working from home.

The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services fed back that the 2021/22 budget strategy included building operating cost savings as a result of services revising their operating arrangements due to the pandemic. The Service Director added that a Built Asset Review is currently underway taking into account current and future service needs and on-going revisions to working arrangements, and indicated that the outcome of this work will help inform the Council's medium to long term asset / building requirements in line with service need and ensure continued efficient use of resources.

Fees and Charges

Members were generally supportive of the standard increase to fees and charges and specific charges being frozen on the basis of the proposals protecting jobs, for example, in Leisure Services, and that pricings remain competitive.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Communities fed back that the strategy in respect of Leisure Services is to keep pricing competitive alongside a high quality offer, and although there had been a drop in Leisure membership during the pandemic as a result of facilities being closed / restricted use of facilities, he reassured Members that the Service is working hard to attract back previous members and also new members.

Targeted Investment

Members were supportive of the targeted investment proposals and fed back they are critical areas and help the Council to secure jobs. Members noted that the £25 charge for pest control services and suggested that this could be a means tested charge to support families on low incomes, with reference made to challenges a specific community were facing, but still recognising there needs to be a charge for the service.

The Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development & Housing stated that work is on-going to ensure people are encouraged to take litter home and are made aware of the impact of fly tipping, and also the continuation of close working with public sector partners to help combat this issue. The Cabinet Member indicated that the approach to charging could be considered and noted that the principle of continuing to apply a competitive charge for the service is a responsible way forward.

A Member also requested clarity around whether the additional funding to increase the minimum rate of pay to £10 per hour also included any implications of maintaining pay differentials. The Service Director fed back that the £550k proposed additional investment related specifically to the £10 per hour minimum rate of pay and any pay differential implications would be considered with the relevant service areas, as required.

Use of Reserves

Members were supportive of the proposal to use £970k from transitional funding to bridge the funding gap in the proposed budget strategy and requested feed back on the impact on the level of Council Tax if transition funding was not used. Another Member requested clarity on if the provisional Local Government Settlement was likely to change as part of the final settlement announcement.

The Service Director fed back that Council Tax would need to increase by approximately an additional 1% based on the option of not using transition funding and funding the gap from Council Tax. With regard to the provisional settlement, the Service Director indicated that whilst there is the possibility of the settlement changing at the final settlement stage, the indications from Welsh Government are that this is unlikely to be the case.

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28th FEBRUARY 2022

THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – 2024/25

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CLLR A MORGAN

Author: Barrie Davies (01443 424026)

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Cabinet with a proposed three year capital programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 that if acceptable, will be presented to Council for approval.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Review, and if acceptable propose the attached three year capital programme at Appendix A to Council on 9th March 2022 which includes:
- 2.1.1 A proposed reallocation of existing resources, and allocation of new resources as detailed in paragraph 5 of the attached report;
 - 2.1.2 Proposed investment priorities as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the attached report;
 - 2.1.3 The Council's core capital programme;
 - 2.1.4 The Council's total capital programme including additional non core funding.
- 2.2 Authorise the Director of Finance and Digital Services to amend the level of Council Resources required to fund the Core Three Year Capital Programme as shown at Appendix 2 as a consequence of any change to the Council's capital resource levels announced in the Final Local Government Settlement.

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To agree that the report at Appendix A is acceptable and is proposed by Cabinet to Council on 9th March 2022.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Cabinet agreed the recommendations in the report presented on the 25th January 2018 titled “[Delivering the Corporate Plan – “The Way Ahead” – Investing for the future](#)”. These were to agree in principle to a strategic outline capital investment programme of in excess of £300M over the next 5 years over and above its recurring annual capital programme, and that regular reports are presented to Cabinet and full Council. The draft report at Appendix A expands on this and proposes the Council’s three year capital programme commencing 1st April 2022.
- 4.2 The Corporate Plan “Making a Difference” 2020-2024 reinforces the need to continue to live within our means, deliver an efficient and effective Council, maximise opportunities and have a shared responsibility.

5.0 THE PROVISIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT FOR 2022/23

- 5.1 The timing of the Local Government Settlement for 2022/23 has followed the UK Government Autumn Budget and Spending Review (SR21), with the provisional settlement being announced on the 21st December 2021.
- 5.2 The Final Local Government Settlement for 2022/23 is expected to be received on the 1st March 2022.
- 5.3 There are no indications of any significant changes between the provisional and final settlement but such a risk clearly remains.
- 5.4 In order to ensure that Cabinet are able to recommend a balanced capital programme to Council on the 9th March 2022, and given the timing of the Final Settlement (1st March 2022), it will be necessary to authorise the Director of Finance and Digital Services to amend the programme to deal with any change between Provisional and Final Settlement. It is proposed that any change is dealt with by means of amending the contribution from Council Resources across the 3 year programme, providing the opportunity to rebalance as necessary into future years.

6.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of this report relate solely to the proposed report to Council at Appendix A.

7.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no Welsh language implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 Details regarding consultation relating to the Council's budget strategy are subject to a separate report.

9.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

9.1 All financial implications are included in the proposed report to Council at Appendix A.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

10.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

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

11.1 The Council's capital programme is focussed on investing capital resources in line with all the Corporate Plan priorities. The capital investment also contributes to all of the seven national well being goals.

12.0 CONCLUSION

12.1 The draft report at Appendix A sets out the proposed capital programme from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2025.

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021-2022

COUNCIL

9th MARCH 2022

THE COUNCIL'S THREE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – 2024/25

REPORT OF THE CABINET

**AUTHOR: BARRIE DAVIES, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES
(01443) 424026**

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report sets out the Council's proposed Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25, following receipt of the provisional local government settlement for 2022/23.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the detail of the provisional 2022/23 local government settlement for capital expenditure, reproduced at Appendix 1;
- 2.2 Agree to the proposed reallocation of existing resources, and allocation of new resources as detailed in paragraph 5;
- 2.3 Agree to allocate the funding identified in the report to the investment priorities as detailed in paragraph 6.2;
- 2.4 Agree the proposed 'core' three year programme detailed at Appendix 2;
- 2.5 Agree the proposed total three-year Capital Programme, detailed at Appendices 3 (a) to (e), which includes the following non core capital funding:
 - Prudential borrowing to support Sustainable Communities for Learning Schemes (formerly 21st Century Schools) and Highways Improvements schemes;
 - Capital grants for specific schemes;
 - Third party contributions;
 - Additional Council resources previously allocated to support existing schemes

- and Corporate Plan investment priorities; and
- The investment priorities detailed in paragraph 6.2.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Members will be aware that each year the Council is allocated a sum of unhypothecated “Supported” borrowing and General Capital Grant from the Welsh Government (WG). Details of the provisional allocation for 2022/23 are shown at Appendix 1. The funding for 2022/23 totals £11.599M.
- 3.2 Members will recall that last year’s Capital Settlement included the continuation of an additional £35M at an all Wales level, which was not included as funding for our core programme due to a lack of clarity over its continuation. Our Core Programme was therefore retained at a level which did not rely on this additional funding.
- 3.3 It is now proposed that we maintain our core programme at its existing level (£14.100M).
- 3.4 In so doing and in light of latest capital receipt forecasts and use of capital reserves, we would require to use £10.985M of the WG General Capital Funding, with a remaining balance of £0.614M which can be used to fund Investment Priorities over and above the core programme as set out at paragraph 6.2.
- 3.5 WG’s draft budget includes indicative General Capital Funding of £200M (all Wales) for 2023/24 and 2024/25 which includes £20M each year in respect of decarbonisation. It is proposed that any additional resources are considered as part of future Investment Priority reviews outside of our Core Programme.
- 3.6 The wider overall capital programme however includes approved prudential borrowing, specific grants and agreed additional investment in our key priorities.

4.0 THE NEW THREE YEAR PROGRAMME (2022/23 TO 2024/25)

- 4.1 The proposed new 3 year capital programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 represents a total investment of **£148.770M**. This comprises:
- A Core programme of £42.300M over the next 3 years;
 - Prudential borrowing of £12.791M to support the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and Highways Improvements schemes;
 - Specific grants of £24.314M;
 - Third party contributions of £0.272M;
 - Earmarked reserves and revenue contributions previously allocated to schemes and investment priorities of £39.645M;
 - Capital resources, in addition to the 3 year core allocation, of £15.227M; and
 - Allocated earmarked reserves of £0.214M, reallocated existing funding of £3.155M, flexibility provided by additional external funding of £9.852M and £1.000M proposed in the 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy to fund the proposed investment priorities detailed in paragraph 6.2.

- 4.2 Having due regard to the level of available capital resources, both from WG and from our own capital receipts, the new core programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 is set at £14.1M per year. This represents a fully funded £42.3M core programme across the 3 years.
- 4.3 There remains a risk that the projected capital receipts are less than anticipated and projections will continue to be closely monitored.
- 4.4 Whilst allocating core resources for three years, there remains the requirement for us to continue to review and challenge any commitments made into years two and three, to robustly monitor capital receipt projections and to position ourselves to respond as appropriate and necessary as we move forward.
- 4.5 Given the timing of external funding approval processes, it will be necessary to maintain flexibility of funding across individual schemes in order to ensure the most efficient delivery of the overall programme.
- 4.6 Details of the overall capital programme for the 3 year period are set out in Section 7 of this report.

5.0 FURTHER AVAILABLE FUNDING

- 5.1 The Council has maintained an Investment/Infrastructure reserve for a number of years to fund the cost of maintaining and enhancing infrastructure across the County Borough. The balance of this reserve at 31st March 2021 was £9.497M, and following release of £6.500M agreed by Council on 29th September 2021, £2.997M is available to fund further investment priorities.
- 5.2 Our capital expenditure and commitments are closely monitored across the 3 year period of the programme and it is not unusual for spend to slip into future years and present opportunities for the reallocation of resources. In this regard an amount of £2.158M has been identified which can be reprioritised without adversely impacting on wider programme delivery and whilst maintaining the new core programme.
- 5.3 The Council's Revenue Budget Strategy for 2022/23 proposes an amount of £1.000M as a base budget for funding investment to support Corporate Plan priorities. Subject to Council agreeing the Revenue Budget Strategy, this £1.000M budget is proposed to be included in the resources available for investment priorities in the capital programme.
- 5.4 The Council has also received and been successful in securing additional external funding in the form of specific grants during 2021/22. Additional grants have related to WG Capital and Revenue Maintenance for schools, WG Regeneration grants and UK Government's Levelling Up Funding. This additional funding provides flexibility to reallocate our own existing resources within the capital programme which amount to £5.084M.
- 5.5 Finally, WG have recently announced additional General Capital Grant for 2021/22 which, in line with accounting rules and the conditions of funding, can be used to support spend during 2022/23. At an all Wales level the additional funding amounts to £70M which provides this Council with additional resource of £5.418M.

5.6 A summary of this additional available funding is provided in the table below:

Additional Funding	£M
Infrastructure Reserve	2.997
Reprioritised Existing Funding	2.158
Revenue Budget 2022/23	1.000
Additional External Funding	5.084
General Capital Grant 2022/23	0.614
Additional General Capital Grant 2021/22 – 2022/23	5.418
Total Additional Funding	17.271

6.0 INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

6.1 The Cabinet believe that the most appropriate use of these one off resources is to continue to invest in our infrastructure and to support the aspirations and priorities of the Corporate Plan.

6.2 In being able to support the above objectives, Cabinet have identified the following specific areas which it is proposed that Council agree to be invested in:

Investment Priority	£M
Highways Maintenance	3.000
Unadopted Roads	0.500
Highways Structures	1.500
Llanharan Link Road	2.000
Making Better Use/Traffic Developments	0.150
Parks Structures	0.500
Parks & Green Spaces	2.400
Play Areas	0.250
Schools	2.571
Empty Properties Grants	1.000
Electric Vehicles Charging	0.350
Investment Programme – Pipeline Development/Capacity (revenue allocation)	0.250
Total Council Investment	14.471

6.3 The above investment priorities can be funded from the resources identified at paragraph 5.6, with the remaining resource amounting to £2.800M being retained in our Investment / Infrastructure reserve to fund future priorities.

6.4 Further details on these investments are included in section 7.

7.0 THE THREE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – 2024/25

7.1 The details of the 3 year proposed programme for each Service Group are provided below.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S GROUP

- 7.2 The latest projections show expected full year capital spend of £4.419M for the Chief Executive's Group in 2021/22.
- 7.3 The total resources for 2022/23, as outlined in the proposed three-year Capital Programme is £2.909M.
- 7.4 As identified in 6.2 additional investment has been provided in Chief Executives Services in the following areas:
- Electric Vehicle Charging - £0.350M.

This additional investment is included in the figures presented in Appendix 3a.

- 7.5 As part of the Council's on-going programme to ensure high standards of health and safety and operational efficiency within its premises, appropriate resources continue to be allocated to our operational accommodation, the management and remediation of Asbestos and Legionella and resources for energy efficiency/carbon reduction measures across our property estate. The additional investment of £0.350M will support the delivery of the Council's Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy & Implementation Plan.

PROSPERITY, DEVELOPMENT AND FRONTLINE SERVICES

- 7.6 The latest projections show expected full year capital spend of £83.109M for Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services in 2021/22.
- 7.7 The total resources for 2022/23, as outlined in the proposed three-year Capital Programme is £52.567M.
- 7.8 As identified in 6.2 additional investment has been provided in Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services in the following areas:
- Highways Maintenance - £3.500M
 - Highways Structures - £1.500M
 - Parks Structures Improvements - £0.500M
 - Transport Infrastructure - £2.150M (Llanharan Link Road, Making Better Use/Traffic Developments)
 - Empty Properties Grants - £1.000M

This additional investment is included in the figures presented in Appendix 3b.

PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT

- 7.9 The Council's Capital Programme continues to provide a long-term funding commitment to the economic regeneration of the County Borough and in doing so supports one of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities: 'Prosperity – Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and

fulfil their potential and prosper’.

- 7.10 In addition to the above, sustained investment has been maintained across a range of funding streams, supported by external funding and the Corporate Plan Investment Priorities. This has enabled a wide range of regeneration activity to be delivered to benefit the local economy.
- 7.11 The Council will continue to work with partners to develop and progress exciting and innovative schemes such as:
- Development of modern business accommodation with new units at Robertstown, Aberdare;
 - Townscape Enhancements across our key town centres – a targeted approach to acquiring, redeveloping and upgrading town centre buildings for increased business and commercial use and continuing to improve the quality of the townscape providing business investment and employment growth. This will be supported by the development and delivery of strategies and placemaking plans for our key town centres;
 - Development of a new integrated Transport Hub at Porth as part of the Porth Town Centre Regeneration Strategy;
 - New sources of funding are being accessed to bring forward investment such as the UK Government Levelling Up Fund where successful bids have been made for the Muni Arts Centre Redevelopment, Porth Transport Hub and A4119 Dualling projects;
 - Strategic Opportunity Areas – a number of Strategic Opportunity Areas have been developed to deliver economic growth and job creation in Rhondda Cynon Taf. These areas are:
 - Cynon Gateway – Energising the Region;
 - The Wider Pontypridd, Treforest – Edge of the City, heart of the Region;
 - Pontypridd Town – Pivotal in the Region;
 - A4119 Corridor – Regional Rhondda Gateway; and
 - Llanilid on the M4 – Driving the Regional Economy.
- 7.12 The programme of regeneration projects will add value to the significant regeneration investment that has already taken place and will act as a catalyst for further regeneration activity.

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING

- 7.13 A budget for 2022/23 of £8.990M has been allocated and the programme comprises the following schemes to contribute to one of the Council’s Corporate Plan Priorities: ‘People – Are independent, healthy and successful’:
- Disabled Facilities Grants
 - Maintenance Repair Assistance Grants
 - Renovation Grants in Exceptional Circumstances
 - Empty Properties Grants scheme;
 - Community Regeneration budget which provides grants to support a number of initiatives underpinning the affordable warmth and energy efficiency agenda;
 - Affordable Housing;
 - Tackling Poverty Fund.

FRONTLINE SERVICES

Highways Technical Services

- 7.14 A budget for 2022/23 of £11.203M has been allocated to the next phase of the Council's Highways Improvement programme and in doing so supports one of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities: 'Places – Where people are proud to live, work and play'. Schemes comprise:
- Road surface treatments and resurfacing – £4.600M;
 - Car park improvements – £0.045M;
 - Major repairs to structures such as bridges and walls – £5.650M;
 - Parks Structures Improvements - £0.548M;
 - Street lighting replacement and upgrades – £0.200M; and
 - Traffic Management - £0.160M.

Strategic Projects

- 7.15 A budget for 2022/23 of £15.162M has been allocated to Strategic Projects for major transportation infrastructure schemes and to extend and enhance the programme of pinch-point and highways network improvement projects as well as road safety, traffic management and drainage improvements. Schemes comprise:
- Transportation Infrastructure which includes Park & Ride schemes, Llanharan Link Road, A4119 Coed Ely Dualling, Cynon Gateway North, Gelli – Treorchy Link Road, and the Making Better Use programme – £15.007M; and
 - Drainage Improvements – £0.155M.
- 7.16 The Welsh Government grant position is evolving as a result of the 3-year funding settlement. It is anticipated that overall grant funding will reduce for 2022/23 before recovering in subsequent years. Consequently the general advice is that most funding streams will be restricted to bids that are a continuation of work undertaken in previous years. In addition, the Roads Review will have a bearing on funding, with some road schemes potentially being included in the Review and consequently excluded from funding. Clarity on this aspect is anticipated ahead of the final deadline for bid submission. A number of individual grants, such as Resilient Roads fund, have now been incorporated into the Local Transport Fund grant. Bids for various funds returned during January and February are expected to be confirmed during March. Bids have also been submitted for "Small Scale" flood alleviation schemes with the upper limit of funding for individual schemes seeing an uplift from £150k to £200k.
- 7.17 A supplementary report on the detail of proposed schemes for Highways, Transportation & Strategic Projects will be presented to Cabinet shortly.

Storm Dennis Flood Recovery

- 7.18 Following the unprecedented weather events of Storm Dennis in February 2020, the Council will have already spent £19M on the immediate response and subsequent recovery works (this also includes some costs relating to Storm Christoph in January 2021) by the end of March 2022.
- 7.19 Funding of £6.441M has already been secured in respect of further works during

2022/23 with remaining works estimated to be in excess of £27M. There are a significant number of schemes ongoing to repair and replace bridges, river walls and retaining walls, as well as a work programme to deal with coal spoil tip safety, including the remediation process following Tylorstown landslip. Funding for the recovery work is provided by WG on an annual basis and the Council continues to work closely with WG to ensure funding is increased and secured during the financial year to maintain the momentum of the recovery programme.

WASTE STRATEGY

7.20 The budget for 2022/23 is £1.000M. This relates to the Eco Park at Bryn Pica.

FLEET

7.21 The 3 year rolling programme for replacement vehicles continues. The 3 year allocation is £7.719M. This service area is subject to ongoing assessment and continuous review of requirements.

EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES

7.22 The latest projections show expected full year capital spend of £31.806M for Education & Inclusion in 2021/22.

7.23 The total resources available to Education & Inclusion for 2022/23, as outlined in the proposed three-year Capital Programme is £26.128M and will support one of the Council's Corporate Plan priorities: 'Prosperity – Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper'.

7.24 As identified in 6.2 additional investment has been provided in Education & Inclusion Services, in the following areas:

- Schools - £2.571M

This additional investment is included in the figures presented in Appendix 3c.

SCHOOLS

7.25 The Council will continue to deliver and support its long-term strategic investment programme of modernisation to create school environments that meet the needs of our communities and provide the best learning provision and outcomes for young people and the wider community. The programme of capital investment is supported with Council funding, WG Sustainable Communities for Learning (previously the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme) and Community Infrastructure Levy funding.

7.26 In this regard, investment totalling £212M has already been made in our schools with this anticipated to increase to £445M by 2025/26.

7.27 The following key school projects are either in progress or planned, and are included in the overall strategic programme and include a combination of

refurbishments, remodelling, demolitions and new buildings:

- Ffynnon Taf Primary – to create a community room/childcare facility and construct a four-classroom extension and hall to increase capacity at the school;
- Cwmlai Primary – to deliver dedicated childcare facilities on the school site, to expand identified need in the community and refurbish areas of the existing school. School capacity to be increased;
- YGG Llyn Y Forwyn – to create a brand new school on a new site in the Rhondda Fach, increasing Welsh medium capacity and providing community facilities;
- Y Pant Extension – phase 1 will deliver a four-classroom extension to increase the capacity at the school to accommodate growth as a result of housing developments in the area;
- YG Rhydywaun – to construct a new teaching block to increase the capacity at the school and provide brand new learning environments including sports facilities that will be available for the wider community;
- YGG Aberdar – to construct a four-classroom extension to increase capacity; car parking provision; and to create a dedicated meithrin, to expand identified need in the community delivering additional fee-paying child-care services for the area.

PLANNED MINOR CAPITAL WORKS

- 7.28 The planned minor capital works programme allocation for 2022/23 is £8.230M. The allocation includes an on-going rolling programme for kitchen refurbishments/remodelling, window & door replacements, essential works, electrical rewiring, fire alarm upgrades, toilet refurbishments, Equalities Act/compliance works, access condition surveys, boiler replacements, roof renewals, asbestos remediation works, 21st Century classroom upgrades, external improvements, capitalisation of IT hardware/software & licences and improvements to schools.
- 7.29 A supplementary report detailing proposals of works for consideration within the above-mentioned programme will be presented to Cabinet shortly.

COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 7.30 The latest projections show expected full year capital spend of £8.326M for Community and Children's Services in 2021/22.
- 7.31 The total resources available to Community and Children's Services for 2022/23, as outlined in the proposed three year Capital Programme, is £12.396M.
- 7.32 As identified in 6.2 additional investment has been provided in Community and Children's Services in the following areas:
- Parks & Green Spaces - £2.400M
 - Play Areas - £0.250M

This additional investment is included in the figures presented in Appendix 3d.

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 7.33 The programme for Adult and Children's Services includes a budget of £4.931M in 2022/23. This will continue to fund the essential refurbishment and improvement works to the Council's Adult & Children's Services establishments, including the extra-care programme, in line with care standards and health & safety legislation. Also included are additional costs associated with Telecare Services.
- 7.34 These investments will support one of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities: 'People – Are independent, healthy and successful'.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PROTECTION

- 7.35 The Public Health and Protection programme has a budget of £7.465M in 2022/23. This budget is allocated across the ongoing rolling programmes for Parks Improvements, Cemeteries and Community Safety measures. Also included in this budget are allocations for investment and improvement works at Leisure Centres and Play Areas. The redevelopment of the Muni Arts Centre is also included in this programme. These areas of investment support one of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities: 'Places – Where people are proud to live, work and play'.

8.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 8.1 Due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, namely the Public Sector Equality Duty and Socio-Economic Duty.
- 8.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and concluded that the recommendations set out in the report are in line with the above legislation.

9.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no Welsh language implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

10.0 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 Consultation and engagement has been undertaken as part of formulating the revised programme and this was also built into the wider consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the recommended 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy, particularly in respect of investment priorities and community benefits.

