



**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**  
**COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**GWŶS I GYFARFOD PWYLLGOR**

C Hanagan  
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf  
Y Pafiliynau Parc Hen Lofa'r Cambrian  
Cwm Clydach, CF40 2XX

Dolen gyswllt: Julia Nicholls - Gwasanaethau Democrataidd (01443 424098)

**DYMA WŶS I CHI** i gyfarfod rhithwir o **GYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL RHONDDA CYNON TAF** sydd i'w gynnal ar **DYDD MERCHER, 19EG IONAWR, 2022** am **5.00 PM.**

<b>AMSER</b>	<b>EITEM</b>	<b>TUDALEN(N AU)</b>
5 Munud	<b>ITEM 1. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT</b>  Derbyn datganiadau o fuddiannau personol gan Aelodau yn unol â'r Côd Ymddygiad.  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Mae gofyn i Aelodau ddatgan rhif a phwnc yr agenda y mae eu buddiant yn ymwneud ag e a mynegi natur y buddiant personol hwnnw; a</li><li>2. Lle bo Aelodau'n ymneilltuo o'r cyfarfod o ganlyniad i ddatgelu buddiant personol sy'n rhagfarnu, <b>rhaid</b> iddyn nhw roi gwybod i'r Cadeirydd pan fyddan nhw'n gadael.</li></ol>	
5 Munud	<b>ITEM 2. CYHOEDDIADAU</b>	
5 Munud	<b>ITEM 3. COFNODION</b>  Cadarnhau cofnodion o gyfarfodydd y Cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 24 Tachwedd 2021 (cyfarfod 5pm) a 15 Rhagfyr 2021 yn rhai cywir.	7 - 30
5 Munud	<b>ITEM 4. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD</b>  Derbyn cwestiynau gan y cyhoedd yn unol â Rheolau Gweithdrefn Cyfarfodydd Cyngor Llywodraeth Agored.	31 - 34
	<b>LLYWODRAETHU AGORED:</b>	

10 Munud	<b>ITEM 5. DATGANIADAU</b>  Yn unol â Rheol 2 o Weithdrefn Llywodraethu Agored Cyfarfodydd y Cyngor, derbyn datganiadau gan Arweinydd y Cyngor a/neu Gynghorwyr sy'n Aelodau Portffolio o'r Cabinet:	
20 Munud	<b>ITEM 6. CWESTIYNAU GAN YR AELODAU</b>  Derbyn cwestiynau'r Aelodau yn unol â Rheol 9.2 o Weithdrefn y Cyngor.  ( <b>Nodwch:</b> Caniateir hyd at 20 munud ar gyfer cwestiynau.)	35 - 44
	<b>RHAGLEN WAITH Y CYNGOR – ER GWYBODAETH I AELODAU</b> <a href="#">Rhaglen Waith Y Cyngor 2021/22</a>	
	<b>ADRODDIADAU'R SWYDDOGION</b>	
10 Munud	<b>ITEM 7. ARCHWILIO CYMRU – CRYNODEB ARCHWILIO BLYNYDDOL 2021 (CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL RHONDDA CYNON TAF)</b>  Derbyn adroddiad Archwilio Cymru.	45 - 60
20 Munud	<b>ITEM 8. CYLLIDEB REFENIW 2022/23 - SETLIAD LLYWODRAETH LEOL ARFAETHEDIG</b>  Derbyn adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol	61 - 74
10 Munud	<b>ITEM 9. CYNLLUN GOSTYNGIADAU TRETH Y CYNGOR</b>  Trafod adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol.	75 - 84
10 Munud	<b>ITEM 10. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL CRONFA DEDDF EGLWYS CYMRU 2020/21</b>  Derbyn adroddiad Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol	85 - 130
5 Munud	<b>ITEM 11. PENDERFYNIADAU BRYN O DAN SWYDDOGAETHAU GWEITHREDOL</b>  Nodi adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu.	131 - 134
10 Munud	<b>ITEM 12. GWEITHGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU – DATBLYGU SEILWAITH TRAFNIDIAETH AR GYFER Y DYFODOL YN RHONDDA CYNON TAF</b>  Derbyn adroddiad y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu.	135 - 148
45 Munud	<b>ITEM 13. RHYBUDDION O GYNIGION</b>  Trafod Rhybudd o Gynnig sydd wedi'i gyflwyno yn enwau Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Roberts, W. Lewis, L. M.	