11.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 11.1 The financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the main body of the report.

12.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

12.1 The Council's proposed Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 complies fully with all legal requirements.

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

13.1 The Council's proposed Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 has been formulated to support the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities, as set out within the Corporate Plan "Making a Difference" 2020 – 2024, with these documents being aligned to the goals and principles included within the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

14.0 CONCLUSIONS

14.1 The three year Capital Programme is a key component of the overall Medium Term Financial Planning and Resources Strategy for this Council. Targeted capital investment can make a significant impact on service delivery and used effectively, is able to underpin the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities, where relevant.

14.2 This report sets out the capital investment priorities for the Council through to March 2025. It represents an ambitious and significant level of investment (£148.770M) over the next 3 years.

14.3 The programme includes some element of slippage identified throughout 2021/22, which is subject to change when final spend for the capital programme is known and the 2021/22 accounts are finalised. Any changes to slippage will be reported to Members in the quarterly performance reports.

14.4 This report has also identified the opportunity to invest £14.471M of additional resources in our local area including our own assets in order to improve the services which are available to our residents.

14.5 As the year progresses, changes will be made to the programme, for example where new schemes can be supported by specific grants. Approval from Members will be sought as these opportunities arise throughout 2022/23.

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Table 2a: Breakdown of General Capital Funding (GCF), by Unitary Authority, 2022-23 (£'000s)

Provisional Settlement

Unitary Authority	General Capital Funding 2022-23	of which: General Capital Grant	of which: Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing
Isle of Anglesey	3,643	1,486	2,157
Gwynedd	6,880	2,807	4,073
Conwy	5,786	2,361	3,425
Denbighshire	5,103	2,082	3,021
Flintshire	6,794	2,772	4,022
Wrexham	5,880	2,399	3,481
Powys	7,762	3,167	4,595
Ceredigion	4,891	1,995	2,896
Pembrokeshire	6,342	2,587	3,755
Carmarthenshire	10,037	4,095	5,942
Swansea	10,722	4,375	6,347
Neath Port Talbot	7,488	3,055	4,433
Bridgend	6,678	2,725	3,953
The Vale of Glamorgan	5,829	2,378	3,451
Rhondda Cynon Taf	11,599	4,732	6,867
Merthyr Tydfil	2,632	1,074	1,558
Caerphilly	8,157	3,328	4,829
Blaenau Gwent	3,207	1,308	1,899
Torfaen	4,499	1,836	2,663
Monmouthshire	4,107	1,676	2,431
Newport	6,928	2,827	4,101
Cardiff	15,036	6,135	8,901
Total unitary authorities	150,000	61,200	88,800

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PROPOSED "CORE" THREE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME

2022 / 2025

SERVICE GROUPS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	£M	£M	£M
Chief Executive's Group	1.325	1.325	1.325
Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services	7.870	7.870	7.870
Education & Inclusion Services	3.915	3.915	3.915
Community & Children's Services	0.990	0.990	0.990
Total Capital Expenditure	14.100	14.100	14.100

Estimated Resources Required to Fund Capital Programme

Welsh Government General Capital Funding

Supported borrowing	6.867	6.867	6.867
General Capital Grant	4.732	4.732	4.732
Total WG Funding	11.599	11.599	11.599

Additional one off WG capital funding reallocated to fund Investment Priorities

- 0.614 - 0.614 - 0.614

Total Available to fund the Core Programme

10.985 10.985 10.985

Council Resources

Council Resources	3.115	3.115	3.115
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Total Resources Required to Fund the "Core" Capital Programme

14.100 14.100 14.100

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Scheme	3 Year Capital Programme 2022 - 2025			
	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 Budget	Total 3 Year Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000

Finance & Digital Services

CIVICA Financials	200	200	200	600
Capitalisation of Computer HW/SW & Licences	500	500	500	1,500
Total Finance & Digital Services	700	700	700	2,100

Corporate Estates

Major repair/refurbishment and/or rationalisation of Service Group Accommodation	150	150	150	450
Strategic Maintenance	50	50	50	150
Asset Management Planning	50	50	50	150
Asbestos Management	175	175	175	525
Asbestos Remediation Works	50	50	50	150
Legionella Remediation Works	275	275	275	825
Legionella Management	175	175	175	525
Carbon Reduction Programme	934	350	350	1,634
Electric Vehicles Charging	350	0	0	350
Total Corporate Estates	2,209	1,275	1,275	4,759

Group Total	2,909	1,975	1,975	6,859
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Chief Executive
Service Director - Finance Services

Chris Bradshaw
Martyn Hughes

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Scheme	3 Year Capital Programme 2022 - 2025			
	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 Budget	Total 3 Year Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Prosperity & Development				
Planning & Regeneration				
Enterprise Investment Fund	200	200	200	600
Regeneration Investment	1,185	835	400	2,420
Robertstown Development	163	0	0	163
Porth Interchange Metro+ LTF	5,435	504	0	5,939
Total Planning & Regeneration	6,983	1,539	600	9,122
Private Sector Housing				
Disabled Facilities Grants/Adaptations (DFG)	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Maintenance Repair Assistance (MRA)	450	450	450	1,350
Renovation Grants Exceptional Circumstances & Home Improvement Zones	530	450	450	1,430
Empty Properties Grants Investment	2,500	0	0	2,500
Affordable Housing	800	1,536	0	2,336
Tackling Poverty Fund	200	0	0	200
Community Regeneration	510	250	250	1,010
Total Private Sector Housing	8,990	6,686	5,150	20,826
Total Prosperity & Development	15,973	8,225	5,750	29,948
Frontline Services				
Highways Technical Services				
Highways Improvements	4,600	1,100	1,100	6,800
Car Parks	45	45	45	135
Structures	5,650	300	300	6,250
Parks Structures	548	0	0	548
Street Lighting	200	200	200	600
Traffic Management	160	160	160	480
Total Highways Technical Services	11,203	1,805	1,805	14,813
Strategic Projects				
Transportation and Travel Schemes	18	0	0	18
Transportation Infrastructure	14,989	7,032	5,744	27,765
Drainage Improvements	155	140	140	435
Total Strategic Projects	15,162	7,172	5,884	28,218
Storm Dennis Flood Recovery				
Storm Dennis Flood Recovery	6,441	0	0	6,441
Total Storm Dennis Flood Recovery	6,441	0	0	6,441
Waste Strategy				
Waste Strategy	1,000	0	0	1,000
Total Waste Strategy	1,000	0	0	1,000
Fleet				
Vehicles	2,573	2,573	2,573	7,719
Total Fleet	2,573	2,573	2,573	7,719

Scheme	3 Year Capital Programme 2022 - 2025			
	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 Budget	Total 3 Year Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Buildings				
Buildings	215	100	100	415
Total Buildings	215	100	100	415
Total Frontline Services	36,594	11,650	10,362	58,606
Group Total	52,567	19,875	16,112	88,554

Director of Prosperity & Development
 Director of Frontline Services
 Service Director - Finance Services

Simon Gale
 Roger Waters
 Martyn Hughes

Scheme	3 Year Capital Programme 2022 - 2025			
	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 Budget	Total 3 Year Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools				
School Modernisation Rhondda and Tonyrefail	2,531	0	0	2,531
School Modernisation	7,297	140	140	7,577
Ffynnon Taf Primary Refurbishment and Extension	885	0	0	885
Y Pant Extension	856	0	0	856
SRIC - School Modernisation Programme	140	0	0	140
WG Childcare Grant	244	13	0	257
Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B				
YG Rhydywaun School Modernisation	4,972	263	0	5,235
YGG Aberdar School Modernisation	723	26	0	749
Mutual Investment Model Projects	250	250	250	750
Total	17,898	692	390	18,980
Supplementary Capital Programme				
Planned Kitchen Refurbishments	250	200	200	650
Window & Door Replacements	163	150	150	463
Essential Works	496	400	400	1,296
Capitalisation of Computer HW / SW & Licences	296	250	250	796
Roof Renewal	2,555	700	700	3,955
Boiler Replacement	950	250	250	1,450
Equalities Act/Compliance Works	225	225	225	675
Education & Inclusion Services Condition Surveys	97	50	50	197
Electrical Rewiring	312	200	200	712
Asbestos Remediation Work	900	900	900	2,700
Fire Alarm Upgrades	150	100	100	350
Toilet Refurbishments	1,170	350	350	1,870
21st Century Classroom Upgrade	566	0	0	566
Improvements to Schools	100	100	100	300
Total	8,230	3,875	3,875	15,980
Group Total	26,128	4,567	4,265	34,960

**Director of Education and Inclusion Services
Service Director - Finance Services**

**Gaynor Davies
Stephanie Davies**

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Scheme	3 Year Capital Programme 2022 - 2025			
	2022/2023 Budget	2023/2024 Budget	2024/2025 Budget	Total 3 Year Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000

Adult & Children's Services

Modernisation Programme (Adults)	4,364	1,700	200	6,264
Modernisation Programme (Childrens)	129	50	50	229
Asbestos Remediation	90	45	45	180
Telecare Equipment (Inc of Carelink Equipment)	348	200	200	748
Total Adult & Children's Services	4,931	1,995	495	7,421

Public Health, Protection & Community Services

Leisure Centre Refurbishment Programme	155	90	90	335
Parks & Countryside	3,805	100	100	4,005
Play Areas	359	50	50	459
Cemeteries Planned Programme	135	135	135	405
Community Safety Initiatives	89	99	50	238
Culture	20	20	20	60
Muni Arts Centre Redevelopment	2,852	2,472	0	5,324
Buildings	50	50	50	150
Total Public Health, Protection & Community Services	7,465	3,016	495	10,976

Group Total	12,396	5,011	990	18,397
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Group Director
Service Director - Finance Services

Paul Mee
Neil Griffiths

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Capital Programme from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2025

Group	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
	£M	£M	£M	£M
Chief Executive	2.909	1.975	1.975	6.859
Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services	52.567	19.875	16.112	88.554
Education and Inclusion Services	26.128	4.567	4.265	34.960
Community and Children's Services	12.396	5.011	0.990	18.397
Total	94.000	31.428	23.342	148.770

Estimated Resources Required to Fund Capital Programme

Supported Borrowing	6.867	6.867	6.867	20.601
Unsupported Borrowing	11.502	0.289	1.000	12.791
Total	18.369	7.156	7.867	33.392

Capital Grants

General Capital Grant annual base allocation	4.732	4.732	4.732	14.196
General Capital Grant additional allocation 2021/22	5.418			5.418
WEFO ERDF Modern Industrial Units Developments	0.082			0.082
WG Sustainable Communities for Learning	2.202			2.202
Cardiff Capital Region City Deal	2.543			2.543
UK Government Levelling Up Fund	11.085	7.341		18.426
Heritage Lottery Grant	1.000			1.000
WG PRS Lease Scheme	0.012	0.049		0.061
Total	27.074	12.122	4.732	43.928

Third Party Contributions	0.259	0.013	0.000	0.272
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Council Resources

Revenue Contributions	27.588	7.850	7.992	43.430
General Fund Capital Resources	20.710	4.287	2.751	27.748
Total	48.298	12.137	10.743	71.178

Total Resources Required to Fund Capital Programme	94.000	31.428	23.342	148.770
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Difference Total Spend to Total Resources	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

SUPPORTING RETAIL LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF – LOCAL BUSINESS RATE REDUCTION SCHEME

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (CLLR M NORRIS)

Author(s): MR MATTHEW PHILLIPS, HEAD OF SERVICE (REVENUES & BENEFITS)

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Cabinet with details of a proposed local Business Rate Reduction Scheme for Rhondda Cynon Taf and an update on the continuation of the Welsh Government Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rate Relief (RLH) Scheme for 2022/23.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- a) Note the changes to the Welsh Government RLH Scheme for the year 2022/23;
- b) Agree to adopt the Welsh Government RLH Scheme for the year for 2022/23; and
- c) Agree the proposed local Business Rate Reduction Scheme for 2022/23 which will be incorporated into the Council's Revenue Budget Strategy.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To provide ongoing support to RLH businesses within Rhondda Cynon Taf following two years of restricted trading through the period of the COVID 19 pandemic.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In February 2020 Cabinet agreed to introduce support to businesses through the provision of a Local Business Rate Relief scheme which provided £150K to be distributed across qualifying businesses in order to support them in meeting their Non-Domestic Rates liability. The relief was to be paid in line with the qualifying

criteria applicable to the High Street and Retail Rate Relief (HSRR) Scheme and it was estimated that up to 485 businesses would benefit by up to £300 per business. The level of support was increased to £350 per business for 2021/22 financial year.

- 4.2 However, as the pandemic emerged in March 2020 and restrictions were applied to businesses, the Welsh Government replaced the HSRR Scheme with an extended RLH scheme which provided 100% rates relief for the financial year 2020/21, meaning that qualifying businesses had no rates liability. This scheme extended the eligible businesses to include leisure businesses and continued unchanged through 2021/22.
- 4.3 In January 2022, WG indicated that the RLH scheme for 2022/23 would provide 50% rate relief (as opposed to 100%) and consequently businesses in these sectors would have a rates liability for the first time in two years.
- 4.4 The Cabinet's proposed budget strategy for 2022/23 includes an additional £100k to increase the available resources to support such businesses to £300k.

5. PROPOSED LOCAL BUSINESS RATE REDUCTION SCHEME

- 5.1 On 4th February 2022, WG issued the RLH scheme details and guidance, which confirms that the 2022/23 scheme would provide 50% rate relief to all qualifying businesses. The amount of RLH relief allowed to a single business across Wales has been capped at £110,000.
- 5.2 In order to support our Retail, Leisure and Hospitality businesses in 2022/23 it is proposed that a local discretionary relief be provided in **addition** to the WG RLH scheme of up to a maximum of £300 per qualifying business.
- 5.3 The qualifying criteria of the RLH scheme shall be applied. It is estimated that 1,200 businesses in Rhondda Cynon Taf would benefit from this further support.
- 5.4 In cases where the "net" rates bill (following the award of RLH and any other applicable reliefs) is less than £300, the rates bill will be reduced to zero.
- 5.5 In line with WG requirements, businesses will need to make an application to the Council for the RLH relief to be assessed and applied to their NDR bill.
- 5.6 Subject to this application and eligibility, the Council will then also award up to £300 local discretionary relief. Business will then receive an adjusted Non Domestic Rates bill, net of RLH relief and the Local Business Rate relief.
- 5.7 The list of the types of businesses able to qualify for RLH Rates Relief (and therefore the Local Discretionary Business Rates Relief) is set out at Appendix 1 with those non-qualifying businesses set out at Appendix 2.
- 5.8 It is noted that there are no planned changes to the WG's Small Business Rate Relief Scheme.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY

- 6.1 Due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, namely the Public Sector Equality Duty and Socio-Economic Duty.

7. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no Welsh language implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

8. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 8.1 A consultation exercise on the original proposal took place between 2nd December 2019 and 24th January 2020.
- 8.2 A consultation on the Cabinet's proposed budget strategy took place between the 28th January and the 13th February 2022.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 9.1 The Council has included the resource requirement in its proposed 2022/23 Revenue Budget Strategy to fund the local Business Rates Discretionary scheme.
- 9.2 The Welsh Government will reimburse local authorities for the RLH relief that is provided in line with its guidance via a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 and section 58A of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 10.1 The WG Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Relief Scheme and the proposed local Business Rates Relief Scheme is in accordance with the Council's statutory powers under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.
- 10.2 For both schemes to be applied in Rhondda Cynon Taf, the Council needs to formally resolve to adopt the schemes locally in exercise of its discretionary powers under section 47(1) (a) of the 1988 Act and the Director of Finance and Digital Services will administer the scheme and make the necessary determinations in accordance with the Council's 'officer scheme of delegation'.

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

- 11.1 The proposals are aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan "Making a Difference" 2020-2024, in particular the priority 'Prosperity – Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper' and also the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 well-being goal of "A more prosperous Wales".

12. CONCLUSION

- 12.1 The adoption of the WG RLH Rate Relief Scheme and the Local Discretionary Business Rates Relief Scheme will provide further much needed financial support for local businesses to meet their 2022/23 rate liability and forms part of a wider package of support intended to create and maintain vibrant town centres across Rhondda Cynon Taf, which is something that this Council has committed to in its Corporate Plan.

Appendix 1

Examples of the types of premises that **may** qualify for assistance under the Wales Retail Leisure and Hospitality Rate Relief Scheme:

- Properties that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public:-
 - Shops (such as florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off-licences, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
 - Charity shops
 - Opticians
 - Pharmacies
 - Post offices
 - Furnishing shops or display rooms (such as carpet shops, double-glazing, garage doors)
 - Car or caravan showrooms
 - Second hand car lots
 - Markets
 - Petrol stations
 - Garden centres
 - Art galleries (where art is for sale or hire)

- Properties that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:-
 - Hair and beauty services
 - Shoe repairs or key cutting
 - Travel agents
 - Ticket offices (e.g. for theatre)
 - Dry cleaners
 - Launderettes
 - PC, TV or domestic appliance repair
 - Funeral directors
 - Photo processing
 - DVD or video rentals
 - Tool hire
 - Car hire
 - Estate and letting agents

- Properties that are being used for the sale of food and / or drink to visiting members of the public:-
 - Restaurants
 - Drive-through or drive-in restaurants
 - Takeaways
 - Sandwich shops
 - Cafés
 - Coffee shops
 - Pubs
 - Bars or Wine Bars

- Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of sport, leisure and facilities to visiting members of the public (including for the viewing of such activities) and for the assembly of visiting members of the public:
 - Sports grounds and clubs
 - Sport and leisure facilities
 - Gyms
 - Tourist attractions
 - Museums and art galleries
 - Stately homes and historic houses
 - Theatres
 - Live Music Venues
 - Cinemas
 - Nightclubs

- Hereditaments that are being used for the assembly of visiting members of the public:
 - Public halls
 - Clubhouses, clubs and institutions

- Hereditaments where the non-domestic part is being used for the provision of living accommodation as a business:
 - Hotels, Guest and Boarding Houses,
 - Holiday homes,
 - Caravan parks and sites

Appendix 2

Examples of the types of retail premises that **will not** qualify for assistance under the Wales Retail Leisure and Hospitality Rate Relief Scheme:

- Properties being used wholly or mainly for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:
 - Financial services (eg banks, building societies, cash points, ATMs, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawnbrokers)
 - Medical services (eg vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)
 - Professional services (eg solicitors, accountants, insurance agents, financial advisers, tutors)
 - Post Office sorting offices
 - Day nurseries
 - Kennels and catteries
 - Casinos and gambling clubs
 - Show homes and marketing suites
 - Employment agencies

In addition, the following properties will not be eligible to relief under the scheme:

- a) Properties that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public
- b) Properties that are not occupied
- c) Properties that are owned, rented or managed by a local authority

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN *DISCUSSIONS*
WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (CLLR M NORRIS)**

Item: **SUPPORTING RETAIL LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES
IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF –
LOCAL BUSINESS RATE REDUCTION SCHEME**

**Background Papers
NONE**

Officer to contact:

MR MATTHEW PHILLIPS, HEAD OF SERVICE (REVENUES & BENEFITS)



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28th FEBRUARY 2022

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (FORMERLY 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS) CAPITAL PROGRAMME – NEW WELSH MEDIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL IN RHYDYFELIN

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CLLR A MORGAN

Author: Barrie Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services, (01443) 424026

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update regarding financing of the proposals to build a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note the position, as set out in the report on the submission of a full business case to Welsh Government in respect of a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin;
- 2.2 Review and agree the updated total costs and funding package for the school; and
- 2.3 Review, and if acceptable propose that the Prudential Borrowing report attached at Appendix A to the report is presented to Council on 9th March 2022.

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To complete the funding package for the new school to enable works to commence in line with the programme.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of the Cabinet on 17th June 2021 an update was given on the proposals to reorganise schools in the greater Pontypridd area.

- 4.2 These proposals include a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin.
- 4.3 The indicative cost presented to Cabinet in June 2021 was £13M. Following this a revised Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) was submitted to Welsh Government (WG) to incorporate updates to the programme including a commitment to achieve net zero carbon schools. The revised estimated cost, incorporating price increases and additional costs to achieve a net zero carbon school is £14.183M.
- 4.4 The updated SOP was approved by WG in September 2021 and our funding envelope was increased to include, among other things, an increase to achieve net zero carbon schools. An update in respect of this was presented to Cabinet on 4th October 2021.
- 4.5 The final stage in obtaining a formal grant award for individual projects within our SOP is the submission, and subsequent approval, of a Full Business Case (FBC) to WG. The Outline Business Case (OBC) was approved by WG in August 2021 and approval to proceed to FBC was also granted.
- 4.6 The FBC was submitted to WG in January 2022. WG are fully aware of the increase in costs and have approved these via the SOP approval, however a formal grant award is subject to WG panel review. The panel met on 17th February 2022 and recommended approval to the Minister for Education and Welsh Language. The formal grant award is anticipated during March 2022, following Ministerial approval.
- 4.7 The funding arrangements for Sustainable Communities for Learning (formerly 21st Century Schools) Band B capital schemes are 65% WG grant and 35% from the Council's own resources. Based on estimated costs of £14.183M, the WG grant award will be £9.219M and the Council's contribution is £4.964M. It is proposed to fund the Council's contribution by the use of Prudential Borrowing. In order to complete the funding package to enable the scheme to progress, it is now necessary to seek Council approval for the borrowing.

5.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 5.1 The equality and diversity implications have been considered and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium primary school and there are no further implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

6.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Welsh language implications have been considered and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium primary school and there are no further implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The necessary consultation process has been undertaken and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin and there are no further consultation requirements as a result of the

recommendations in this report.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The annual revenue cost to repay this borrowing (£4.964M) is £0.195M per year for 40 years. It is anticipated that the revenue repayments will commence in financial year 2024/25, therefore the costs will be included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific legal implications arising as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

9.2 The Council has the necessary powers to borrow money to fund expenditure under the Prudential Code.

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

10.1 The Council's Corporate Plan commits to "Investing in new and replacement 21st Century Schools, whilst also meeting the demand for Welsh language provision throughout the County Borough."

10.2 The financing of this commitment will enable the delivery of proposals that will contribute to all 7 well-being goals within the Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 and due regard has been made to the Five Ways of Working, as contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This is well documented in the Business Case submitted to the Welsh Government

11.0 CONCLUSIONS

11.1 The investment in a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin can be financed by Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B grant and by borrowing for the Council's contribution by the use of powers available under the Prudential Code.



Appendix A

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021 – 2022

COUNCIL

9th MARCH 2022

FINANCING OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (FORMERLY 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS) CAPITAL PROGRAMME USING PRUDENTIAL BORROWING

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & DIGITAL SERVICES

Author: Barrie Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services, (01443) 424026

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval:

- For a capital investment of £14.183M for a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin;
- To finance the project through the Welsh Government's (WG) Sustainable Communities for learning (formerly 21st Century Schools) Band B capital grant and to fund the Council's contribution from borrowing using its powers under the Prudential Code.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Agree to the inclusion in the capital programme of a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin at a total cost of £14.183M; and
- 2.2 Agree that the net capital cost to the Council of £4.964M is funded through borrowing, using the Council's powers under the Prudential Code, with the annual revenue cost of £0.195M being included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 An update on proposals to reorganise schools in the greater Pontypridd area was considered by Cabinet on 17th June 2021, which included a new Welsh medium

primary school in Rhydyfelin.

- 3.2 As reported to Cabinet on 28th February 2022, the proposal is now at the Full Business Case (FBC) stage with Welsh Government (WG), which has been recommended for Ministerial approval by the WG review panel, and a formal grant award is expected during March 2022.
- 3.3 Cabinet reviewed the updated costs and funding package and agreed that this report is presented to Council to approve the borrowing for the Council's contribution.
- 3.4 Whilst the formal award of funding in respect of this proposal is awaited following submission of the FBC, the proposal and updated costs have been approved by WG as part of an updated Strategic Outline Programme.
- 3.5 Contractual commitments and formal appointments of contractors will only be progressed once the formal WG grant award is received and accepted. However, in order to progress the scheme and complete the funding package it is necessary to seek Council approval for the Prudential Borrowing.

4.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 4.1 The equality and diversity implications have been considered and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium school and there are no further implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

5.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Welsh language implications have been considered and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium primary school and there are no further implications as a result of the recommendation in this report.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The necessary consultation process has been undertaken and reported as part of the decision making process for a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin and there are no further consultation requirements as a result of the recommendations in this report.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The proposal to build a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin will cost an estimated £14.183M in capital investment.
- 7.2 The funding arrangements for Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B capital schemes are 65% WG grant and 35% from the Council's own resources. Based on estimated costs of £14.183M, the WG grant award will be £9.219M and the Council's contribution is £4.964M funded through borrowing, using the Council's powers under the Prudential Code.

7.3 The annual revenue cost to repay this borrowing is £0.195M per year for 40 years. It is anticipated that the revenue repayments will commence in financial year 2024/25, therefore the costs will be included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific legal implications arising as a result of the recommendations in the report.

8.2 The Council has the necessary powers to borrow money to fund expenditure under the Prudential Code.

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

9.1 The Council's Corporate Plan commits to "Investing in new and replacement 21st Century Schools, whilst also meeting the demand for Welsh language provision throughout the County Borough."

9.2 The financing of this commitment will enable the delivery of proposals that will contribute to all 7 well-being goals within the Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 and due regard has been made to the Five Ways of Working, as contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This is well documented in the Business Case submitted to the Welsh Government

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

10.1 The investment in a new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin can be financed by Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B capital grant and by borrowing for the Council's contribution by the use of powers available under the Prudential Code.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL 9th MARCH 2022

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & DIGITAL SERVICES

Item: FINANCING OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (FORMERLY 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS) CAPITAL PROGRAMME USING PRUDENTIAL BORROWING

Background Papers

Cabinet 3rd October 2018

[21st Century Schools Programme - Proposals to Improve Education Provision in the Greater Pontypridd Area](#)

Cabinet 18th July 2019

[21st Century Schools Programme - Proposals to Reorganise Primary Schools, Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Provision in the Greater Pontypridd Area](#)

Special Overview & Scrutiny Committee 31st July 2019

[21st Century Schools Programme - Proposals to Reorganise Primary Schools, Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Provision in the Greater Pontypridd Area](#)

Cabinet 17th June 2021

[21st Century Schools Programme - Proposals to Reorganise Primary Schools, Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Provision in the Greater Pontypridd Area](#)

Cabinet 4th October 2021

[21st Century Schools Programme - Band B Update](#)

Cabinet 28th February 2022

Sustainable Communities for Learning (Formerly 21st Century Schools) Capital Programme – New Welsh Medium Primary School in Rhydyfelin (Link pending publication of report)

Officer to contact: Barrie Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services (01443) 424026

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28 FEBRUARY 2022

PONTYPRIDD TOWN CENTRE – DRAFT PLACEMAKING PLAN

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (COUNCILLOR ROBERT BEVAN)

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:

- Set out the draft Placemaking Plan for Pontypridd Town Centre which provides a bold vision for the regeneration of the town;
- To seek approval for a public consultation exercise to be undertaken in respect of the draft Placemaking Plan and to receive a further report detailing the results from the consultation;
- Provide a progress update on the redevelopment plans for the former Bingo Hall site, Marks & Spencer and Burtons/Dorothy Perkins buildings and the Muni Arts Centre.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Consider the draft Pontypridd Placemaking Plan and agree to consultation and public engagement on the overarching Pontypridd Placemaking Plan including engagement on early ideas for the former Marks & Spencer /Dorothy Perkins/Burtons area;
- 2.2 Agree to receive a further report detailing the results from the consultation exercise;
- 2.3 In addition to consulting on the Placemaking plan, agree to a funding application being submitted to Welsh Government to demolish the vacant Marks & Spencer/Dorothy Perkins/Burtons buildings due to their dilapidated

and structural state and general poor quality and to commence the demolition process if and when funding is in place and on the securing of any necessary statutory consents;

- 2.4 In addition to consulting on the Placemaking plan, agree to move to the formal procurement stage to secure a development partner to deliver a hotel on the site of the former Bingo Hall/High Street/Sardis Road.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Pontypridd town centre has faced significant challenges in recent years but has proven to be incredibly resilient during these times. Significant investment is already underway but with continued investment and a co-ordinated approach, the town centre has a positive and bright future. A draft Placemaking Plan has been prepared to respond to this exciting and changing context and to enable Pontypridd to fully become a key economic, social and cultural centre.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As with many town centres throughout the UK, Pontypridd town centre has faced significant challenges to its economic viability in recent years. This has been intensified further by the destructive flood events in the winter of 2020 that damaged large areas of the town and endangered businesses and more recently the socio-economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4.2 While the challenges associated with the pandemic are not yet over, there are reasons for optimism as throughout this period, the town centre has demonstrated incredible sustained resilience. Evidence that Pontypridd is becoming a more resilient town is demonstrated by the latest footfall figures. The recorded figures for the months of October to December 2021 of 864,762 is an increase of 190,948 on the same 3 month period in 2019, prior to the Storm Dennis floods and COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4.3 As demonstrated in the previous report in October 2021 '*Progress update on the delivery of Regeneration in Pontypridd Town Centre*', substantial investment has been successfully delivered over recent years under the Regeneration Framework for Pontypridd 2017 – 2022 '*Pivotal Pontypridd – Delivering Growth*'.
- 4.4 To maintain this momentum, the draft Placemaking Plan is underpinned by a baseline review that identifies the issues and opportunities in the town centre and proposes a series of phased interventions to ensure the plan delivers early positive change but also enables growth and investment consistently over a realistic delivery period.

5. DRAFT PONTYPRIDD PLACEMAKING PLAN

- 5.1 'Placemaking' is an overarching approach to improving how a place looks, functions and is experienced. The draft Placemaking Plan for Pontypridd Town Centre, shown at **Appendix 1**, seeks to replace the existing Regeneration Framework for Pontypridd (2017-2022) building upon the foundations of what has already been delivered and to provide a framework for delivering further new development and investment that can help improve the prosperity of Pontypridd, enhance the townscape and make it more resilient to future change.
- 5.2 The placemaking plan illustrates the scale of opportunity that exists in the town. To realise the opportunity, it will be important to create the conditions for a successful residential, office, leisure, and retail market that is supplemented by strong placemaking and active town centre management. It will also be crucial to explore opportunities to make the town resilient to future flood incidents.
- 5.3 Pontypridd has a unique townscape and landscape setting that includes two iconic rivers and a historic park. These strong attributes will be utilised to establish a destination that is a great place to work, live and visit.
- 5.4 Transport is a key consideration for the town centre and there are a series of the projects identified in the placemaking plan either relate to transport enhancements or require adaptations to transport infrastructure.
- 5.5 To guide future investment, the plan identifies the following core ambitions for the town centre:
- **A BUSINESS DESTINATION** with established development areas that provide striking gateways to the town and a series of flexible workspaces that combine to make Pontypridd an attractive to place to invest and work.
 - **A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE** with a choice of high quality new homes, accessible jobs and a bespoke leisure offer delivered in a unique riverside setting.
 - **CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE** with excellent pedestrian connections between the town centre and the railway and bus stations and high-quality cycle infrastructure that establishes the town as base to explore the wider valleys landscape.
 - **A GREEN WATERSIDE TOWN** with a unique outlook over the River Taff and the historic Ynysangharad War Memorial Park that provide

an unrivalled leisure and recreational setting and distinctive landscape.

- **A UNIQUE TOWNSCAPE** with iconic heritage buildings that are celebrated and have been reused to accommodate a mix of vibrant modern uses.
- **A CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DESTINATION** with an annual programme of events for Pontypridd that attract visitors and establish the centre as a unique cultural and social destination.
- **AN INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT TOWN** with a network of unique streets and spaces that are safe and accessible, resilient and adaptable to future challenges, optimised views of the unique townscape and riverside setting and provide space for outdoor activity.

5.6 The plan identifies a framework to deliver new investment that responds to the unique character of the town and the issues and opportunities that are present. The plan takes an overarching view of the key areas that make up the town centre and proposes a series of approaches that would strengthen the sense of place in each area that combine to revitalise the town as a whole.

5.7 Five spatial areas have been identified that will act as areas of specific focus for investment:

- **SOUTHERN GATEWAY** - A redeveloped gateway to the town that has a significant redevelopment of the key development blocks including the former Bingo Hall site and Marks & Spencer/Dorothy Perkins stores, enhanced links between the station and the high street and an improved public realm that opens the entrance to the town and establishes a riverside plaza and proposes a range of commercial uses in the railway station. It is proposed that redevelopment of this 'Southern Gateway' area could form Phase 1 of the implementation of the Placemaking Plan and further detail can be found at **Appendix 2**.
- **TOWN CENTRE CORE** - A reinforced core of refurbished buildings that will provide workspace, homes, retail and leisure uses, a riverside walkway and better pedestrian connections and spaces.
- **MARKET QUARTER** - A bespoke Market Quarter within the Town Centre Core that includes a rejuvenated market building and a unique retail and leisure offer in an historic setting, creating a destination in its own right within the heart to the town centre.

- **NORTHERN GATEWAY** - Continued regeneration of the northern gateway to the town that includes a rejuvenated bus station, explores the potential for a new train halt, further workspace and mixed-use development at Berw Road, enhanced art and culture and better pedestrian routes.
- **YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK** - A heritage park that has a natural riverside setting, diverse sport and recreational offer, is a hub for cultural and social events and base from which to explore the Valleys Regional Park.

6. **PROJECTS**

6.1 A series of projects and interventions have been identified collectively aimed at transforming the town by creating high quality development and public spaces that promote prosperity, health, happiness, and well-being. Full details can be found within the draft Placemaking Plan but in summary these projects will:

- Establish enhanced gateways into the town.
- Unlock large-scale commercial development opportunities.
- Deliver improved integration between public transport modes.
- Restore traditional buildings with new uses.
- Revive the town's traditional townscape.
- Create a new riverside and parkland setting.
- Make the town centre more resilient to future flood events that might occur.
- Provide better pedestrian routes and create spaces that that people can enjoy, and which businesses can use.
- Create spaces for social and cultural events.
- Develop a stronger digital presence and brand.

7. **PROGRESS UPDATE – KEY SITES AND PREMISES**

7.1 The sites detailed in paragraphs 7.2 to 7.7 have been identified in the draft Placemaking Plan as key areas that will contribute to the economic growth

of the town centre. Supported by government investment, progress is already being made towards securing a sustainable future for these prominent sites.

- 7.2 **Former Bingo Hall / Angharads Nightclub** – Funded by £2.2m investment from the Council and Welsh Government, these vacant and dilapidated buildings were acquired in March 2020 and subsequently demolished in August 2021 leaving the site development ready.
- 7.3 Expert advice has been commissioned to explore a range of commercial uses to strengthen the viability of the town together with opportunities for new distinctive architecture that builds on the town's unique assets and strengthens its sense of place.
- 7.4 Advice received clearly supports a hotel-led development with retail uses at the lower ground floor in this prominent location and a market testing exercise has evidenced that there are developers and operators interested in taking this forward.
- 7.5 Subject to approval, a formal procurement exercise will be undertaken over the next 6 months to secure a Development Partner to take forward a hotel-led development on site. The Council will work closely with potential Development Partners to ensure the best outcome for the town centre.
- 7.6 **96-99a and 100-102 Taff Street** – In March 2021, these vacant buildings formerly occupied by Marks & Spencer, Dorothy Perkins and Burtons, were acquired with investment from the Council and Welsh Government.
- 7.7 Situated opposite the former Bingo Hall site and adjacent to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, these vacant properties provide an exciting development opportunity.
- 7.8 Early design work commissioned to explore opportunities for the site demonstrate that the properties provide a great opportunity to open the town centre towards the river and the park and to provide a range of leisure, commercial and retail uses in this location. The proposed public consultation presents a timely opportunity to seek views on the early proposals shown at **Appendix 2**.
- 7.9 The property formerly occupied by Marks & Spencer, being vacant since 2015 and suffering from a lack of maintenance is in poor condition, requiring extensive refurbishment and upgrading works both internally and externally. The property will continue to deteriorate without significant expenditure. Structural Surveys have been undertaken and the building is deemed to be beyond economic repair and consideration is now needed regarding demolition to maximise the redevelopment opportunity in this prime location. Whilst the Burtons/Dorothy Perkins building appears to have been maintained in relatively good condition by its previous owners, the

building itself is of poor architectural quality and detrimental to the character of the High Street and to the integrity of the Conservation Area within which it is located. As such it is recommended that the Marks & Spencer and Dorothy Perkins/Burtons buildings are demolished to allow future redevelopment of the whole site, shaped by the public engagement sought by this report and through the process of securing all necessary planning and other consents.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time. This will however be revisited following the public consultation exercise.

9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Placemaking Plan will be subject to a Welsh Language Impact Assessment and an update will be provided following the public consultation.

10. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 10.1 No consultation has taken place at this stage; however the report proposes that a public consultation exercise on the draft Placemaking Plan, with a particular focus on the redevelopment of the former Marks & Spencer and Dorothy Perkins/Burtons stores, is undertaken over a 4 week period.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 11.1 There are no financial implications in respect of the development of the draft placemaking plan but as projects are developed, the financial implications will be fully assessed and reported as appropriate.
- 11.2 Subject to approval of this report, funding will be sought from Welsh Government to demolish the former Marks & Spencer/Dorothy Perkins/Burtons buildings. This will take the form of a grant application to the Welsh Government's Transforming Towns programme for the maximum 70% contribution towards the associated costs. The balance will be funded from existing Prosperity and Development budgets.
- 11.3 Costs associated with the procurement process for securing a development partner for the hotel-led development will be funded from existing

resources. The financial implications of the actual development will be subject to a further report.

12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 12.1 There are no current legal implications, but as the opportunities are developed, the legal implications will be fully assessed.

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

- 13.1 The draft Placemaking Plan has been developed in accord with the Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 'Making a Difference' which highlights that its town centres will be vibrant, thriving places where people wish to live, work and socialise and with Welsh Governments 'Town Centres First' approach, aimed at putting the health of town centres at the heart of the decisions taken by the public sector, businesses and communities.
- 13.2 All proposed developments within the draft plan will contribute to the goals of the Well Being of Future Generations Act. In particular, the economic and environmental well-being of Wales, supporting the delivery of a prosperous Wales, a more resilient Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities.

14. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

- 14.1 The draft placemaking plan identifies a framework to continue to deliver significant new investment to Pontypridd town centre that responds to the unique character of the town and the issues and opportunities that are present. The Placemaking plan will succeed the current Regeneration Framework for Pontypridd 2017 – 2022 'Pivotal Pontypridd – Delivering Growth'.
- 14.2 The successful delivery of the plan will result in transformational change for Pontypridd town centre. A coordinated effort between the public, private and third sectors will be required to realise the scale of opportunity in the town centre to ensure we can successfully deliver a dynamic, diverse and sustainable town centre where people are proud to live, work and visit.
- 14.3 Critical next steps for consideration are:

- Consultation and public engagement on the overarching Pontypridd Placemaking Plan including engagement on early ideas for the former Marks & Spencer/Dorothy Perkins/Burtons area.
- Agreement to seek funding to demolish the vacant Marks & Spencer/Dorothy Perkins/Burtons buildings due to their dilapidated and structural state.
- Agreement to move to the formal procurement stage for a development partner to deliver a hotel on the site of the former Bingo Hall/High Street/Sardis Road.

Other Information:-

***Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Finance & Performance***

***Contact Officer:
Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development (01443 281114)***

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28 FEBRUARY 2022

PONTYPRIDD TOWN CENTRE – DRAFT PLACEMAKING PLAN

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (COUNCILLOR
ROBERT BEVAN)**

Item:

Background Papers

Contact Officer:

Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development (01443 281114)



CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD CANOL TREF PONTYPRIDD

Chwefror 2022

Paratowyd gan: Liam Hopkins, Francesca Visione a James Alexander Foxhall
 Cyfeiriad: The Urbanists, Y Chwarter Creadigol, 8A Arc d Morgan,
 Caerdydd, CF10 1AF, Y Deyrnas Unedig
 E-bost: James.brown@theurbanists.net
 E-mail: Email:
 Gwefan: www.theurbanists.net

Dyddiad cyhoeddi	01 02 22
Statws lluniad	
Adolygiad	9
Awdur	LH & FV
Gwiriwyd gan	LH & JD

Mae'r holl gynlluniau yn y ddogfen hon yn cael eu hatgynhyrchu o'r Arolwg Ordians gyda chaniatâd rheolwr Llyfrfa Ei Mawrhydi (C) Hawlfraint y Goron. Mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad/achos sifil. Trwydded Rhif 100054593.

Cynhyrchwyd gan:

Ar Ran:



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



0.0	CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL
1.0	CYFLWYNIAD
2.0	PONTYPRIDD YN 2035
3.0	CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD
4.0	YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL
5.0	SYMUDIADAU A CHYSYLLTIADAU
6.0	CASGLIAD



Golygfa dros ganol tref Pontypridd

0.0 CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Tudalen 155

Paratowyd y ddogfen hon ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf, Llywodraeth Cymru, Tasglu'r Cymoedd a Thrafnidiaeth Cymru. Mae'n darparu cynllun creu lleoedd ar gyfer Pontypridd sy'n seiliedig ar uchelgais a rennir ar gyfer y dref a'i r l o fewn y Brifddinas-Ranbarth.

Mae canol trefi ledled y DU wedi wynebu cyfres o heriau sylweddol i'w hyfywedd economaidd dros y degawd diwethaf, sydd wedi dwysu ymhellach yn ddiweddar o ganlyniad i'r pandemig COVID-19. Nid yw canol tref Pontypridd yn wahanol i'r rhelyw, ond rhoddwyd pwysau pellach ar y dref a'i busnesau gan y llyfogydd dinistriol a ddigwyddodd yn ystod gaeaf 2020.

Er gwaethaf yr heriau a wynebir, mae sail i fod yn optimistaidd. Bu canol tref Pontypridd yn hynod wydn drwy gydol y cyfnod anodd hwn ac mae bellach mewn sefyllfa dda i ymateb a symud y tu hwnt i'r heriau.

Cyn bo hir, bydd canol y dref â chysylltedd nas rhagwelwyd gyda'r Brifddinas-Ranbarth ehangach, ac mae eisoes yn ffocws buddsoddiad masnachol newydd trwy ddarpariaeth llwyddiannus datblygiad Llys Cadwyn. Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn ceisio adeiladu ar y sylfeini hyn a darparu fframwaith ar gyfer cyflenwi datblygiad a buddsoddiad newydd pellach a all helpu i wella ffyniant y dref, gwella lleoliad y drefwedd a'r dirwedd a'i gwneud yn fwy gwydn i newid yn y dyfodol.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn ddogfen strategaeth yn seiliedig ar y cyddestun polisi cynllunio ac adfywio lleol presennol ac mae'n datblygu llawer o'r mentrau a nodir yn y dogfennau allweddol.

Noda'r cynllun creu lleoedd gyfres o uchelgeisiau craidd i arwain buddsoddiad yn y dyfodol i'r dref a noda hefyd ysgogwyr dylunio i sicrhau bod datblygiadau newydd yn bodloni'r uchelgeisiau.

Uchelgeisiau craidd:

1. Cyrchfan busnes.
2. Lle gwyh i fyw.
3. Yn gysylltiedig ac yn hygyrch.
4. Tref werdd ar lan y dŵr.
5. Treflun unigryw.
6. Cyrchfan ddiwylliannol a chymdeithasol.
7. Tref gynhwysol a gwydn.

Ysgogwyr Dylunio:

1. Datblygiad.
2. Cysylltedd.
3. Treflun.
4. Seilwaith Gwyrdd.
5. Diwylliannol a chymdeithasol.
6. Tir y cyhoedd.

Mae'r cynllun hefyd yn nodi cyfres o ymyriadau mewn ardaloedd gofodol allweddol o'r dref a fyddai'n cyflawni'r uchelgeisiau ac yn mynd i'r afael â'r ysgogwyr dylunio.

Nodwyd pum ardal ofodol allweddol ar gyfer canol y dref a fydd yn gweithredu fel meysydd ffocws penodol ar gyfer buddsoddi. Nodwyd y meysydd hyn fel:

1. Porth Deheuol.
2. Craidd Canol y Dref.
3. Y Farchnad.
4. Porth y Gogledd.
5. Parc Coffa Ynysangharad.

Paratowyd dadansoddiad creu lleoedd i nodi'r uchelgeisiau craidd, ysgogwyr dylunio, ardaloedd gofodol ac ymyriadau. Gweler crynodeb o'r materion a'r cyfleoedd allweddol a nodwyd o'r dadansoddiad hwn yn y cynllun creu lleoedd.

Bydd y cynllun creu lleoedd yn cael ei ddefnyddio a'i roi ar waith yn y tymor byr, canolig a hir. Bydd ei gyflwyno fesul cam fel hyn yn sicrhau bod y cynllun yn sicrhau newid cadarnhaol ar unwaith, ond hefyd yn sicrhau twf a buddsoddiad yn gyson dros gyfnod cyflenwi realistig.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn dangos faint o gyfleoedd sydd ar gael yn y dref. Er mwyn gwireddu'r cyfle, bydd angen curadu marchnad breswyl, swyddfeydd, hamdden a manwerthu lwyddiannus a ategir gan greu lleoedd cryf a rheolaeth weithredol ar ganol tref. Bydd hefyd angen gwneud y dref yn wydn rhag llyfogydd yn y dyfodol. Mae angen ymdrech gydlynol rhwng y sectorau cyhoeddus a phreifat i wireddu'r nifer o gyfleoedd sydd ar gael yng nghanol y dref.