Adams, J. Barton, D. R. Bevan, H. Boggis, J. Bonetto, S. Bradwick, J. Brencher, A. Calvert, G. Caple, A. Crimmings, A. Davies-Jones, L. De- Vet, J. Edwards, J. Elliott, S. Evans, M. Griffiths, G. Jones, M. Fidler Jones, M. Forey, A. Fox, E. George, J. Harries, G. Holmes, G. Hopkins, R. Lewis, C. Leyshon, A. Morgan, S. Morgans, M. A. Norris, D. Owen-Jones, S. Pickering, S. Powell, S. Rees, J. Rosser, G. Stacey, M. Tegg, G. Thomas, W. Treeby, R. K. Turner, M. Webber, D. Williams, R. Williams, T. Williams, R. Yeo:

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn cydnabod ymdrechion Llywodraeth Cymru i helpu i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd yng Nghymru, o ran darparu cymorth ariannol i aelwydydd incwm isel, a hefyd drwy amrywiaeth o welliannau effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref drwy'r fenter Cartrefi Clyd.

Ers 2009/10, mae dros 67,000 o gartrefi incwm is wedi elwa ar welliannau effeithlonrwydd ynni, gydag arbediad cyfartalog amcangyfrifedig o £300 ar eu biliau ynni gyda'r fantais ychwanegol o leihau allyriadau carbon.

Un elfen o raglen Cartrefi Clyd Llywodraeth Cymru yw cynllun Grant Nyth, sy'n cynnig ystod o gyngor diduedd am ddim a meini prawf i ymgeiswyr cymwys gael mynediad at becyn o welliannau effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref am ddim fel boeler newydd, gwres canolog neu inswleiddio, sy'n gallu gostwng biliau ynni a bod o fudd i iechyd a lles yr ymgeisydd.

Mae gwaith ardderchog wedi'i wneud gan garfan Gwresogi ac Arbed y Cyngor, er gwaethaf pandemig COVID-19. RhCT oedd yr ardal uchaf ond un o ran atgyfeirio yn 2020-21 – roedd 9% o atgyfeiriadau i'r cynllun Nyth wedi dod oddi wrth drigolion RhCT. RhCT hefyd oedd yr ardal uchaf ond un o ran gosod offer yn llwyddiannus, â chanran o 12.5% Yn ystod 2021-2022 mae Adran Gwresogi ac Arbed y Cyngor wedi anfon 3,631 o lythyron uniongyrchol i ardaloedd strategol mewn partneriaeth â Nyth yn cynnig ymyriad wedi'i dargedu i helpu'r aelwydydd sydd ei angen i gael mynediad at gymorth Nyth.

Er gwaethaf y gwaith cadarnhaol hwn a wnaed yng Nghymru ac yn lleol yn RhCT, mae costau cynyddol ynni yn golygu bod mwy a mwy o aelwydydd yn mynd i dlodi tanwydd.

Mae'r duedd hon yn bygwth y targedau a amlinellwyd yn strategaeth Trechu Tlodi Tanwydd 2021-2035 Llywodraeth Cymru. A Llywodraeth Cymru yn lansio ymgynghoriad yn ddiweddar ar lunio'r fersiwn nesaf o'r rhaglen Cartrefi Clyd, mae bellach yn amser da i archwilio dichonoldeb ehangu'r meini prawf ar gyfer ceisiadau ar gyfer cynllun Nyth.

Felly mae'r Cyngor hwn yn nodi:

- Y gwaith da sydd wedi'i wneud yng Nghymru gan Lywodraeth Cymru, ac ar lefel leol gan garfan Gwresogi ac Arbed y Cyngor wrth fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd.