Mae trafndiaeth yn ystyriaeth allweddol i ganol y dref ac mae cyfres o'r prosiectau a nodir yn y cynllun creu lleoedd naill ai'n ymwneud a gwelliannau trafndiaeth neu'n gofyn am gyflawni addasiadau llawn i'r seilwaith trafndiaeth. Bydd y prosiectau hyn yn cael eu datblygu yn unol Chanllawiau Arfarnu Trafndiaeth Cymru.

1.0 CYFLWYNIAD

Paratowyd y ddogfen hon ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf, Llywodraeth Cymru, Tasglu'r Cymoedd a Thrafnidiaeth Cymru. Mae'n darparu cynllun creu lleoedd ar gyfer Pontypridd sy'n seiliedig ar uchelgais a rennir ar gyfer y dref a'i r l o fewn y Brifddinas-Ranbarth.

Mae gan Bontypridd leoliad strategol rhagorol yng nghanol y Brifddinas-Ranbarth. Fe'i lleolir 12 milltir i'r gogledd o Gaerdydd ac mae'r dref mewn man strategol ar yr A470 a thair o reilffyrdd craidd y cymoedd. Hefyd, mae Pontypridd yn dref sy'n newid. Bydd cysylltedd yn cael ei drawsnewid drwy Fetro De Cymru, a fydd yn arwain at 12 tr n yr awr i'r ddau gyfeiriad rhwng Pontypridd a Chaerdydd, tra bydd canfyddiadau o'r farchnad eiddo masnachol yn cael eu hailwampio erbyn cwblhau datblygiad Llys Cadwyn.

Gyda'r buddsoddiad arfaethedig, mae gan ganol y dref ddyfodol disglair, ac mae uchelgeisiau mawr ar ei gyfer. Mae'r cynllun hwn yn darparu'r fframwaith i gyflawni'r uchelgais.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn darparu gweledigaeth feiddgar ar gyfer canol y dref, ac mae'n nodi ymyriadau y gellir eu gweithredu'n gyson i ddatgloi potensial y dref a sicrhau ei bod yn ganolfan economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol allweddol ar gyfer y Brifddinas-Ranbarth. Bydd angen ymdrech gydgyssylltiedig rhwng partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat i wireddu'r cyfle.

Mae trafndiaeth yn ystyriaeth allweddol i ganol y dref ac mae cyfres o'r prosiectau a nodir yn y cynllun creu lleoedd naill ai'n ymwneud â gwelliannau trafndiaeth neu'n gofyn am gyflawni addasiadau llawn i'r seilwaith trafndiaeth. Bydd y prosiectau hyn yn cael eu datblygu yn unol â Chanllawiau Arfarnu Trafndiaeth Cymru.

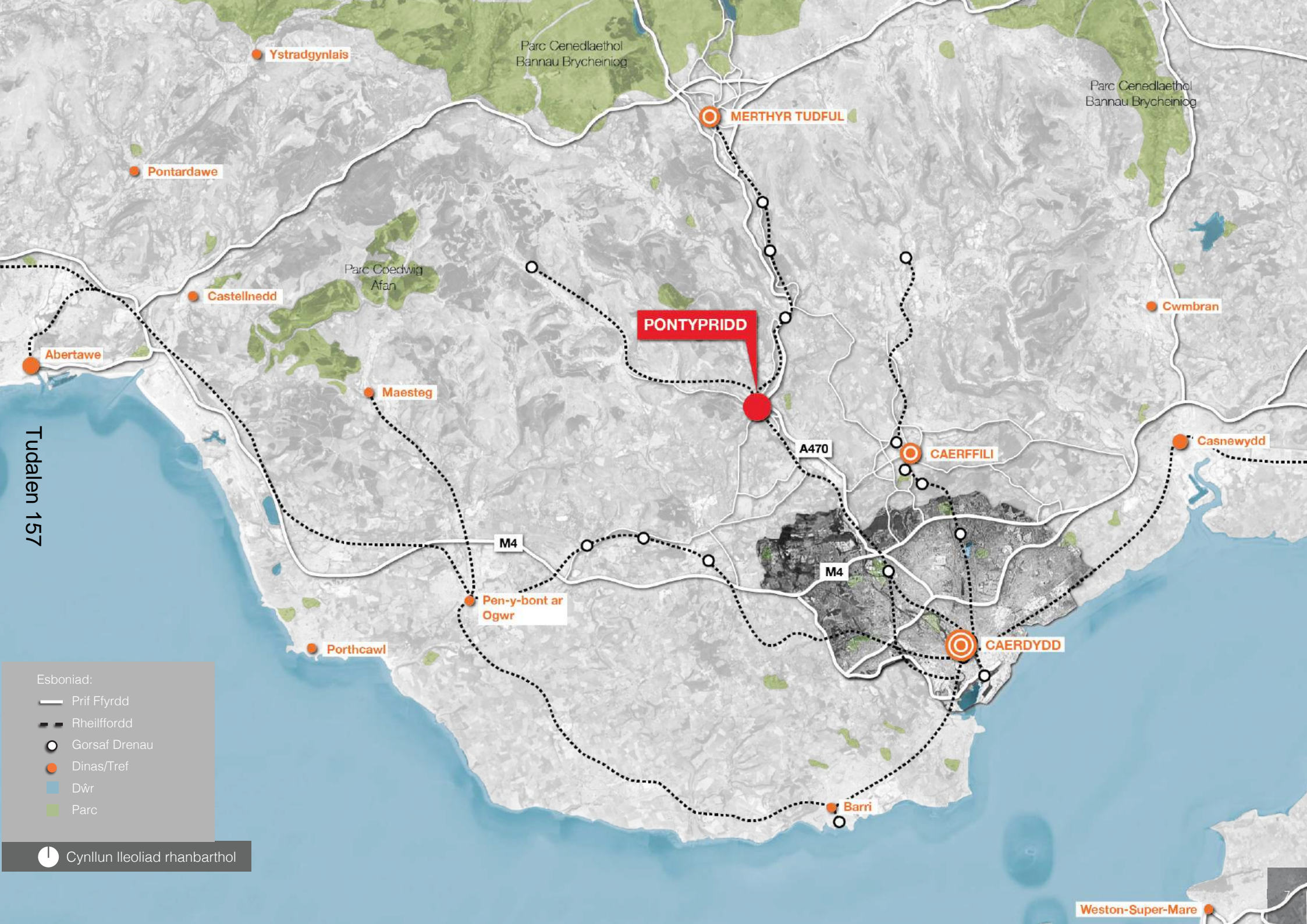
Roedd canol tref Pontypridd yn destun llifogydd sylweddol ym mis Chwefror 2020, ond cyflwynodd dyfodiad y pandemig COVID-19 yn ystod gaeaf 2020 heriau annisgwyl i ganol trefi ledled y DU. Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd hwn wedi cymryd y digwyddiadau hyn i ystyriaeth, a bydd yn helpu i sicrhau bod Pontypridd yn dod yn fwy gwydn i heriau'r dyfodol.

Mae gan Bontypridd dreffun unigryw a lleoliad tirwedd heb ei ail, sy'n cynnwys dwy afon eiconig a pharc hanesyddol. Bydd y nodweddion unigryw hyn yn cael eu defnyddio i sefydlu cyrchfan sy'n lle gwych i **weithio, byw ac ymweld ag ef**.

Paratowyd y cynllun creu lleoedd yn unol ag egwyddor genedlaethol Canol Trefi yn Gyntaf: *Rhaid sicrhau bod dyfodol llewyrchus i ganol ein trefi/dinasoedd yn un o'r ysgogwyr allweddol. Gallwn gynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr a hygyrchedd a gwneud cyfraniadau hanfodol i fywiogrwydd a chynaliadwyedd canol ein trefi drwy leoli cyrrff cyhoeddus, sefydliadau partner a gwasanaethau/cyfleusterau cysylltiedig ynddynt. Hwn yw'r man cychwyn ar gyfer unrhyw fuddsoddiad newydd a dim ond pan fydd tystiolaeth gymhellol bod angen/cyfiawnhad dros hyn y dylid gwneud penderfyniadau i leoli rhywle arall. Dylai penderfyniadau cymesur a gwerth gorau ynghylch lleoliad gynnwys ystyried yr effaith ar ganol trefi, cydlyniant cymdeithasol, hygyrchedd trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, yr amgylchedd a newid hinsawdd*".



Golygfa o'r awyr o ganol tref Pontypridd gyda Llys Cadwyn yn y blaendir



- Esboniad:
- Prif Ffyrdd
 - - - Rheilffordd
 - Gorsaf Drenau
 - Dinas/Tref
 - Dŵr
 - Parc

Cynllun lleoliad rhanbarthol

Ystradgynlais

Parc Cenedlaethol
Bannau Brycheiniog

MERTHYR TUDFUL

Parc Cenedlaethol
Bannau Brycheiniog

Pontardawe

Castellnedd

Parc Coedwig
Afan

PONTYPRIDD

Cwmbran

Abertawe

Maesteg

A470

CAERFFILI

Casnewydd

M4

Pen-y-bont ar
Ogwr

M4

CAERDYDD

Porthcawl

Barri

Weston-Super-Mare

1.1 CYFLWYNIAD: Y MOMENTWM PRESENNOL

Mae'r Cyngor wedi cwblhau ystod o weithgarwch adfywio sylweddol yn y dref yn y gorffennol gan gynnwys:

Cynllun blaenllaw **Llys Cadwyn**, a gefnogwyd drwy raglen Trawsnewid Trefi Llywodraeth Cymru, ac a gwblhawyd yn 2020. Gan ddisodli hen ganolfan siopa Dyffryn Taf o'r 1960au ac adfywio safle diffaith ym mhorth gogleddol y dref, mae'r datblygiad defnydd cymysg hwn yn cynnwys swyddfeydd Gradd A, cyfleusterau bwyty/caffi a chanolfan gymunedol sy'n cynnwys llyfrgell yr 21ain Ganrif, mynediad i wasanaethau'r Cyngor, campfa o'r radd flaenaf a stiwdios hamdden.

Mae'r datblygiad hefyd yn cynnwys promenâd ar lan yr afon sy'n cysylltu â phont droed newydd ac yn cysylltu'r safle dros Afon Taf â Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad.

Roedd Lido Cenedlaethol Cymru, Lido Ponty, yn cynnwys adfer lido adfeilliedig rhestredig Gradd II o'r 1920au a'i droi'n atyniad rhanbarthol i ymwelwyr. Cwblhawyd y gwaith yn 2015 gyda chefnogaeth gan Gronfa Datblygu Rhanbarthol Ewrop trwy Lywodraeth Cymru, Cronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri a Cadw. Mae'r cynllun wedi llwyddo i gadw cydbwysedd rhagorol rhwng adferiad a chadwraeth sensitif ar y naill law, ac ag adeiladau newydd celfydd a chyfoes mewn arddull art deco ar y llaw arall.

Adferwyd nodweddion gwreiddiol fel y ciwbiclau newid pren ac adeiladau mynediad, gan gynnwys gatiâu tro haearn a'r swyddfa docynnau wreiddiol, a'u hategu gan gaffi a chanolfan ymwelwyr newydd. Ailfodelwyd y pwll gwreiddiol i ffurfio tri phwll newydd, a chawsant eu gwella ymhellach trwy ddarparu cyfleuster chwarae antur sych o ansawdd uchel.

Bu'r buddsoddiad adfywio, wedi'i dargedu drwy **Raglen Lleoedd Llewyrchus Llawn Addewid Llywodraeth**

Cymru, un a ddyfarnwyd rhwng 2014 a 2017, o gymorth i'r Cyngor a'i bartneriaid gyflawni cyfres o welliannau ffisegol a chymdeithasol cynaliadwy â ffocws gyda'r nod o wella hyfywedd economaidd. Gwelwyd gwelliant sylweddol yn r l y dref yn yr economi leol a rhanbarthol a lleihawyd y lefelau amddifadedd yn y cymunedau hynny a wasanaethir. Roedd y prosiectau allweddol yn cynnwys

Y Rhaglen Gwella Treflun a gyfrannodd at adfywio 10 eiddo yng nghanol y dref trwy weithio gyda pherchnogion a busnesau i ddarparu adeiladau busnes hyfyw a deniadol o ansawdd uchel. Roedd y cynllun yn canolbwyntio ar welliannau mewnol ac allanol, gan ddod â 1900 metr sgwâr o arwynebedd llawr gwag yn ôl i ddefnydd i ddarparu ar gyfer busnesau a swyddi newydd a phresennol.

Dan y fenter 'O'r Gwag i'r Hyfyw: Cartrefi Uwchben Siopau' gallai Landlordiaid Cymdeithasol Cofrestredig brydlesu ac adnewyddu lleoedd gwag uwchben siopau, i ddarparu 24 o gartrefi fforddiadwy newydd yn y farchnad dai, lleoedd nad oeddent yn cael eu defnyddio gynt.

Yn 2013, cwblhaodd y Cyngor **gynllun gwella tir cyhoeddus mawr** ledled canol y dref a oedd yn cynnwys arwynebau priffyrdd newydd, palmentydd o ansawdd uchel, celfi stryd a goleuadau pensaernïol ym mhob rhan o'r brif dramwyfa siopa. Mae rhagor o brosiectau adfywio ar y gweill, yn cynnwys:

Prosiect uchelgeisiol i ailddatblygu **YMCA Pontypridd** a fydd yn dod â'r lleoliad hanesyddol o 1910 yn l i ddefnydd drwy greu cyfleuster defnydd cymysg o'r radd flaenaf. Bydd ailddyluniad sylweddol o'r adeilad yn ei wneud yn gwbl hygyrch, gan ad-drefnu'r defnydd o fannau mewnol, creu cyfleusterau newydd a gwell gan gynnwys swyddfeydd a manau gwaith ar gyfer mentrau cymdeithasol a busnesau a chyfres o gyfleusterau celfyddydol pwrpasol.

Gyda chymorth cyllid Trawsnewid Trefi drwy Lywodraeth Cymru, prynodd y Cyngor yr hen **Neuadd Bingo a chlwb nos Angharad a hen adeiladau M&S a Dorothy Perkins/Burtons**, pob un ohonynt yn wag ac mewn cyflwr adfeilliedig, ac yn cael effaith negyddol iawn ar y treflun a chymeriad yr Ardal Gadwraeth. Mae ailddatblygu'r safleoedd hyn yn sylfaenol i dwf a llwyddiant y dref yn y dyfodol, a gallai'r modd y gwiredir hyn gynnwys gwahanol ffurfiau a defnyddiau. Bydd pob opsiwn dichonadwy yn cael ei archwilio i sicrhau'r canlyniad gorau i'r dref.

Bydd prosiect ailddatblygu Canolfan Gelf y Miwri yn diogelu treftadaeth yr adeilad, gan ei sefydlu fel lleoliad celfyddydol a diwylliannol rhanbarthol unigryw ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif. Bydd yr adeilad rhestredig Gradd II o arwyddocâd pensaernïol a hanesyddol, sydd wedi bod ar gau ers diwedd 2018, yn cael ei drawsnewid yn lleoliad diwylliannol defnydd cymysg cwbl hygyrch a fydd yn cynnig cerddoriaeth, sinema a theatr gyda chyfleusterau newydd a hyblyg i wneud y defnydd mwyaf posibl o ofod. Bydd hyn yn rhoi lle gwych i amrywiaeth o ddigwyddiadau a gweithgareddau celfyddydol, diwylliannol, a chymunedol.

Gyda chymorth rhaglen Parc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd, gwnaed gwaith ym **Mharc Coffa Ynysangharad**, sy'n adeilad rhestredig Gradd II, i adnewyddu'r holl brif lwybrau troed a llwybrau ar draws y parc yn llawn, ynghyd â gosod goleuadau stryd LED wedi'u huwchraddio trwy gyfrwng colofnau goleuo newydd, gan ddarparu amgylchedd diogel a chyfforddus i holl ddefnyddwyr y parc.

Mae gwelliannau pellach ar y gweill gyda chefnogaeth Cronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri Genedlaethol a Llywodraeth Cymru i wella ac adnewyddu nodweddion treftadaeth y parc hanesyddol. Mae gwelliannau'n cynnwys adnewyddu ardaloedd allweddol gan gynnwys y bandstand, yr ardd isel a'r ardal greigiog, arwyddion a dehongliadau newydd, a darparu canolfan hyfforddi a gweithgareddau newydd.



Adfer Lido Ponty, Lido Cenedlaethol Cymru



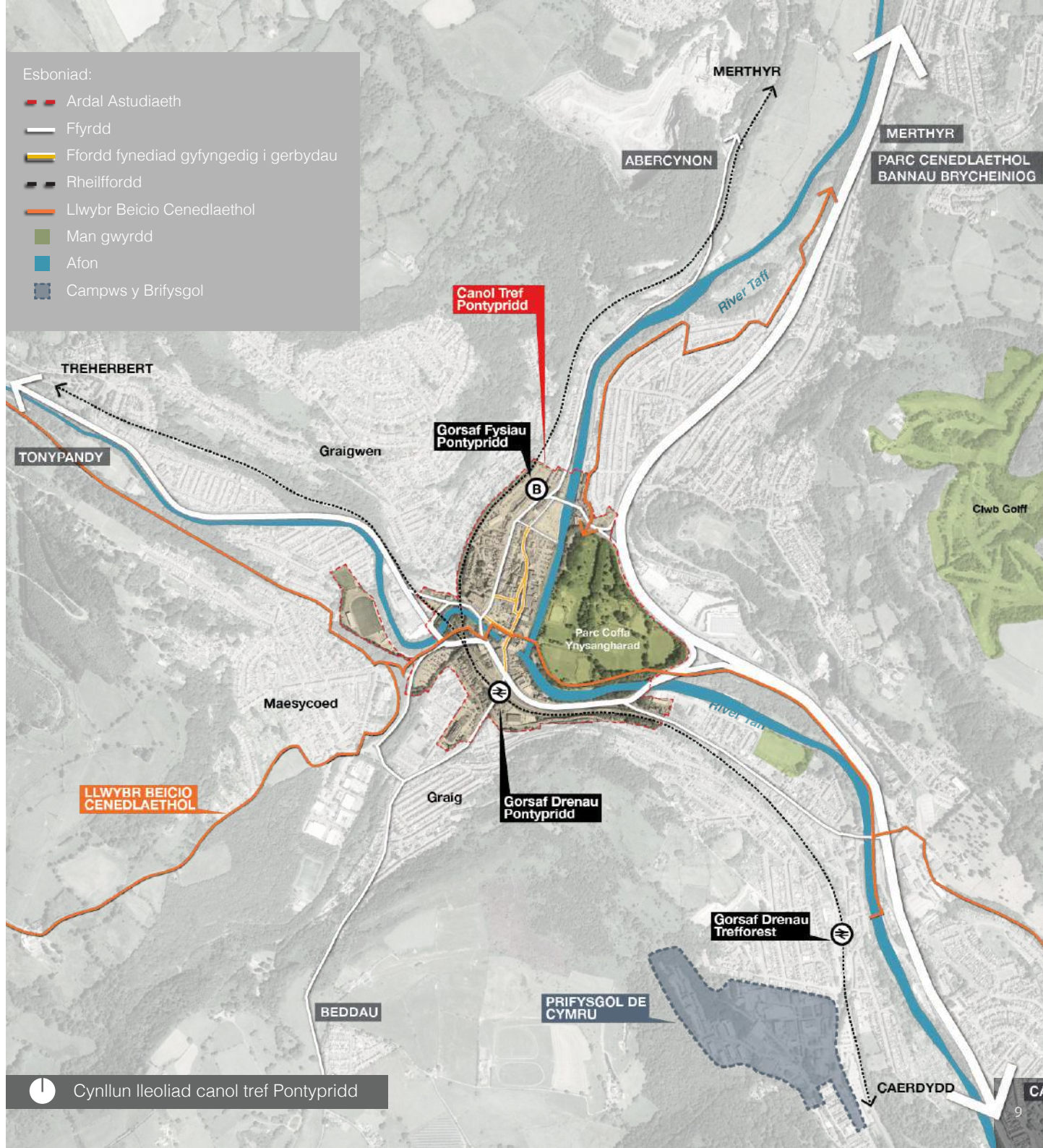
Canolfan Gelf y Miwni, lleoliad diwylliannol a digwyddiadau



Bandstand wedi'i adfer ym Mharc Coffa Ynysangharad

Esboniad:

- Ardal Astudiaeth
- Ffyrdd
- Ffordd fynediad gyfyngedig i gerbydau
- Rheilffordd
- Llwybr Beicio Cenedlaethol
- Man gwyrdd
- Afon
- Campws y Brifysgol



Cynllun lleoliad canol tref Pontypridd

1.2 CYFLWYNIAD: BETH YW CREU LLEOEDD?

BETH YW CREU LLEOEDD?

Mae Creu Lleoedd yn ddull hollgynhwysol o wella sut mae lle yn edrych, yn gweithredu ac yn cael ei brofi. Mae creu lleoedd yn gofyn am edrych ar le yn ei gyfanrwydd, yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar rannau digyswllt. Yn y modd hwn, mae creu lleoedd yn agor sut mae lle yn cael ei weld ac yn atal lle rhag cael ei ystyried trwy un lens.

Yng Nghymru, mae creu lleoedd yn hollbwysig wrth gynllunio ar gyfer datblygiad a lleoedd, gyda Pholisi Cynllunio Cymru yn ei nodi fel y broses ar gyfer creu lleoedd cynaliadwy a chynyddu llesiant.

Mae "creu lleoedd" yn ddull cyfannol o gynllunio a dylunio datblygiad lleoedd, sy'n canolbwyntio ar ganlyniadau cadarnhaol. Mae'n tynnu ar botensial ardal i greu datblygiad o ansawdd uchel a manau cyhoeddus sy'n hybu ffyniant, iechyd, hapusrwydd a llesiant pobl yn yr ystyr ehangaf".

Polisi Cynllunio Cymru, Argraffiad 11

Mae gan Gymru hefyd Siarter Creu Lleoedd sy'n nodi chwe egwyddor i'w hyrwyddo drwy greu lleoedd. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys: pobl a chymuned; lleoliad; symudiad; cymysgedd o ddefnyddiau; parth cyhoeddus; a hunaniaeth.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn cofleidio dull Polisi Cynllunio Cymru a'r Siarter Creu Lleoedd.

BETH YW'R CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD?

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn arf a fydd yn cael ei ddefnyddio i arwain y broses o wneud penderfyniadau. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys: datblygu, gwella adeiladau, seilwaith a rheoli lleoedd.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn nodi ffordd o sicrhau buddsoddiad newydd i ganol tref Pontypridd sy'n ymateb i gymeriad unigryw'r dref a'r problemau a'r cyfleoedd sy'n bodoli. Mae'r cynllun yn cymryd golwg ar y cyfan o'r manau allweddol sy'n rhan o ganol y dref ac yn cynnig cyfres o brosiectau pwrpasol a fyddai'n cryfhau'r ymdeimlad o le ym mhob un ac yn eu cyfuno i adfywio'r dref gyfan.

Paratowyd y cynllun creu lleoedd gan The Urbanists, Mott MacDonald ac Alder King. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Siroi Rhondda Cynon Taf a Llywodraeth Cymru a Thrafnidiaeth Cymru fel cleient hefyd wedi llunio'r cynllun drwy arbenigedd a gwybodaeth gyfunol ei swyddogion.

Felly paratowyd y cynllun creu lleoedd ar y cyd ac mae'r cynigion yn adlewyrchu dull amlddimensiwn o gynllunio, dylunio a rheoli datblygiad a lleoedd.

Bydd cynllun cyflenwi yn cael ei baratoi i helpu i siapio ymhellach y syniadau a'r cyfleoedd a gyflwynir yn y cynllun creu lleoedd, a denu'r buddsoddiad sydd ei angen i'w ddarparu.

Yn ogystal ag ymateb i bolisi cenedlaethol, mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd yn adeiladu ar y cyd-destun polisi datblygu ac adfywio lleol. Mae trosolwg o leoliad y cynllun creu lleoedd o fewn y fframwaith polisi lleol i'w weld gyferbyn.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd wedi'i strwythuro fel a ganlyn:





Mae cynllun gorffenedig Llys Cadwyn wedi trawsnewid y fynedfa ogleddol i ganol y dref, gan greu ymdeimlad newydd unigryw o le a darparu sylfaen ar gyfer lleoliad newydd ger glan yr afon.

1.3 CYFLWYNIAD: CANOL TREF PONTYPRIDD HEDDIW

Er mwyn helpu i nodi'r uchelgeisiau a'r prosiectau ar gyfer canol y dref, cynhaliwyd adolygiad sylfaenol i nodi'r problemau a'r cyfleoedd y mae canol tref Pontypridd yn eu hwynebu ar hyn o bryd. Cynhwysir y dadansoddiad a wnaed fel atodiad i'r cynllun creu lleoedd drwy themâu datblygu a buddsoddi, symud, yr amgylchedd adeiledig a'r amgylchedd naturiol. Crynhoir isod y materion allweddol a nodwyd.

Symudiadau

- Mae'r orsaf fysiau a'r orsaf reilffordd wedi'u lleoli ym mhen draw'r dref. Mae angen gwell integreiddio rhwng dulliau teithio a gwell arwyddion rhwng y ddwy orsaf.
- Ar hyn o bryd, mae symudiad traffig yn dominyddu mynedfeydd allweddol i ganol y dref a llwybrau allweddol yn y canol.
- Mae'r cysylltiadau o'r dref i barc Coffa Ynysangharad wedi'u gwella gyda'r bont newydd o Lys Cadwyn ac adfer mynediad yr hen bont. Gellid gwella'r cysylltiadau i gerddwyr o'r gorllewin-ddwyrain drwy'r dref i adeiladu ar y gwelliannau hyn.
- Mae cyfleusterau teithio llesol cyfyngedig yn y dref ac mae cysylltiadau teithio llesol â'r dirwedd o amgylch yn wael.
- Nid yw'r meysydd parcio ceir wedi'u lleoli'n strategol i wasanaethu canol y dref.

Amgylchedd Adeiledig

- Prin yw'r ymdeimlad o gyrraedd ac amgyffred wrth y porth deheuol i ganol y dref - y mae angen mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn mewn unrhyw ailddatblygu yn y dyfodol.
- Mae adeiladau o ansawdd gwael ym mynedfeydd y dref ac mewn lleoliadau allweddol o fewn y dref sy'n gwanhau'r ymdeimlad o gyrraedd ac amgyffred, ac y mae angen mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn mewn unrhyw ailddatblygu yn y dyfodol.
- Mae gan ganol y dref hierarchaeth o strydoedd a gofod y gellid eu hadfywio i ddarparu amgylchedd gwell i gerddwyr a beicwyr.

- Mae gan ganol y dref nifer o adeiladau treftadaeth, a allai ddod yn nodweddion nodedig o fewn y treflun pe baent yn cael eu hadnewyddu.
- Gellid sicrhau mynediad gweledol a ffisegol gwell i lan yr afon trwy gyflwyno datblygiad newydd.
- Mae amgylchedd ymyl yr afon yn wael oherwydd bod ffyrdd, iardiau gwasanaeth a meysydd parcio mewn manau strategol, ond gellid gwella hyn yn raddol trwy ailddatblygu adeiladau allweddol ar Stryd Taf a chael datblygiadau newydd mewn lleoliadau allweddol ar yr afonydd.

Amgylchedd Naturiol

- Mae'r llifogydd niweidiol diweddar a achoswyd gan Storm Dennis yn cadarnhau bod y perygl llifogydd o afonydd y Taf a'r Rhondda ar draws rhannau helaeth o Bontypridd, yn sylweddol ac arwyddocaol. Mae hyn yn golygu bod angen datblygu strategaeth lliniaru llifogydd gynhwysfawr yn brydlon, er mwyn atal difrod yn y dyfodol.
- Mae angen manteisio ar leoliad gwyrdd Parc Coffa Ynysangharad ac afonydd y Taf a'r Rhondda.
- Mae angen plannu mwy o goed a sefydlu seilwaith gwyrdd yng nghanol y dref a gellid eu defnyddio i ddarparu systemau draenio cynaliadwy sy'n lliniaru'r perygl o lifogydd a gwella gwytnwch hinsawdd.
- Gellid rheoli'r seilwaith gwyrdd ym Mharc Coffa Ynysangharad yn well er mwyn gwella ei leoliad ar lan yr afon.

Datblygu a Buddsoddi

- Mae'r porth deheuol i ganol y dref yn wael ar hyn o bryd, ond gellid ei ailddatblygu i greu cyfleoedd masnachol newydd a mynedfa nodedig a chroesawgar i ganol y dref o'r orsaf reilffordd.
- Mae cyfle i sefydlu porth gogleddol sy'n integreiddio â datblygiad Llys Cadwyn, ac sy'n darparu ar gyfer integreiddio dulliau trafndiaeth.
- Mae Marchnad Dan Do Pontypridd yn gyfle allweddol. Cyflawnwyd buddsoddiad allweddol yn y 18 mis diwethaf, un y gellir adeiladu arno i greu cyrchfan hamdden a manwerthu amrywiol.
- Mae adeiladau treftadaeth allweddol o fewn y dref y gellid eu hailddefnyddio i ddod yn gyrchfannau diwylliannol a chymdeithasol.
- Mae cyfle i wneud defnydd newydd o eiddo ar draws y canol a throi lloiau uwch adeiladau yn ofod masnachol a defnydd cymysg.
- Gellid cyflawni datblygiad sylweddol trwy ailddatblygu meysydd parcio mewn lleoliadau allweddol.
- Mae gan y dref leoliad ar lan y dŵr nad yw'n cael ei ddefnyddio'n ddigonol, ond mae'n addas i ddarparu cyfleoedd hamdden newydd a all arallgyfeirio economi'r nos.
- Byddai canol y dref yn elwa o frand digidol a strategaeth tref glyfar.

1.4 CYFLWYNIAD: TRAFNIDIAETH A MYNEDIAD STRATEGOL

Mae lleoliad strategol Pontypridd yn y Brifddinas-Ranbarth yn fantais allweddol a bydd y buddsoddiad arfaethedig yn gwella ei gysylltedd. Nodir isod grynodedb o'r cyfleoedd trafniadaeth a mynediad strategol ar gyfer Pontypridd.

Mae Pontypridd yn rhan o Brifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd, sydd ar hyn o bryd yn elwa ar welliannau sylweddol i wasanaethau rheilffyrdd o ganlyniad i gynnig Metro De Cymru a'r Fargen Ddinesig. O ganlyniad i'r buddsoddiad a raglennwyd, bydd cysylltiad trenau cryf â Phontypridd (12 i bob cyfeiriad bob awr) a bydd yn elwa o gerbydau gwell ac amseroedd teithio byrrach i Gaerdydd a'r rhanbarth ehangach.

Bydd gwell cysylltedd rheilffordd â Phontypridd yn gatalydd i ganol y dref dderbyn effeithiau economaidd, cymdeithasol, diwylliannol ac amgylcheddol cadarnhaol drwy wneud ardaloedd o dir yn fwy hygyrch i fuddsoddwyr allanol. Felly mae cynyddu integreiddiad canol y dref a'r orsaf reilffordd yn hanfodol i'r cynllun creu lleoedd.

Mae Pontypridd hefyd yn elwa o fynediad uniongyrchol i gysylltiadau priffyrdd strategol i'r rhanbarth ehangach ar hyd yr A470, A4058, A4223 a'r A473. Fodd bynnag, mae presenoldeb rhai o'r ffyrdd hyn o fewn a gerllaw canol y dref yn cyflwyno heriau i ymarferoldeb canol y dref.

Mae angen ystyried yr A4058 yn benodol, gan mai'r ffordd hon yw'r cysylltiad strategol i gymoedd y Rhondda ac mae'n mynd drwy'r porth deheuol i ganol y dref. Yn y lleoliad hwn, mae'r ffordd yn gwasanaethu cysylltiadau priffyrdd lleol ac felly mae'n cynnwys ardal sylweddol o seilwaith priffyrdd. Hefyd, mae arni draffig trwm yn ystod oriau brig. Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r ffactorau hyn yn datgysylltu'r orsaf reilffordd o ganol y dref, yn creu ymdeimlad gwael o gyrraedd y dref ac amgylchedd gwael i gerddwyr.

Mae amgylchedd gwael i gerddwyr ac ymdeimlad o gyrraedd hefyd yn bresennol ar yr A4223 (Ffordd Gelliwastad, Stryd Morgan a Stryd y Bont), yng ngorllewin a gogledd y dref.

Felly, mae mynd i'r afael â'r effaith y mae'r ffyrdd strategol hyn yn ei chael ar y dref yn un o ofynion allweddol y cynllun creu lleoedd a nodwyd nifer o ymyriadau i ymdrin â hyn. Bydd angen modelu trafniadaeth ac asesiad pellach o rwydwaith priffyrdd y dref i lywio'r cynigion manwl sydd i'w datblygu.

O ystyried pwysigrwydd rhwydweithiau trafniadaeth a symud i wireddu potensial canol tref Pontypridd, mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd wedi nodi problemau a chyfleoedd allweddol sy'n ymwneud â thrafnidiaeth drwy adolygu dogfennau polisi lleol a chenedlaethol ac ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid.

Ymhllith y materion a nodwyd, mae llwybrau beicio datgysylltiedig, ffyrdd sy'n achosi hollt yng nghanol y dref a chyfleoedd i wella glan yr afon a'r cynnig hamdden ym Mharc Coffa Ynysangharad.

Cynhyrchodd y broses ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid set o amcanion trafniadaeth y cytunwyd arnynt ar gyfer y dref. Y rhain yw:

- Amcan 1 – Sefydlu 'ymdeimlad o gyrraedd' cadarnhaol yng Ngorsaf Reilffordd Pontypridd sy'n cysylltu'r orsaf â chanol y dref;
- Amcan 2 – Gwella'r cysylltiadau rhwng canol tref Pontypridd a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad i atgyfnerthu rôl y Parc fel 'calon werdd' i'r dref;
- Amcan 3 – Cefnogi datblygiad yr economi gyda'r nos a datblygiad preswyl canol tref i wneud Pontypridd yn lle bywiog i fyw; ac
- Amcan 4 – Darparu gofod masnachol i gefnogi ystod amrywiol o ddefnyddiau er mwyn creu economi canol tref sy'n gallu gwrthsefyll newidiadau yn y dyfodol.

Yna, aseswyd rhestr hir o opsiynau posibl yn erbyn pob un o'r amcanion i nodi prosiectau trafniadaeth annibynnol a rhai wedi'u pecynnu, yn cynnwys cynlluniau effaith isel a chanolig y gellir eu gweithredu'n dameidiog neu fesul cam dros amser. Nodir pob prosiect fel rhan o'r cynllun creu lleoedd (cyfeiriwch at adran 3).

Mae'r ymyriadau a nodwyd yn ymdrin â'r themâu allweddol canlynol: cysylltedd i gerddwyr rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd a'r dref; gwelliannau i gyfleusterau'r orsaf a'r cwrw blaen; gwelliannau i gyfnewidfeydd rheilffordd a bysiau; cyfeirbwyntiau ac arwyddion; estyniad gwasanaethau bws a thrên; adnewyddu manau cyhoeddus allweddol a chysylltiadau cerddwyr; adnewyddu a hyrwyddo asedau diwylliannol/ treftadaeth seilwaith Teithio Llesol ar hyd yr afon; gwella croesfannau'r afon; cefnogi datblygiad preswyl a masnachol.

2.0 PONTYPRIDD YN 2035: UCHELGEISIAU CRAIDD

Er mwyn cytuno ar y gofynion a'r canlyniadau craidd y mae'n rhaid i'r cynllun creu lleoedd fynd i'r afael â nhw a'u cyflawni, nodwyd cyfres o uchelgeisiau craidd ac ysgogwyr dylunio ar gyfer canol y dref. Nodwyd y rhain i ymateb i'r materion a'r cyfleoedd allweddol a nodwyd yn ystod y dadansoddiad, a chytunwyd arnynt yn ailadroddol trwy ddau weithdy gyda swyddogion a phersonél allweddol o Lywodraeth Cymru, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf a Thrafnidiaeth Cymru.

Yn ystod y gweithdai, cytunwyd hefyd ar amcanion trafndiaeth y dref. Mae gwell seilwaith trafndiaeth yn allweddol i gyflawni mentrau datblygu a chreu lleoedd newydd ym Mhontypridd. Felly, nodwyd yr amcanion trafndiaeth ochr yn ochr â'r uchelgeisiau craidd a'r ysgogwyr dylunio allweddol i sicrhau bod y cynllun creu lleoedd yn cael ei ategu gan ddull trafndiaeth cadarn a fydd yn helpu i gyflawni'r prosiectau allweddol.

Cyflwynir yr uchelgeisiau craidd a'r ysgogwyr dylunio isod.

1. CYRCHFAN BUSNES

.... gydag ardaloedd datblygu sefydledig yn darparu pyrth trawiadol i'r dref a chyfres o fannau gwaith hyblyg sy'n cyfuno i wneud Pontypridd yn lle deniadol i fuddsoddi a gweithio ynddo.

4. TREF WERDD AR LAN Y DŴR

.... gyda golygfa unigryw dros yr Afon Taf a Pharc Coffa hanesyddol Ynysangharad sy'n darparu lleoliad hamdden ac adloniant heb ei ail a thirwedd nodedig.

7. TREF GYNHWYSOL A GWYDN

.... gyda rhwydwaith o strydoedd a manau unigryw sy'n ddiogel a hygyrch, yn wydn ac yn addasadwy i heriau'r dyfodol, sy'n gwneud y gorau o'r golygfeydd o'r treflun unigryw a lleoliad glan yr afon ac yn darparu lle ar gyfer gweithgareddau awyr agored.

2. LLE GWYCH I FYW

.... gyda dewis o gartrefi newydd o ansawdd uchel, swyddi hygyrch a chynnig hamdden pwrpasol wedi'i ddarparu mewn lleoliad unigryw ar lan yr afon.

5. TREFLUN UNIGRYW

.... gydag adeiladau treftadaeth eiconig sy'n cael eu dathlu ac sydd wedi'u hailddefnyddio i gynnwys cymysgedd o ddefnyddiau modern bywiog.

3. CYSYLLTIEDIG A HYGGRCH

.... gyda chysylltiadau gwydh i gerddwyr rhwng canol y dref a'r gorsafoedd trenau a bysiau a seilwaith beicio o ansawdd uchel sy'n sefydlu'r dref fel canolfan i archwilio tirwedd ehangach y cymoedd.

6. CYRCHFAN DDIWYLLIANNOL A CHYMDEITHASOL

.... gyda rhaglen flynyddol o ddigwyddiadau ar gyfer Pontypridd sy'n denu ymwelwyr ac yn sefydlu'r ganolfan fel Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a chymdeithasol unigryw.



Mae Pont William Edwards yn ased treftadaeth allweddol ac yn nodwedd nodedig ym mynedfa ogleddol canol y dref.

2.1 PONTYPRIDD YN 2035: YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO



DATBLYGIADAU

- Datgloi safleoedd datblygu newydd a fydd yn adeiladu ar gynllun Llys Cadwyn a darparu mwy o leoedd gwaith, cartrefi a chyfleoedd hamdden.
- Canolbwyntio datblygiadau newydd o amgylch dulliau trafniadaeth allweddol i greu pyrth newydd i Bontypridd.
- Ailddatblygu lloeriau uchaf yr unedau presennol i ddarparu cartrefi a mannau gwaith newydd.



CYSYLLTEDD

- Gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd a'r dref.
- Sefydlu gwell integreiddiad rhwng dulliau trafniadaeth yn yr orsaf reilffordd.
- Darparu arhosfan trên newydd ger yr orsaf fysiau a fydd yn creu cyfnewidfa newydd.
- Gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr gorllewin/dwyrain drwy'r dref.
- Cadw mannau parcio addas tra'n hwyluso datblygiadau newydd.
- Gwella cysylltedd beicio ar draws canol y dref a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad.



SEILWAITH GWYRDD

- Sefydlu lleoliad unigryw ger yr afon ar gyfer y dref.
- Defnyddio plannu i integreiddio Parc Coffa Ynysangharad â chanol y dref.
- Ymgorffori mwy o dirlunio meddal i seilwaith ffyrdd a mannau cyhoeddus i leddfu'r dirwedd.
- Cyflwyno mannau gwyrdd a phlanhigion newydd a all helpu i leihau
- dŵr ffo a helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y dyfodol.

2.1 PONTYPRIDD YN 2035: YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO

Tudalen 167



TREFLUN

- Sefydlu pyrth newydd i'r dref.
- Creu ffryntiadau newydd ar yr afon.
- Adfer pensaerniaeth hanesyddol y dref, gan gynnwys yr adeilad marchnad rhestredig gradd II.
- Cynyddu uchder adeiladau o amgylch lleoliadau nodol allweddol i greu tirnodau eiconig newydd.



DIWYLLIANNOL A CHYMDEITHASOL

- Sefydlu Parc Coffa Ynysangharad fel lleoliad a chyrchfan gymdeithasol a diwylliannol.
- Creu arlwy hamdden amrywiol sydd â phresenoldeb ar lan yr afon.
- Amrywio'r arlwy manwerthu a hamdden a ddarperir ym Marchnad Pontypridd.
- Sefydlu rhaglen flynyddol o ddigwyddiadau i'w cynnal ledled y dref.



TIR Y CYHOEDD

- Creu sgwariau newydd ar lan yr afon a phyrth i mewn i'r dref.
- Gwella cysylltiadau â Parc Coffa Ynysangharad.
- Gwella rhyngweithiad ag Afon Taf ac Afon Rhondda.

3.0 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD

Arweiniodd yr uchelgeisiau, yr ysgogwyr dylunio a'r amcanion trafndiaeth at nodi cyfres o brosiectau ar gyfer canol y dref. Byddai pob un o'r rhain yn gweithio tuag at gyflawni'r uchelgeisiau craidd a mynd i'r afael â'r ysgogwyr dylunio; gyda'i gilydd, byddant yn trawsnewid canol tref Pontypridd.

Byddai cyflenwi'r prosiectau yn:

- Sefydlu pyrth newydd i'r dref.
- Datgloi cyfleoedd datblygu masnachol ar raddfa fawr.
- Sicrhau gwell integreiddio rhwng dulliau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus.
- Adfer adeiladau traddodiadol gyda defnyddiau tir gweithredol newydd.
- Adfywio Marchnad Pontypridd.
- Adfywio treflun traddodiadol y dref.
- Creu lleoliad ger yr afon a pharcdir newydd.
- Gwneud canol y dref yn fwy gwydn i lifogydd a allai ddigwydd yn y dyfodol.
- Creu gofod ar gyfer digwyddiadau cymdeithasol a diwylliannol.
- Datblygu presenoldeb a brand digidol cryfach.

Mae'r prosiectau wedi'u grwpio'n ddau faes gwahanol:

1. Prosiectau sy'n gysylltiedig ag ardaloedd allweddol o ganol y dref.
2. Prosiectau ategol sy'n ddigidol, heb fod yn ffisegol, ac sydd wedi'u lleoli ychydig y tu allan i ganol y dref, ond a fyddai'n helpu i adfywio'r canol.

Rhoddir mwy o fanylion am bob un o'r meysydd prosiect hyn dros y tudalennau canlynol.

3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

Gellir grwpio'r rhan fwyaf o brosiectau'r cynllun creu lleoedd i'r meysydd gweithredu allweddol yng nghanol y dref. Amlinellir y rhain isod.

Tudalen 169

Porth Deheuol

Porth newydd i'r dref sydd ag amrywiaeth o ddefnyddiau masnachol yn yr orsaf reilffordd, gwell integreiddio o ran dulliau trafndiaeth, ailddatblygu'r blociau datblygu allweddol yn sylweddol, cysylltiad uniongyrchol i gerddwyr ar draws yr A4058 a gwell parth cyhoeddus sy'n agor y fynedfa i'r dref, ac yn sefydlu sgwâr ar lan yr afon.

Craidd Canol y Dref

Craidd atgyfnerthedig o adeiladau wedi'u hadnewyddu sy'n darparu detholiad o gartrefi a gweithleoedd newydd unigryw gyda lleoliad glan yr afon, datblygiad newydd ar lan yr afon a fydd yn darparu mannau gwaith, cartrefi a defnyddiau hamdden, llwybr cerdded ar lan yr afon a chysylltiadau a mannau gwell i gerddwyr.

Y Farchnad

Ardal Farchnad bwrpasol o fewn Craidd Canol y Dref sy'n darparu adeilad marchnad wedi'i adnewyddu a chynnig cyfleoedd manwerthu a hamdden unigryw mewn lleoliad hanesyddol, sef calon canol y dref.

Porth y Gogledd

Porth gogleddol newydd i'r dref sy'n cynnwys gorsaf fysiau wedi'i hailddatblygu, arhosfan trenau newydd, maes parcio canol y dref, datblygu mwy o leoedd gwaith, parc celf a diwylliant a gwell llwybrau i gerddwyr.

Parc Coffa Ynysangharad

Parc treftadaeth sydd â lleoliad naturiol ar lan yr afon, arlwy chwaraeon a hamdden amrywiol, sy'n ganolbwynt ar gyfer digwyddiadau diwylliannol a chymdeithasol ac yn ganolfan i grwydro Parc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd ohoni.