Ac yn penderfynu:

- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at Julie James, Aelod o'r Senedd, Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd Llywodraeth Cymru, er mwyn gwneud y sylwadau angenrheidiol ynglŷn ag ehangu meini prawf cymhwysedd y cynllun Nyth (a chynlluniau eraill) er mwyn caniatáu i geisiadau pellach gael eu cymeradwyo, er lles ein trigolion.

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13B Trafod Rhybudd o Gynnig sydd wedi'i gyflwyno yn enwau Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Barton, J. Edwards, L. M. Adams, D. R. Bevan, H. Boggis, J. Bonetto, S. Bradwick, J. Brencher, A. Calvert, G. Caple, A. Crimmings, A. Davies-Jones, L. De- Vet, J. Elliott, S. Evans, M. Griffiths, G. Jones, M. Fidler Jones, M. Forey, A. Fox, E. George, J. Harries, G. Holmes, G. Hopkins, R. Lewis, W. Lewis, C. Leyshon, A. Morgan, S. Morgans, M. A. Norris, D. Owen-Jones, S. Pickering, S. Powell, S. Rees, A. Roberts, J. Rosser, G. Stacey, M. Tegg, G. Thomas, W. Treeby, R. K. Turner, M. Webber, D. Williams, R. Williams, T. Williams, R. Yeo:

Mae cost gynyddol prisiau ynni yn cael ei disgrifio'n "argyfwng cenedlaethol" sy'n effeithio ar gartrefi, busnesau a'r cwmnïau ynni eu hunain.

Mae'r cynnydd sylweddol mewn prisiau nwy wedi gweld sector ynni'r DU yn talu tua £20 biliwn yn fwy eleni. Mae'r cap ar brisiau ynni, sydd ar hyn o bryd wedi'i gyfyngu i £1,277, ar fin cynyddu ym mis Ebrill. O ganlyniad, gallai aelwydydd weld eu biliau ynni'n yn cynyddu o 50%, sy'n golygu y gallai aelwydydd fod cymaint â £1,200 y flwyddyn ar eu colled wrth i gyfraniadau Yswiriant Gwladol godi hefyd.

Mae pris cynyddol ynni wedi gweld mwy nag 20 o gyflenwyr ynni yn mynd i'r wal ers mis Medi, gyda llawer o gwsmeriaid wedi'u symud ymlaen at ddarparwyr newydd ar dariffau drutach, sy'n annheg.

Er bod y rhan fwyaf o ddefnyddwyr yn cael eu diogelu gan y cap ar gostau ynni o £1,277 ar gyfer defnydd domestig arferol, bydd y terfyn yn codi ar 1 Ebrill yn unol â chyhoeddiad disgwylidig ddechrau mis Chwefror. Mae hyn yn golygu bod amser yn brin i Lywodraeth y DU fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng.

Mae elusen National Energy Action (NEA) wedi rhybuddio y bydd 6 miliwn o aelwydydd yn y DU (y nifer uchaf a gofnodwyd erioed)

yn byw mewn tlodi tanwydd pan fydd y cynnydd yn y terfyn ar brisoedd ynni yn dod i rym ym mis Ebrill. Mae'r canfyddiadau hyn wedi'u cefnogi gan felin drafod The Resolution Foundation, a rybuddiodd y byddai miliynau o deuluoedd yn y DU yn wynebu blwyddyn dynn yn 2022 o ganlyniad i gynnydd yn eu biliau ynni, cyflogau disymud a threthi uwch. Mae Banc Lloegr hefyd wedi dweud ei fod yn disgwyl i chwyddiant gyrraedd 6% erbyn y gwanwyn.

Mae The Resolution Foundation wedi dweud y gallai cynnydd mewn cyfraniadau Yswiriant Gwladol o fis Ebrill ymlaen, ynghyd â chynnydd disgwylidig mewn biliau ynni yn yr un mis olygu ergyd o £1,200 i gyllid yr aelwyd, gyda theuluoedd incwm isel yn cael eu gorfodi i ysgwyddo baich mwyaf y cynnydd hwn, gan eu bod yn gwario cyfran fwy o'u hincwm ar drydan a nwy.