Ardaloedd gweithredu y dref



3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

PORTH DEHEUOL

- Defnyddio'r gofodau sy'n rhy ddistaw yng Ngorsaf Drenau Pontypridd i gefnogi gofod swyddfa a manwerthu.
- Ailwampio cwrt blaen yr orsaf reilffordd i wella'r ymdeimlad o gyrraedd yr orsaf a darparu mannau cyhoeddus (gyda thirwedd galed newydd, planhigion, celfi stryd a goleuadau) sy'n darparu gofod ar gyfer unedau manwerthu a gofod gwaith.
- Darparu cilfachau bysiau, mannau parcio i'r anabl a man aros am dacsis y tu allan i'r orsaf fel rhan o'r gwaith o ad-drefnu cwrt blaen yr orsaf.
- Gwella'r llwybr croesi i gerddwyr dros yr A4058 i ddarparu cysylltiad uniongyrchol i gerddwyr a beicwyr rhwng y Stryd Fawr a'r orsaf reilffordd. Unrhyw groesfan yn y dyfodol i gael ei dylunio fel rhan o flaengwrt gorsaf newydd.
- Ailddatblygu'r blociau trefol allweddol gyferbyn â'r orsaf reilffordd i ddarparu porth deheuol nodedig i'r dref a gwella'r cyswllt rhwng canol y dref ac afonydd Rhondda a Thaf a Pharc Coffa Rhyfel Ynysangharad. Creu gofod llawr newydd i ddarparu defnydd swyddfa, phreswyl, manwerthu, hamdden a gwesty sy'n ysgogi economi'r nos.
- Ailddatblygu Tŷ Sardis i ddarparu gofod swyddfa a/neu westy newydd gyda mynediad uniongyrchol i blatfform yr orsaf reilffordd.
- Ailddatblygu maes parcio Heol Sardis i ddarparu gofod swyddfa newydd gyda mynediad uniongyrchol i'r orsaf reilffordd. Cadw elfen o gapasiti parcio ceir presennol. Cysylltiad presennol â'r orsaf i'w adnewyddu i ddarparu mynediad addas i gerddwyr.

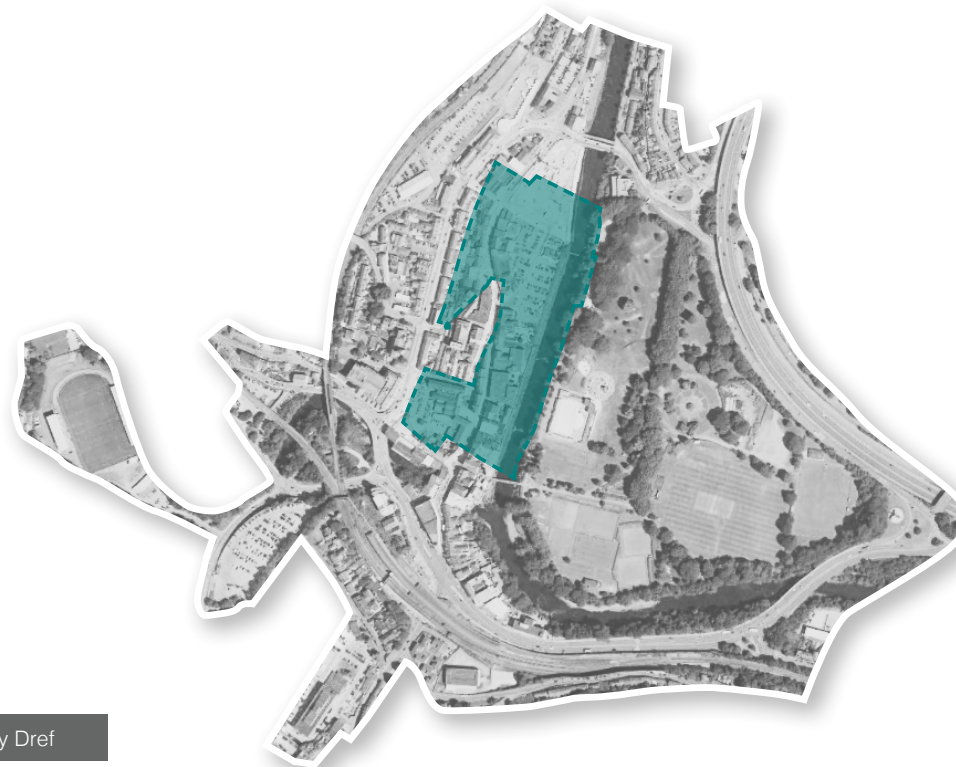


Porth deheuol

3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

CRAIDD CANOL Y DREF

- Gwella'r rhyngweithio rhwng canol y dref, Afon Taf a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad trwy ddarparu ymylon bywiol i ddrychiadau cefn eiddo ar Stryd Taf. Gallai defnyddiau newydd gynnwys siopau ar lefel y ddaear gyda gofod preswyl a/neu gofod swyddfa ar raddfa fach ar loriau uwch. Adnewyddu ffasadau cefn lle na fwriedir unrhyw ailddatblygu.
- Ailgyflwyno llwybrau a manau ar lan y dŵr ar hyd cefn Stryd Taf i gysylltu datblygiad Llys Cadwyn a maes parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy gyda'r defnyddiau masnachol y gellid eu darparu ar y Stryd Fawr.
- Ailddatblygu lloriau uwch eiddo ar Stryd Taf i ddarparu fflatiau newydd a manau gwaith ar raddfa fach. Bydd manau o'r fath yn amrywio'r defnydd tir yng nghanol y dref ac yn cynyddu gweithgaredd yn y dref y tu hwnt i oriau manwerthu traddodiadol.
- Gwella'r treflun trwy ailddatblygu adeiladau o ansawdd gwael, ac adfer adeiladau treftadaeth fel bod eu harddull pensaernïol yn cael ei ddathlu ac yn amlwg yn nhreflun y ganolfan.
- Mynd i'r afael ag anghysondebau mewn uchder lloriau drwy ganol y dref drwy ailddatblygu adeiladau o ansawdd isel ar raddfa fach
- Integreiddio manau digwyddiadau hyblyg yn strydoedd canol y dref.
- Cynyddu maint y seilwaith gwyrdd ar hyd Stryd Taf, Stryd Crossbrook, Heol Gelliwastad a Ffordd Penuel. Gallai hyn gynnwys coed, planhigion, waliau glas a manau agored.
- Gwella ymddangosiad esthetig y lonydd cefn sy'n cysylltu canol y dref ag Afon Taf a mynediad pontydd i Barc Coffa Ynysangharad.
- Gwella ansawdd a chysylltedd llwybr beicio cenedlaethol 4 ac 8 trwy ganol y dref a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad.
- Lleihau maint y seilwaith ffyrdd ar Heol Gelliwastad (tra'n cadw ei rôl fel llwybr gwasanaeth allweddol) i leihau goruchafiaeth symudiadau cerbydau ac ailgysylltu craidd canol y dref â'r dreftadaeth bensaernïol a'r gwasanaethau cymunedol sydd yno (Canolfan Gelf y Miwni ac Eglwys St Catherine).
- Ailgyllunio Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy i greu man mwy deniadol sy'n gyfeillgar i gerddwyr ac wedi'i integreiddio'n well â'r llwybr cerdded arfaethedig ar lan yr afon a datblygiad Llys Cadwyn gerllaw. Cadw'r swyddogaeth barcio ceir bresennol ynghyd â threfniadau iwasanaethu'r eiddo ar Stryd Taf.



3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

Y FARCHNAD

- Adfer ac ailddatblygu'n sensitif Marchnad Dan Do Pontypridd, sy'n adeilad rhestredig gradd II, i greu Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a hamdden nodedig sy'n ffurfio calon canol y dref. Byddai'r cynnig yn cynnwys adnewyddu a gwella'r adeilad mewn modd sensitif ac adfywio'r cynnig manwerthu presennol i ddarparu cynnyrch lleol o ansawdd rhagorol a defnyddiau hamdden mwy amrywiol mewn lleoliad unigryw.
- Ailddatblygu lloriau uwch eiddo ar Stryd y Farchnad/ Stryd yr Eglwys i ddarparu fflatiau newydd a mannau gwaith ar raddfa fach. Bydd mannau o'r fath yn amrywio'r defnydd tir yn Ardal y Farchnad ac yn cynyddu gweithgaredd yn Ardal y Farchnad y tu hwnt i oriau manwerthu traddodiadol.
- Gwella'r treflun trwy ailddatblygu adeiladau o ansawdd gwael ac adfer adeiladau treftadaeth fel bod eu harddull pensaernïol yn cael ei ddathlu ac yn amlwg yn nhreflun Ardal y Farchnad.
- Mynd i'r afael ag anghysondebau mewn uchder lloriau drwy'r cyfan o Ardal y Farchnad drwy ailddatblygu'r adeiladau bach sydd o ansawdd isel.
- Cynyddu maint y seilwaith gwyrdd ar hyd Stryd y Farchnad/ Stryd yr Eglwys. Gallai hyn gynnwys coed, planhigion, waliau glas a mannau agored.
- Adnewyddu ac aildefnyddio adeilad Hen Neuadd y Dref fel gofod digwyddiadau allweddol a nodedig.



Y Farchnad

3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

PORTH GOGLEDDOL

- Ailddatblygu ac adfer YMCA Pontypridd i greu cyfleuster amlbwrpas cwbl hygyrch gan gynnwys swyddfeydd a manau gwaith ar gyfer mentrau cymdeithasol a busnesau a chyfres o gyfleusterau celfyddydol pwrpasol.
- Ailddatblygu ac adnewyddu eiddo gerllaw'r YMCA ar Stryd Taf i ddarparu ffryntiad mwy priodol i ddatblygiad Llys Cadwyn.
- Gwella'r orsaf fysiau bresennol a manteisio ar gyfleoedd cyfagos i ddatblygu rhagor o swyddfeydd.
- Archwilio opsiynau a hyfywedd i gyflawni gwelliant Metro De Cymru gerllaw'r orsaf fysiau a fyddai'n sefydlu cyfnewidfa newydd.
- Diwygio trefniadau parcio yn yr ardal i wasanaethu'r gyfnewidfa newydd, ateb y galw yng nghanol y dref a thrawsnewid i gynnwys cyfleusterau gwefru trydan a thechnolegau carbon isel.
- Darparu man cyhoeddus newydd o amgylch yr orsaf fysiau newydd a swyddfeydd yn y dyfodol sy'n rhoi cysylltiadau o ansawdd uchel i gerddwyr i ddatblygiad Llys Cadwyn a darparu ymdeimlad priodol o gyrraedd canol y dref.
- Creu parc diwylliannol lle gellir cynnal arddangosfeydd dros dro y tu ôl i Amgueddfa Pontypridd gyda golygfeydd dros Bont William Edwards.
- Ailddatblygu Canolfan Gelf y Miwni at ddefnydd diwylliannol.
- Archwilio cyfleoedd ailddatblygu ar Heol Berw i ddarparu gofod swyddfa / defnydd cymysg.



Porth Gogleddol

3.1 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: PRIF FEYSYDD GWEITHREDU

PARC COFFA RHYFEL YNYSANGHARAD

- Datblygu defnydd hamdden ym mynedfa ogleddol y Parc ar lan yr afon.
- Darparu gwell mynediad gogleddol i Barc Coffa Ynysangharad sydd wedi'i integreiddio â llecyn cyhoeddus newydd, sy'n darparu gwell mynediad at Afon Taf ac a allai fod yn fan ar gyfer digwyddiadau.
- Gwella ac annog rhyngweithio ag Afon Taf trwy gyflwyno arlwy chwaraeon dŵr a hamdden.
- Gwella cysylltedd gweledol a ffisegol ar hyd glan ddwyreiniol yr afon trwy reoli a chynnal y seilwaith gwyrdd presennol yn well.
- Creu lle hyblyg dan do/awyr agored yn y Parc lle gellir cynnal digwyddiadau hamdden a diwylliannol.
- Sefydlu hwb beicio a fyddai'n ganolfan allweddol i archwilio Llwybr Taf a Pharc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd yn ehangach. Gallai'r cyfleusterau gynnwys cyfleusterau rhentu, gwybodaeth am lwybrau a chyrchfannau, gweithdy, a lluniaeth ysgafn.
- Gwella'r seilwaith yn y maes criced i ddarparu cyfleoedd i Glwb Criced Morgannwg chwarae gemau ar y maes.
- Datblygu cyfleusterau newid newydd a gwelliannau i fynediad ledled y Parc, fel ei fod yn cyflawni ei rôl fel safle porth cyrchfan Parc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd.
- Datblygu Canolfan Hyfforddiant a Gweithgareddau.



Parc Coffa Rhyfel Ynysangharad

3.2 Y CYNLLUN CREU LLEOEDD: CEFNOGI PROSIECTAU

Yn ogystal ag phrosiectau ardal canol tref â ffocws, nodwyd cyfres brosiectau ategol a fydd yn helpu i adfywio canol y dref. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cysylltedd digidol a phrosiectau seilwaith, anffisegol; prosiectau fel digwyddiadau a phrosiectau ffisegol wedi'u lleoli ychydig y tu allan i ganol y dref. Mae prosiectau o'r fath yn cynnwys:

- Sefydlu campws iechyd yn Ysbyty Dewi Sant.
- Sefydlu cyrchfan chwaraeon modern amrywiol yn Sardis Road sy'n gyfleuster rhanbarthol elitaidd ac yn adnodd ar gyfer clybiau chwaraeon lleol a grwpiau cymunedol.
- Gwella eglurder ar draws y dref trwy resymoli arwyddion, cynnal cysylltiadau gweledol trwy'r dref a defnyddio triniaethau tirwedd caled, plannu a goleuadau i gyfeirio symudiad ar gyffyrdd allweddol.
- Ehangu ar y rhaglen bresennol o ddigwyddiadau i ddatblygu calendr cyson o weithgareddau sy'n cynnwys treftadaeth, bwyd, cerddoriaeth a hamdden. (1).
- Gweithredu cyfres o fesurau creu lleoedd dros dro a all greu diddordeb a gweithgaredd yng nghanol y dref. (2).
- Cydlynw goleuadau ledled y dref i wella adeiladau allweddol a manau cyhoeddus. (3).
- Darparu gwasanaethau trên a bws yn hwyrach gyda'r nos gyda thocynnau integredig.
- Ymgorffori cyfleusterau llogi beiciau mewn pyrth allweddol i'r dref ac mewn lleoliadau canolog.
- Gwella mapiau ac arwyddion i'r llwybrau beicio ffurfiol ac anffurfiol sy'n cysylltu â'r rhanbarth ehangach.
- Gwella marchnata a chyfathrebu gyda Phrifysgol De Cymru i ddenu myfyrwyr i ymweld a byw yn y dref.

- Cyflwyno wifi am ddim ar draws y dref.
- Gwella seilwaith digidol yn y dref i annog datblygiadau newydd.
- Creu stryd fawr ddigidol trwy ddatblygu ap sy'n hyrwyddo canol y dref a'i busnesau.
- Creu adnoddau digidol sy'n bodoli eisoes (mapiau ar-lein/gwefan/ap y cyngor) i helpu i ganfod y ffordd ar gyfer y cyfleoedd beicio a cherdded o amgylch Pontypridd a Pharc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd yn ehangach.
- Sefydlu brand a strategaeth farchnata ar gyfer y dref sy'n hyrwyddo'r arlwy hamdden, twristiaeth a manwerthu yn gyson.

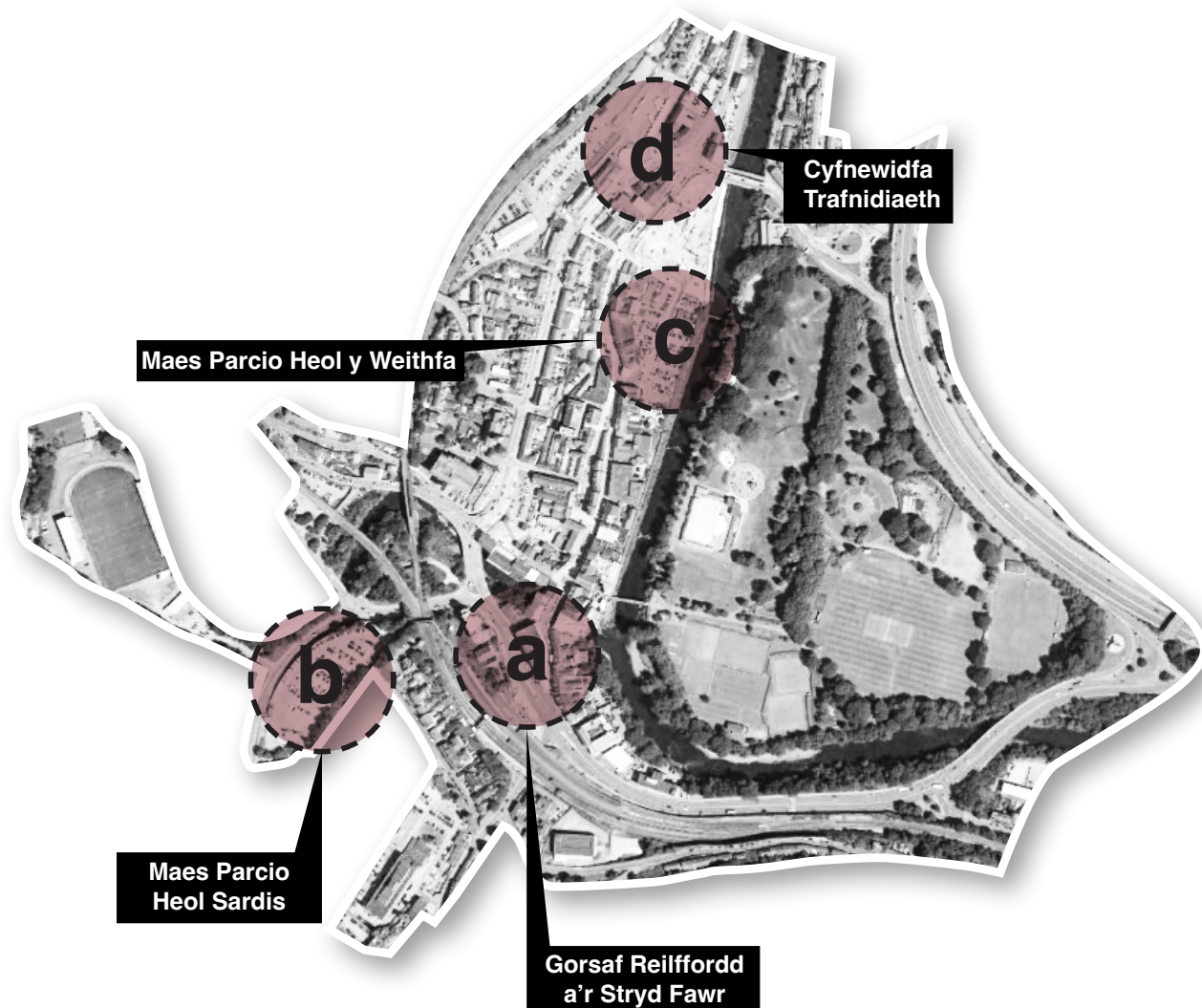


4.0 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL

O fewn pob un o'r ardaloedd gofodol allweddol, mae safleoedd gyda photensial a phwysigrwydd arbennig i'r cynllun creu lleoedd. Gall y safleoedd hyn gynnwys ymyriadau ar raddfa fawr a fyddai'n cael effaith sylweddol o ran trawsnewid canol y dref a'r rôl y mae'n ei chyflawni yn y Brifddinas-Ranbarth. Mae'r safleoedd hyn yn cynnwys:

- Gorsaf Reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr yn y Porth Deheuol (A).
- Maes Parcio Heol Sardis yn y Porth Deheuol (B).
- Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy yng Nghraidd Canol y Dref (C).
- Gorsaf Fysiau yn y Porth Gogleddol (D).

Ceir mwy o fanylion am yr ymyriadau posib ar y safleoedd hyn isod.



Prif feysydd ymyriadau



Gorsaf Reilffordd Pontypridd



(B) Maes Parcio Heol Sardis



(C) Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy



(D) Gorsaf Fysiau Pontypridd

Tudalen 177

4.1 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL GORSAF REILFFORDD A'R STRYD FAWR

Tudalen 178

Mae'r Orsaf Reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr yn darparu'r Porth Deheuol i'r dref. Dyma'r ardal gyntaf y mae pobl yn ei gweld wrth ddod i mewn i'r dref ac felly dyma'r lle allweddol i sefydlu mynedfa drawiadol i'r dref a gwneud cysylltiadau gwledol â lleoliad afon a pharcdir y dref.

Gellid cyflwyno cyfres o gynigion ailddatblygu yn yr ardal hon i ddarparu ymdeimlad nodedig o gyrraedd y dref a lle newydd a allai ddarparu gofod gwaith newydd, defnyddiau hamdden, a gwesty.

Mae ailddatblygu hen safle y Neuadd Bingo yn gyfle allweddol gan fod yr eiddo mewn lleoliad amlwg ac yn wag. Gallai ailddatblygu drawsnewid y safle yn ddatblygiad defnydd cymysg nodedig sy'n diffinio'r fynedfa ddeheuol i ganol y dref a darparu cartrefi newydd, gwestai, manau gwaith neu ddefnyddiau manwerthu. Mae ailddatblygu'r safle felly yn flaenoriaeth allweddol. (1).

Byddai'n ofynnol i ddatblygiadau newydd a gyflwynir yn yr ardal hon fod o ansawdd pensaernïol uchel er mwyn gwneud datganiad pensaernïol gofynnol, manteisio ar gyfleoedd i greu rhyngwyneb nodedig ag Afon Taf ac Afon Rhondda, sefydlu golygfeydd dros Barc Coffa Ynysangharad a chreu manau o ansawdd rhagorol ar gyfer pobl. Byddai graddfa'r datblygiad yn cael ei gytuno drwy'r broses ddylunio fanwl. (2, 3, 4 a 7).

Gellid cael elfennau masnachol newydd yn yr orsaf reilffordd, lle mae llawer iawn o ofod sy'n cael ei danddefnyddio, a gellid ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer manwerthu, hamdden a manau gwaith hyblyg (5, 6 ac 8). Byddai angen i ddatblygiadau newydd a gyflwynir fod yn briodol i gymeriad hanesyddol yr orsaf a chyfrannu at ei hadferiad.



4.1 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL GORSAF REILFFORDD A'R STRYD FAWR

Tudalen 179

Yn yr ardal hon, mae cyfle hefyd i wella'r cysylltedd i gerddwyr rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd, canol y dref ac ardaloedd preswyl cyfagos, cyflwyno mwy o seilwaith teithio llesol ac integreiddio'r orsaf reilffordd yn well â gwasanaethau bysiau a thacsis lleol.

Er mwyn gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr rhwng yr Orsaf Reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr, mae angen gwell opsiynau i gerddwyr groesi'r A4058. Gellid cyflawni hyn trwy groesfan un bwa newydd yn uniongyrchol o fynedfa'r orsaf i ben uchaf y Stryd Fawr trwy sgwariau newydd y tu allan i'r orsaf ac ar ben y Stryd Fawr. (9). Gellid hefyd ystyried pont droed sy'n darparu mynediad uniongyrchol rhwng platform yr orsaf reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr. (10). Byddai angen i unrhyw bont droed fod o'r ansawdd pensaernïol uchaf.

Er mwyn llywio croesfan ar raddfa, byddai angen modelu trafndiaeth pellach i hysbysu hyfywedd y dyluniad a'r diwygiadau sydd eu hangen i'r rhwydwaith priffyrdd a gweithrediad signalau.

Er mwyn gwella cysylltedd rhwng yr orsaf a'r ardal breswyl i'r de o'r orsaf, mae angen gwelliannau i bont y Stryd Fawr.

Gellid darparu mwy o seilwaith teithio llesol ar ffurf cyfleusterau storio beiciau a'u llogi yn sgwâr yr orsaf newydd, a allai gael ei wasanaethu gan amrywiaeth o lwybrau beicio sy'n cysylltu â'r ardal leol ehangach. Gellid integreiddio dulliau trafndiaeth yn well trwy gynnwys manau aros am fysiau a thacsis y tu allan i sgwâr yr orsaf. Gellid darparu manau gollwng teithwyr anabl yn y lleoliad hwn hefyd. (11 a 12).



4.1 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: GORSAF REILFFORDD A'R STRYD FAWR

UCHELGEISIAU CRAIDD A GYFLAWNIR:

- **Cyrchfan Busnes** - Byddai manau gwaith modern gyda mynediad rhagorol i'r orsaf reilffordd yn cael eu darparu fel rhan o'r arwynebedd llawr newydd sydd i'w greu.
- **Lle Gwych i Fyw** - Byddai rhai o'r cartrefi newydd gyda golygfeydd o'r afon neu barc a defnyddiau hamdden a manwerthu newydd gyda mynediad yn cael ei ddarparu i sgwariau glan yr afon unigryw.
- **Cysylltiedig a Hygrch** - Byddai'r groesfan arfaethedig i gerddwyr ar draws yr A4058 yn gwella cysylltedd rhwng canol y dref a'r orsaf reilffordd tra byddai'r sgwâr newydd yn cynnwys lle ar gyfer integreiddio dulliau trafnidiaeth yn well.
- **Tref Werdd ar Lan y Dŵr** - Byddai gan y mwyafrif o'r datblygiadau arfaethedig olygfeydd o Afon Rhondda neu Afon Taf, tra byddai Stryd Taf yn cynnwys mwy o nodweddion tirwedd meddal.
- **Treflun Unigryw** - Byddai'r datblygiad yn ychwanegu dyluniad cyfoes at dreflun traddodiadol y dref.
- **Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a Chymdeithasol** - Byddai'r arlwy hamdden a manwerthu a gynhwysir yn y datblygiad newydd yn gwella enw da'r dref fel cyrchfan gymdeithasol.
- **Tref Gynhwysol a Gwydn** - Byddai'r llwybrau cerddwyr newydd ar draws yr A4058 yn creu llwybr diogel a hygrch i'r dref, tra byddai'r sgwariau'n darparu lleoliadau awyr agored unigryw a mynedfeydd i gynnal gweithgareddau cymdeithasol diogel a busnesau lleol.

YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO A GYFLAWNIR:



DATBLYGIADAU

- Datgloi safleoedd datblygu newydd a fydd yn adeiladu ar gynllun Llys Cadwyn a darparu mwy o leoedd gwaith, cartrefi a chyfleoedd
- Canolbwyntio datblygiadau newydd ar foddau trafnidiaeth allweddol i greu mynedfeydd newydd i Bontypridd.



TREFLUN

- Sefydlu pyrth newydd i'r dref.
- Creu ffryntiadau newydd ar yr afon.



CYSYLLTEDD

- Gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd a'r dref.
- Sefydlu gwell integreiddiad rhwng dulliau trafnidiaeth yn yr orsaf reilffordd.



DIWYLLIANNOL A CHYMDEITHASOL

- Creu arlwy hamdden amrywiol sydd â phresenoldeb ar lan yr afon.



SEILWAITH GWYRDD

- Sefydlu lleoliad glan dŵr unigryw ar gyfer y dref.
- Ymgorffori mwy o dirlunio meddal yn y seilwaith ffyrdd a thir y cyhoedd.
- Cyflwyno manau gwyrdd a phlanhigion newydd a all helpu i leihau dŵr ffo a helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y dyfodol.



TIR Y CYHOEDD

- Creu sgwariau newydd ar lan yr afon a phyrth i mewn i'r dref.
- Gwella'r rhyngweithiad ag Afon Taf ac Afon Rhondda.

4.1 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: GORSAF REILFFORDD A'R STRYD FAWR

Tudalen 181



Braslun yn dangos datblygiadau newydd a chroesfan i gerddwyr

4.2 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: MAES PARCIO HEOL SARDIS

Tudalen 182

Mae gan Faes Parcio Heol Sardis fynediad uniongyrchol i orsaf reilffordd Pontypridd, sydd â chysylltedd rheilffordd rhagorol, ac a wasanaethir gan gysylltiad priffyrdd strategol. Mae hefyd ym mherchnogaeth y sector cyhoeddus. Mae pob un o'r nodweddion hyn yn gwneud y safle'n gyfle allweddol i'r dyfodol, a chan ddibynnu ar alw'r farchnad, gallai rhan o'r safle gael ei ddwyn ymlaen ar gyfer datblygiad defnydd cymysg neu fannau gwaith newydd. (1).

Mae'r safle ar hyn o bryd yn cyflawni rôl bwysig o ran darparu maes parcio i'r dref. Byddai angen diogelu elfen o barcio mewn unrhyw ailddatblygiad yn y dyfodol os bydd y galw am ei ddefnydd yn parhau.

Fel rhan o unrhyw waith ailddatblygu, dylid darparu manau cyhoeddus a manau amwynder o ansawdd uchel ar gyfer trigolion yn y dyfodol. (2 a 3).

Dylai'r cynigion ailddatblygu hefyd wella'r mynediad pont droed presennol i'r orsaf reilffordd i wneud y llwybr yn fwy diogel a dymunol. Fel rhan o uwchraddio'r bont droed, dylid ystyried sefydlu seilwaith tirwedd cryf ar hyd y llwybr a chysylltu'r llwybr â Thŷ Sardis (3, 5 a 6).

Mae ailddatblygu Tŷ Sardis yn gyfle ychwanegol yn yr ardal hon. Mae'r eiddo hefyd yn perthyn i'r sector cyhoeddus, a gallai fod â mynediad uniongyrchol i'r orsaf reilffordd. Mae'r safle felly yn gyfle arall i ddarparu datblygiad enghreifftiol sy'n canolbwyntio ar drafnidiaeth, ac sy'n darparu lle gwaith neu o bosibl westy (4).

Dylai'r cynigion ailddatblygu weithio mewn synergedd ag ymyriadau'r Orsaf Reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr.



4.2 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: MAES PARCIO HEOL SARDIS

UCHELGEISIAU CRAIDD A GYFLAWNIR:

- **Cyrchfan Busnes** - Darperir manau gwaith modern gyda mynediad uniongyrchol i'r orsaf reilffordd.
- **Cysylltiedig a Hygyrch** - Byddai uwchraddio'r bont droed bresennol yn gwella mynediad i'r orsaf reilffordd a chanol y dref, tra byddai gwelliannau eraill i'r seilwaith cerddwyr cyfagos yn cryfhau hygyrchedd y safle ymhellach.
- **Tref Werdd ar Lan y Dŵr** - Byddai nodweddion tirwedd meddal wedi'u hymgorffori yn y bont droed yn rhoi nodwedd werdd unigryw i'r dref, tra byddai plannu mewn manau cyhoeddus newydd yn cynyddu maint y seilwaith gwyrdd yn y dref.
- **Treflun Unigryw** - Byddai'r datblygiad yn ychwanegu dyluniad cyfoes at dreflun traddodiadol y dref.
- **Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a Chymdeithasol** - Byddai darparu'r lle gwell yn gyfle ar gyfer gweithgareddau diwylliannol a chymdeithasol.
- **Tref Gynhwysol a Gwydn** - Byddai tir y cyhoedd, gofod hamdden awyr agored a mynediad llinellol y parc i'r orsaf reilffordd yn darparu lleoliad awyr agored unigryw.

YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO A GYFLAWNIR:



DATBLYGIADAU

- Datgloi safleoedd datblygu newydd a fydd yn adeiladu ar gynllun Llys Cadwyn a darparu mwy o leoedd gwaith, cartrefi a chyfleoedd hamdden.
- Canolbwyntio datblygiadau newydd ar ddulliau trafndiaeth allweddol i greu mynedfeydd newydd i Bontypridd .



TREFLUN

- Sefydlu pyrth newydd i'r dref.



CYSYLLTEDD

- Gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd a'r dref.



TIR Y CYHOEDD

- Creu sgwariau newydd ar lan yr afon a phyrth i mewn i'r dref.



SEILWAITH GWYRDD

- Ymgorffori mwy o dirlunio meddal yn y seilwaith ffyrdd a thir y cyhoedd.
- Cyflwyno manau gwyrdd a phlanhigion newydd a all helpu i leihau dŵr ffo a helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y dyfodol.

4.3 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: MAES PARCIO HEOL Y WEITHFA NWY

Mae Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy yn ganolog o fewn ardal y cynllun creu lleoedd, ac mae mewn lleoliad gwyth gerllaw Afon Taf a datblygiad Llys Cadwyn. Mae'r safle hefyd yn eiddo i'r sector cyhoeddus.

Mae'r llecyn yn cael ei ddefnyddio ar hyn o bryd fel maes parcio canol tref, sy'n cael ei ddefnyddio'n helaeth, ond sy'n amharu ar amwynder y rhan hon o ganol y dref ac yn atal cyfleoedd i fanteisio ar leoliad glan yr afon. Gyda dyluniad meddylgar, gallai'r safle gael ei drawsnewid yn ofod amlswyddogaethol newydd sy'n cadw'r ddarpariaeth parcio yng nghanol y dref, ond sydd hefyd yn darparu man awyr agored gwyrdd newydd i drigolion ac ymwelwyr â'r dref.

I ddechrau, mae'n debygol y bydd angen i'r ddarpariaeth parcio ceir aros fel y mae ar hyn o bryd, ond dros amser wrth i'r defnydd o geir leihau a mwy o bobl ddefnyddio rhwydwaith trafniadaeth gyhoeddus gwell mae'n bosibl y bydd cyfleoedd i leihau'r ddarpariaeth barcio i greu mwy o fannau gwyrdd cyhoeddus.

Mae lleoliad safle Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy yn golygu ei fod mewn lleoliad perffaith i integreiddio canol y dref yn well gyda'r afon a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad, darparu lleoliad awyr agored nodedig i Llys Cadwyn, a chysylltu'r safle ailddatblygu â llwybr troed arfaethedig ger yr afon (5) a fyddai'n cael ei leoli y tu ôl i Stryd Taf ac a fyddai'n cysylltu Llys Cadwyn â datblygiadau newydd arfaethedig ar y Stryd Fawr. Byddai dyluniad y man newydd angen cydgysylltu agos â Chyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, ond bydd y ffocws allweddol ar wyrddhau safle gyda digon o seilwaith gwyrdd a Systemau Draenio Cynaliadwy a allai gyfrannu at wella gwytnwch llifogydd canol y dref. (6, 7, 8, 9 & 10). Dylid dylunio'r gofod hefyd i ddarparu nodweddion nodedig a fyddai'n gwneud yr ardal yn lle gwyth i gymdeithasu. (1, 2, 3, 4 & 9).



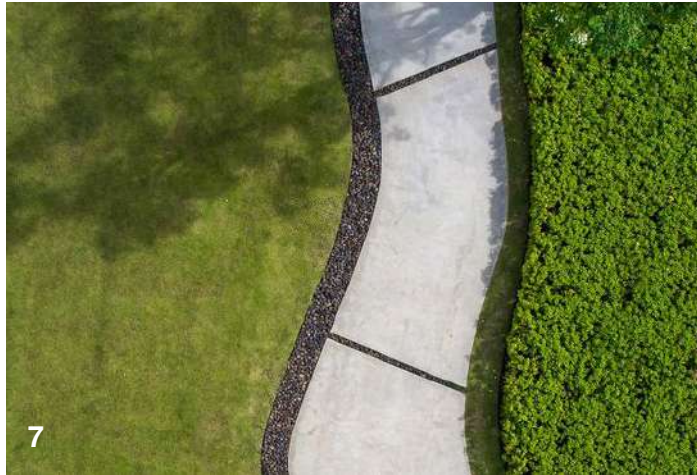
4.3 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: MAES PARCIO HEOL Y WEITHFA NWY



Byddai unrhyw ddatblygiad masnachol ar y safle yn debygol o fod yn gymedrol ei natur, i gydnabod y perygl o lifogydd, gyda defnyddiau wedi'u cyfyngu i ddefnydd hyblyg tebyg i gaffi y gellid ei ddylunio fel na fyddai'n cael ei effeithio'n fawr gan ddigwyddiad llifogydd. (12 & 13).

Dylai unrhyw gynigion yn y dyfodol ar gyfer ailddatblygu adeiladau ar Stryd Taf gerllaw Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy ystyried cyfleoedd i edrych dros y gofod newydd. (11).

Fel rhan o ailddatblygu'r safle, byddai angen diogelu mynediad cerddwyr i Stryd Taf a mynediad i fusnesau ar Ffordd Penuel. Dylid cadw rhan o faes parcio canol y dref hefyd i'w ddefnyddio gan ymwelwyr anabl â chanol y dref.



Tudalen 185



4.3 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: MAES PARCIO HEOL Y WEITHFA NWY

UCHELGEISIAU CRAIDD A GYFLAWNIR:

- **Cyrchfan Busnes** - Byddai man cyhoeddus gwell (gyda chadw rhywfaint o le parcio yng nghanol y dref) o fudd i fusnesau presennol ac yn annog buddsoddiad newydd. Gallai'r gofod hefyd helpu i hwyluso'r llwybr cerdded arfaethedig ar lan yr afon y tu ôl i Stryd Taf.
- **Cysylltiedig a Hygyrch** - Byddai gwella'r maes parcio yn creu man cyrraedd gwell i'r dref mewn car ac yn gwella'r cysylltiad i gerddwyr â Stryd Taf. Byddai manau parcio ar gyfer ymwelwyr anabl yn cael eu cadw i sicrhau bod hygyrchedd yn cael ei gynnal.
- **Tref Werdd ar Lan y Dŵr** - Byddai gwella'r maes parcio yn darparu gwell gosodiad a chysylltiad rhwng canol y dref ac Afon Taf a Pharc Coffa Ynysangharad. Byddai hefyd yn gyfle i gyflwyno ardaloedd plannu newydd.
- **Treflun Unigryw** - Gallai'r gofod newydd ychwanegu dyluniad cyfoes at dreflun traddodiadol y dref a thrawsnewid tir y cyhoedd gwael yn ofod deniadol newydd i bobl ei ddefnyddio.
- **Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a Chymdeithasol** - Gallai'r gofod newydd gwell fod yn lleoliad ar gyfer gweithgareddau diwylliannol a chymdeithasol.
- **Tref Gynhwysol a Gwydn** - Byddai gwella'r maes parcio yn creu amgylchedd mwy deniadol i gerddwyr, ac yn creu cyfle i sefydlu llwybr troed unigryw ger glan yr afon. Byddai man cyhoeddus newydd yn darparu manau awyr agored wedi'u dylunio i gynnal gweithgaredd cymdeithasol diogel. Trwy ddylunio gofalus, gallai hefyd helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y rhan hon o'r dref.

YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO A GYFLAWNIR:



DATBLYGIADAU

- Datgloi safleoedd datblygu newydd a fydd yn adeiladu ar gynllun Llys Cadwyn a darparu mwy o leoedd gwaith, cartrefi a chyfleoedd hamdden.
- Canolbwyntio datblygiadau newydd ar ddulliau trafniadaeth allweddol i greu mynedfeydd newydd i Bontypridd.



TREFLUN

- Creu ffryntiadau newydd ar yr afon.



CYSYLLTEDD

- Gwella cysylltiedd cerddwyr gorllewin/dwyrain drwy'r dref.
- Cadw lle parcio addas tra'n hwyluso datblygiad newydd.



DIWYLLIANNOL A CHYMDEITHASOL

- Creu arlwy hamdden amrywiol sydd â phresenoldeb ar lan yr afon.



SEILWAITH GWYRDD

- Sefydlu lleoliad a chefnidir unigryw ger yr afon ar gyfer y dref.
- Cyflwyno manau gwyrdd a phlanhigion newydd a all helpu i leihau dŵr ffo a helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y dyfodol.



TIR Y CYHOEDD

- Creu sgwariau newydd ar lan yr afon a phyrth i mewn i'r dref.
- Gwella rhyngweithiad ag Afon Taf ac Afon Rhondda.



- Adeilad**
- Arfaethedig
 - Wedi'i Ailwampio
 - Presennol
- Tirlunio caled**
- Sgwâr Arfaethedig / Man Cyhoeddus Allweddol
 - Sgwâr Presennol / Man Cyhoeddus Allweddol
 - Ardal/Stryd Arfaethedig i Gerddwyr
 - Ardal/Stryd Presennol i Gerddwyr
 - Ardal Gyfnerthedig Arfaethedig
 - Ffordd Presennol
 - Plot Presennol
 - Rheilffordd
 - Llwybr Beic Arfaethedig
 - Lôn Beicwyr a Cherddwyr a Rennir arfaethedig
 - Lôn fysiau
- Tirlunio meddal**
- Tirlunio meddal
 - Parth Clustogi Gwyrdd
 - Afon
 - Nodwedd Dŵ r
 - Coeden Arfaethedig
 - Coeden Presennol
- Arall**
- Ffin
 - Llinell Ddymchwel
- 1 Cadw Maes Parcio
 - 2 Is-orsaf Presennol
 - 3 Lôn Wasanaeth Wrth Gefn
 - 4 Ciosg gyda Seddi Awyr Agored
 - 5 Sgwâr Gwyrdd
 - 6 Grisiau / Amffitheatr
 - 7 Llwybr Glan yr Afon
 - 8 Sgwâr Glan yr Afon
 - 9 Teras Glan yr Afon
 - 10 Man Digwyddiadau ym Mharc Ynysangharad
 - 11 Tir y Cyhoedd wedi'i Adfywio
 - 12 Llwybr Troed Lletach gyda Llwybr Beicio
 - 13 Adnewyddu'r Hen Theatr

Dyluniad cysyniadol ar gyfer gwella Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy lle y gallai capasiti parcio gael ei leihau dros y tymor hir

4.4 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: CYFNEWIDFA TRAFNIDIAETH

Tudalen 188

Mae gorsaf fysiau Pontypridd ym mhen gogleddol canol y dref ger rheilffordd Aberdâr a Merthyr. Mae hefyd yn agos at faes parcio canol y dref a Llys Cadwyn. Mae cyfle tymor hir i integreiddio dulliau trafnidiaeth yn well yn y lleoliad hwn, cynyddu cysylltedd y dref a'i safleoedd datblygu allweddol yn seiliedig ar drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus a chreu Porth Gogleddol newydd i'r dref trwy ddylunio o ansawdd uchel. (1 a 3).

Fel rhan o welliannau i'r seilwaith trafnidiaeth, efallai y bydd cyfleoedd i ddarparu arwynebedd llawr masnachol newydd ar gyfer rhai defnyddiau manwerthu a gallai mannau gwaith gael eu datgloi. Dylai unrhyw ddatblygiad newydd sefydlu ymdeimlad gwych o gyrraedd a chynnwys llwybrau cerddwyr wedi'u tirlunio a sgwariau sy'n darparu cysylltiadau clir â'r dref ac yn darparu gofod i bobl a busnesau ei ddefnyddio (2 a 4).

Fel rhan o'r cynigion, dylid sefydlu cysylltiadau gweledol cryf â Phont William Edwards, lle mae cyfleoedd i sefydlu parc diwylliannol a chelf allanol gyda golygfeydd dros yr afon. (5, 6 a 7).



4.4 YMYRIADAU ALLWEDDOL: CYFNEWIDFA TRAFNIDIAETH

UCHELGEISIAU CRAIDD A GYFLAWNIR:

- **Cyrchfan Busnes** - Byddai galw am leoedd gwaith yn cael ei greu gan gysylltedd gwell drwy drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus a datblygu safleoedd allweddol yng nghanol y dref.
- **Lle Gwych i Fyw** - Byddai integreiddio dulliau trafniadaeth yn well yn gwella cysylltedd i ogledd y dref ac yn ei gwneud yn haws i drigolion y dref a'r trefi cyfagos deithio.
- **Cysylltiedig a Hygyrch** - Byddai cyfnewidfa yn gwella hygyrchedd i ogledd y dref ac yn cysylltu dulliau trafniadaeth, tra byddai'r llwybrau a'r sgwâr newydd yn gwella cysylltedd cerddwyr i'r dref.
- **Tref Werdd ar Lan y Dŵr** - Byddai tirwedd feddal yn cael ei chyflwyno drwy'r llwybrau cerddwyr a'r sgwâr newydd er mwyn lleddfu'r olwg ar dir y cyhoedd a chymathu'r datblygiad newydd i Amgueddfa Pontypridd ac Afon Taf.
- **Treflun Unigryw** - Byddai'r datblygiad yn creu porth newydd i'r dref ac yn ychwanegu dyluniad cyfoes i dreflun traddodiadol y dref.
- **Cyrchfan Ddiwylliannol a Chymdeithasol** - Byddai defnyddiau manwerthu yn cael eu darparu fel rhan o'r orsaf fysiau, a fyddai'n ysgogiad i gyflwyno'r llwybrau cerdded a'r sgwâr newydd.
- **Tref Gynhwysol a Gwydn** - Mae llwybrau a manau newydd i gerddwyr yn rhoi'r cyfle i sefydlu strydoedd a lleoedd i bobl, ac mae'r porth newydd yn cynnig ymdeimlad gwych o gyrraedd. Mae presenoldeb Amgueddfa Pontypridd a Phont William Edwards yn rhoi cyfle i ymgorffori treftadaeth y dref yn y porth newydd.

YSGOGWYR DYLUNIO A GYFLAWNIR:



DATBLYGIADAU

- Datgloi safleoedd datblygu newydd a fydd yn adeiladu ar gynllun Llys Cadwyn a darparu mwy o leoedd gwaith, cartrefi a chyfleoedd hamdden.
- Canolbwyntio datblygiadau newydd ar ddulliau trafniadaeth allweddol i greu mynedfeydd newydd i Bontypridd.



TREFLUN

- Sefydlu pyrth newydd i'r dref



CYSYLLTEDD

- Darparu arhosfan trên newydd ger yr orsaf fysiau a fydd yn creu cyfnewidfa newydd.
- Gwella'r cysylltedd gorllewin/dwyrain i gerddwyr drwy'r dref.
- Cadw lle parcio addas tra'n hwyluso datblygiad newydd.



TIR Y CYHOEDD

- Creu sgwariau newydd ar lan yr afon a phyrth i mewn i'r dref.
- Gwella rhyngweithiad ag Afon Taf ac Afon Rhondda.



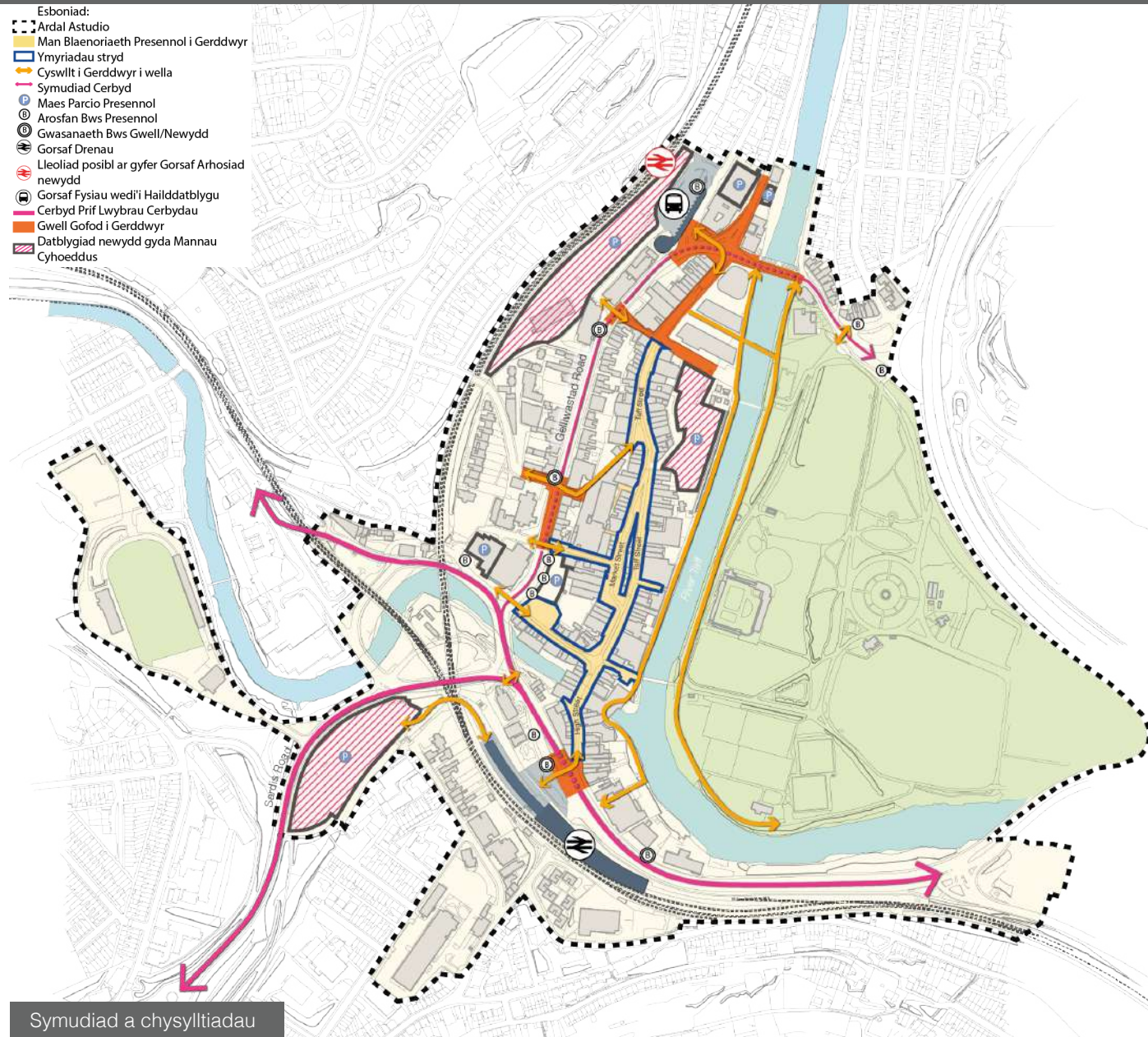
SEILWAITH GWYRDD

- Ymgorffori mwy o dirlunio meddal yn y seilwaith ffyrdd a thir y cyhoedd.
- Cyflwyno manau gwyrdd a phlanhigion newydd a all helpu i leihau dŵr ffo a helpu i liniaru llifogydd yn y dyfodol.

5.0 SYMUDIADAU A CHYSYLLTIADAU

Mae pob un o'r meysydd ymyrraeth allweddol yn darparu cyfleoedd i wella'r amgylchedd i gerddwyr a chreu mannau diogel a deniadol sydd o fudd i ymwelwyr a busnesau. Mae'r diagram gyferbyn yn dangos sut y gallai pob un o'r meysydd allweddol gydweithio i greu tref sydd wedi'i chysylltu'n well â strydoedd a mannau sy'n lleoedd gwych i bobl dreulio amser ynddynt.

- Gorsaf Reilffordd a'r Stryd Fawr: Porth newydd i ganol y dref a gwell cysylltiadau i gerddwyr a beicwyr a'r amgylchedd rhwng yr orsaf reilffordd, canol y dref ac ardaloedd preswyl cyfagos. Mae cyfleoedd datblygu newydd ar y Stryd Fawr yn rhoi cyfle i sefydlu mannau newydd sy'n edrych dros afonydd y Taf a'r Rhondda.
- Maes Parcio Heol Sardis a Thŷ Sardis: Gellid darparu gwell cysylltiadau rhwng y safleoedd, yr orsaf reilffordd a chanol y dref trwy bont droed newydd sydd wedi'i hintegreiddio â'r dirwedd feddal a chaled nodedig. Mae cyfleoedd eraill hefyd i wella'r llwybrau cerdded allweddol eraill ar Heol Sardis.
- Maes Parcio Heol y Weithfa Nwy: Man cyhoeddus nodedig ar lan yr afon sy'n creu mynedfa newydd i'r dref ac yn lleddfu effaith y maes parcio presennol, y gellid ei gadw. Byddai hefyd yn creu gosodiad gwell i Lys Cadwyn a gellid ei integreiddio â chysylltiad newydd i gerddwyr ar lan yr afon y tu ôl i Stryd Taf a'r Stryd Fawr.
- Cyfnwida Ogleddol: Byddai datblygiad trafniadaeth newydd yn rhoi'r cyfle ar gyfer porth newydd i ogledd y dref sydd wedi'i integreiddio â'r datblygiadau newydd, yn pwysleisio'r gwead hanesyddol ac yn blaenoriaethu symudiad a phrofiad cerddwyr.



Symudiad a chysylltiadau

6.0 CASGLIAD

Mae canol tref Pontypridd wedi wynebu heriau sylweddol yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf; yn gyntaf, wynebu'r heriau i'r sector manwerthu ac yna fe gafwyd llifogydd a ddifrododd ardaloedd helaeth o'r dref ac a beryglodd y busnesau a'r gweithwyr. Yn fwyaf diweddar, mae'r dref, fel trefi eraill ar draws y DU, hefyd wedi wynebu'r heriau economaidd- gymdeithasol a achoswyd gan COVID-19. Er nad yw'r heriau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r pandemig drosodd eto, mae rhesymau dros optimistiaeth oherwydd, drwy gydol y cyfnod hwn, mae canol y dref a'i chymuned wedi dangos gwytnwch parhaus anhygoel.

Mae'r cynllun creu lleoedd hwn yn seiliedig ar leoliad a rhinweddau unigryw'r dref, ac mae'n darparu'r sail ar gyfer sefydlu Pontypridd fel lle unigryw i weithio, byw ac ymweld ag ef. Mae'r weledigaeth yn y cynllun creu lleoedd hwn yn uchelgeisiol yn y cyd-destun presennol, ond mae hefyd yn realistig a gellir ei chyflawni gan randdeiliaid preifat a chyhoeddus yn gweithio ar y cyd dros gyfnod o amser.

Eisoes, mae buddsoddiad ym Mhontypridd ar y gweill yn natblygiad Llys Cadwyn a bydd y Metro yn trawsnewid cysylltedd y dref. Mae'r datblygiad newydd ynghyd â'r cynnig i greu y lleoedd newydd a nodir yn y cynllun hwn yn ymateb yn uniongyrchol i'r cyd-destun cyffrous a chyfnewidiol hwn, a gyda'i gilydd, gallant alluogi Pontypridd unwaith eto i fod yn ganolfan economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol allweddol sy'n darparu ar gyfer anghenion ei thrigolion a hefyd yn gweithredu fel catalydd ar gyfer lledaenu twf a ffyniant drwy'r Brifddinas-Ranbarth ehangach.



Golygfa dros ganol tref Pontypridd



PORTH Y DE PONTYPRIDD

PRIF GYNLLUN

Chwefror, 2022

Aratwyd gan: Liam Hopkins, Francesca Visione, William Purdie, James Alexander Foxhall
Cyfeiriad: The Urbanists, The Creative Quarter, 8A Morgan Arcade, Caerdydd, CF10 1AF, Y Deyrnas Unedig
E-bost: liam.hopkins@theurbanists.net, francesca.visione@theurbanists.net
Gwefan: www.theurbanists.net

Dyddiad cyhoeddi	03 02 2022
Statws lluniau	DRAFFT
Revision	02
Adolygiad	FV, LH
Awdur	LH

Caiff yr holl gynlluniau yn y ddogfen yma eu hatgynhyrchu o'r Arolwg Ordnans gyda chaniatâd rheolwr Llyfrfa Ei Mawrhydi (C) Hawlfraint y Goron. Mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron ac mae'n bosibl bydd hyn yn arwain at erlyniad neu achos cyfreithiol. Rhif Trwydded 100054593.

Paratowyd gan:

Ar ran:



CYFLWYNIAD

Mae Porth y De wedi'i nodi yng Nghynllun Creu Lleoedd Pontypridd yn un o'r ardaloedd allweddol lle y mae modd cynnal ymyriadau a buddsoddi'n sylweddol ynddi. Byddai hyn yn cael cryn effaith wrth drawsnewid canol y dref a'r rôl y mae'n ei chwarae mewn perthynas â hybu ffyniant y Fwrdeistref Sirol a'r Brifddinas-Ranbarth ehangach.

Yn rhan o ddatblygiad y Cynllun Creu Lleoedd, mae'r Cyngor wedi bod yn rhagweithiol o ran caffael eiddo allweddol yn yr ardal i sicrhau bod modd iddo reoli'r math o ddatblygiad a fydd yn digwydd a sicrhau'r ansawdd dylunio gorau. Yng ngoleuni'r caffaeliadau yma, mae cyfle i hyrwyddo'r dull dylunio a chreu lleoedd ar gyfer Porth y De.

Porth y De yw'r ardal gyntaf y mae pobl yn ei gweld wrth ddod i mewn i'r dref o'r de, gan gynnwys o orsaf drenau Pontypridd, sy'n orsaf allweddol yng nghynllun Metro De Cymru. Mae trawsnewid yr ardal felly yn rhoi'r cyfle i greu ymdeimlad amlwg o gyrraedd sy'n unigryw i Bontypridd. Dyma gyfle i groesawu pobl i'r dref, gwella ei hadeiladau hanesyddol hardd ac agor y dref i'w lleoliad ar lan yr afon a ger y parc.

Tudalen 195

Golygfa dros ganol tref Pontypridd

PRIF GYNLLUN PORTH DEHEUOL

Mae'r prif gynllun arfaethedig ar gyfer Porth y De yn dangos sut y mae modd i'r ardal ymateb i'r materion a'r cyfleoedd sydd wedi'u nodi a chael ei thrawsnewid yn borth sy'n:

- darparu defnyddiau masnachol newydd a fyddai'n cryfhau bywiogrwydd canol y dref
- creu cyfleoedd ar gyfer pensaernïaeth a manau cyhoeddus nodedig newydd sy'n ychwanegu at asedau unigryw'r dref ac yn cryfhau ei hymdeimlad o le
- creu lleoliad glan yr afon newydd ar gyfer y dref

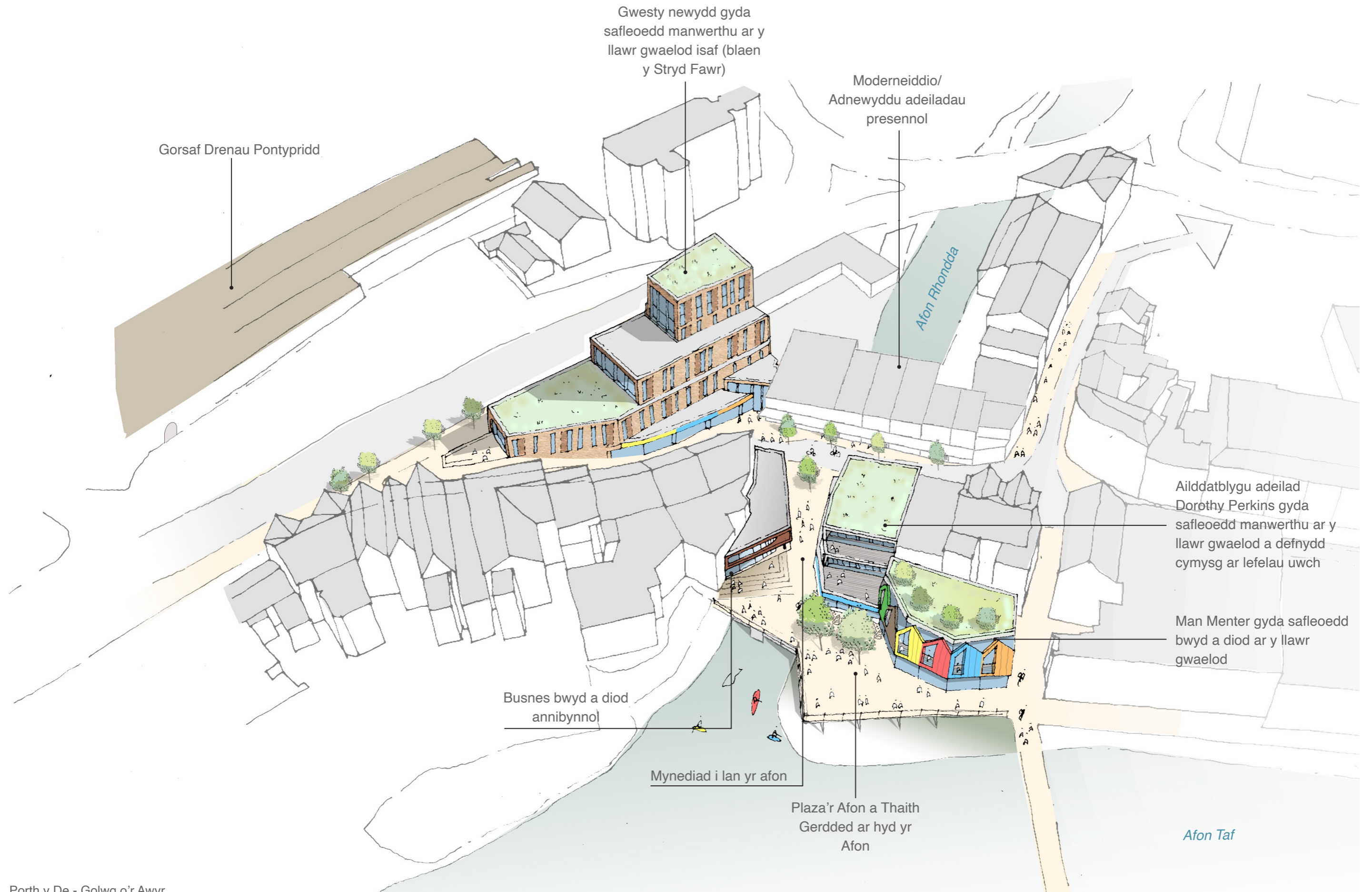
Y meysydd allweddol o ran ymyriadau yn y prif gynllun yw:

1. Hen neuadd Bingo a Chlwb nos 'Angharad's'.
2. Hen safle Marks & Spencer a Dorothy Perkins.
3. Y bloc masnachol lle mae Tesco yn denant.
4. Y strydoedd a'r manau cyhoeddus sy'n amgylchynu'r lleiniau datblygu allweddol yma (gan gynnwys Heol Sardis, y Stryd Fawr a Stryd Taf).



PRIF GYNLLUN PORTH Y DE

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CASGLIAD

Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf mae canol tref Pontypridd wedi denu buddsoddiad sylweddol sy'n trawsnewid y dref ac yn ei hailsefydlu fel lle i ymweld ag ef, i weithio ac i fyw ynddo. Mae Cynllun Creu Lleoedd Pontypridd yn darparu gweledigaeth uchelgeisiol ar gyfer Pontypridd sy'n manteisio ar y momentwm yma ac yn rhoi fframwaith ar gyfer cyflawni buddsoddiad a all wireddu'r uchelgais.

Ar hyn o bryd dydy ardal Porth y De ddim yn cyflawni ei photensial sylweddol, ac mae'r prif gynllun yn y ddogfen yma yn nodi sut y mae modd unioni hyn.

Bydd y cynigion ailddatblygu yn creu ymdeimlad nodedig wrth gyrraedd y dref, yn darparu pensaernïaeth newydd a chymysgedd amrywiol o safleoedd a fydd yn amrywio'r profiad yng nghanol y dref. Byddan nhw'n gwella cysylltedd ffisegol a gweledol ac yn creu gofod a lleoliad unigryw ar lan yr afon.

Mae ardal Porth y De yn gyfle strategol i ddechrau cyflawni'r Cynllun Creu Lleoedd ar raddfa fawr, gan greu momentwm sylweddol a all barhau â thwf sylweddol y dref.



Golygfa o'r awyr o ganol tref Pontypridd



Tudalen way



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) and INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2016 (IPA) - USE OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS DURING 2021 BY RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE DEPUTY LEADER, CLLR WEBBER

Author: Judith Parry, Trading Standards & Registrar Service Manager

1. PURPOSE

To enable Members to review for the period 1st January to 31st December 2021:

- 1.1 The Council's use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (as amended) (RIPA); and
- 1.2 The Council's use of the Acquisition of Communications Data under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (IPA).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note the contents of this report; and
- 2.2 Acknowledge that investigatory powers in respect of covert surveillance and acquisition of communications data have been used in an appropriate manner that is consistent with the Council's RIPA and IPA policies during the period 1st January – 31st December 2021.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure Members are kept apprised of how RIPA has been used during the period 1st January – 31st December 2021 and that it has been used in an appropriate manner consistent with the Council's RIPA policies.

- 3.2 The Cabinet is responsible for providing oversight for effective and appropriate use of specific investigatory powers under the Council's Corporate RIPA and IPA Policies; and to ensure that the policies remain fit for purpose.

4. USE OF RIPA BY THE COUNCIL: 1ST JANUARY – 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Directed Surveillance and the use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources

New Authorisations

- 4.1 During the period 1st January – 31st December 2021 there were no authorisations in respect of directed surveillance. During the same period, there were no authorisations for the use of covert human intelligence sources.
- 4.2 Directed surveillance authorisations can be issued where it is necessary and proportionate in order to prevent or detect crime, or prevent disorder, where at least one of the offences is punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of at least six months or more or relates to the underage sale of alcohol or tobacco/nicotine.
- 4.3 The post pandemic recovery period has meant that some departments did not return to 'business as usual' during 2021. Over the previous years, the majority of covert surveillance authorisations related to fly-tipping in the county borough. Whilst this activity has, unfortunately, not diminished, the service area has been controlling through overt surveillance, for which RIPA authorisation is not required.
- 4.4 It is likely that 2022 will see a return to pre-pandemic activity in relation to authorisations. It is important that policies remain current to utilise this investigative tool when it is needed.

Authorisations extant as at 1st January 2021

- 4.5 There were no directed surveillance authorisations that were carried forward from the previous calendar year (2020). Similarly, no authorisations in respect of a Covert Human Intelligence Source extant remain extant.

Authorisations extant as at 1st January 2022

- 4.6 No authorisations have been carried forward into 2022.

Human Rights Act Authorisations

- 4.7 At the commencement of an investigation, officers may need to carry out non-overt work which does not fall within the statutory requirements for RIPA, predominantly because the work is carried out in a manner that there is little likelihood of obtaining private information (collateral intrusion). The use of non-overt enforcement techniques are assessed to ensure that they are carried out

in compliance with the requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998 (HRA). Such assessments are recorded on a Human Rights Act consideration form, whereby the necessity, proportionality and purpose of the activity are addressed, precautions are introduced to minimise collateral intrusion and the use of the technique is approved by a senior manager.

4.8 If this preparatory investigative work carried indicates that an investigation needs to be carried out using RIPA-based techniques, officers will apply for RIPA authorisation.

4.9 During the period of this report, the HRA authorisations were:

<i>Anti-social behaviour monitoring</i>	0
<i>Underage sales test purchasing</i>	0
<i>Proxy sales monitoring</i>	0
<i>Internet site monitoring</i>	18
<i>Vehicle test purchasing</i>	0

4.10 Of note this period is the return to pre-pandemic numbers in respect of internet site monitoring. Such sites are predominantly monitored for investigations into sale of illegal products via social media.

4.11 Members may recall that the last reporting period included monitoring in relation to diversification of trading practices and a move away from high street premises to online presence during the pandemic period, commonly termed 'from bricks to clicks'. As this mode of trading increases, it is important to ensure that all service areas who may be moving to online monitoring are up to date with HRA processes, and when such monitoring may move into the realms of covert surveillance.

4.12 Whilst monitoring through social media may initially be considered intrusive, in many instances it can lead to a level of remote interaction between service areas and businesses that results in timelier resolution to enquiries; this has proved of benefit during the pandemic period.

4.13 Activity in other areas, such as underage sales test purchasing is still curtailed by risk assessment, due to the need to use volunteers who would have to remove their face masks to demonstrate their age to prospective sellers of restricted goods. Any complaint of proxy sales can be investigated through use of premises CCTV, however no such complaints have been received during this period.

4.14 A review of HRA authorisations showed that on no occasion did they result in an improper infringement of a person's human rights.

Communications Data

4.15 During the reporting period, three applications for communications data were submitted via the National Anti-Fraud Network (NAFN) in relation to telephone numbers used as part of fraudulent activity.

- 4.16 All three applications related to traders resident outside of Rhondda Cynon Taf who had defrauded local residents.
- 4.17 Two of the traders proved untraceable: one having given false information to register the mobile phone, and one using a pre-paid mobile which limits the amount of intelligence available. The third application resulted in a joint investigation and court case alongside Shared Regulatory Services, and custodial sentences of 2 years and 4 years, with compensation for consumers involved.

5. CONSULTATION/ INVOLVEMENT

This report has been prepared in consultation with the Council's Trading Standards & Registrar Service Manager who is responsible for operational oversight of RIPA matters.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

There are no equality or diversity implications linked to this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications linked to the contents of this report.

8. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN/ OTHER COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The report will ensure that effective governance arrangements with regards to RIPA remain in place by the Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The Senior Responsible Officer (Director of Legal & Democratic Services) considers that RIPA has been used appropriately in relation to all of the above uses of directed surveillance and acquiring of communications data and that RIPA has been used in a manner that is consistent with the Council's Corporate Policies.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AS AMENDED BY
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CABINET
28TH FEBRUARY 2022

**ITEM: REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) and
INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2016 (IPA) - USE OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS
DURING 2021 BY RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC
HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE
DEPUTY LEADER, CLLR WEBBER**

Background Papers

Freestanding Report.

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