Yn gynharach y mis hwn, galwodd grŵp o ugain o ASau ac Arglwyddi Ceidwadol - gan gynnwys pump cyn Weinidog - ar y Prif Weinidog i gymryd camau i fynd i'r afael â chostau byw cynyddol a lleddfu'r pwysau ar y teuluoedd â'r incwm isaf.

Mae cyflenwyr ynni gan gynnwys Good Energy, EDF a'r corff masnach Energy UK wedi galw am ymyrraeth gan y llywodraeth, ar ôl i gost nwy mewn marchnadoedd cyfanwerthu godi mwy na 500% mewn llai na blwyddyn. Mae'r cynnydd wedi golygu bod dros ugain o gyflenwyr wedi mynd yn fethdalwyr, yn sgil gorfod prynu nwy ar y farchnad gyfanwerthu am brisiau uwch nag y cân nhw ei werthu.

Mae diffyg gweithredu Llywodraeth San Steffan yn arwain at "argyfwng enfawr ar gyfer 2022" gyda biliau ynni o bosib yn cynyddu o 50% arall oni bai bod y llywodraeth yn ymyrryd. Mae llawer o lywodraethau eraill ledled Ewrop wedi lleihau trethi ac ardollau eraill, a gallai cymryd camau tebyg yn y DU arbed bron i £200 y flwyddyn ar fil cyfartalog.

Un ateb a leisiwyd gan y diwydiant yw symud ardollau gwyrdd o filiau ynni i drethiant cyffredinol gan y byddai'n golygu bod enillwyr uwch yn talu mwy na chartrefi incwm is, sy'n gwario cyfran fwy o'u hincwm ar hanfodion fel gwresogi.

Maen nhw hefyd yn dadlau y byddai hyn yn gostwng y mesur chwyddiant, gan arbed arian i'r llywodraeth ar gostau benthyca sy'n gysylltiedig â chwyddiant. Serch hynny, nid yw'n ymddangos bod y Trysorlys yn ffafrio'r dull hwn o weithredu gan ei fod yn amharod i gynyddu'r baich treth cyffredinol, a'r arwyddion yw y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn lle hynny yn ceisio ehangu'r Cynllun Gostyngiad Cartrefi Cynnes gwerth £140 yn rhan o becyn rhyddhad wedi'i dargedu hyd at 6 miliwn o gartrefi.

Er gwaethaf anallu ymddangosiadol Llywodraeth San Steffan i weithredu'n bendant, mae trigolion yng Nghymru ac ar draws

RhCT wedi elwa ar fentrau sydd wedi'u cynllunio i leihau tlodi tanwydd a chynyddu effeithlonrwydd ynni cartrefi.

Mae cynllun Arbed am Byth Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu 206 o fesurau ynni i 113 o gartrefi ym Mhenrhiwceiber, tra bod RhCT hefyd yw'r ardal uchaf ond un yng Nghymru o ran cyfeirio aelwydydd i'r cynllun a gosod mesurau yn 2020-21. Mae Grant Gwresogi RhCT y Cyngor ei hun – sy'n darparu cyllid o hyd at £5,000 i gynorthwyo hyd at 20 o aelwydydd sydd mewn perygl o dlodi tanwydd ond nad ydynt yn gymwys ar gyfer cynlluniau cymorth eraill – wedi derbyn 24 o geisiadau gyda 7 grant wedi'u cymeradwyo ar gost o £1,500 fesul eiddo.

Mae Swyddogion y Cyngor hefyd yn gweithio'n agos gyda'r Ganolfan Cyngor ar Bopeth a sefydliadau eraill i gyfeirio unigolion a theuluoedd sydd angen cymorth at y ffrwd fwyaf priodol o gymorth ariannol.

Mae'r Cyngor hwn, felly, yn penderfynu:

- Galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i anrhydeddu addewid ymgyrch Brexit o dorri'r gyfradd TAW o 5% ar filiau ynni, neu i gyflwyno pecyn cymorth amgen sy'n darparu cyllid ychwanegol - i roi cymhorthdal i gwmnïau ynni ac i roi rhyddhad i gartrefi - fel nad yw aelwydydd ar draws y DU, gan gynnwys yma yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn ysgwyddo baich y cynnydd mewn prisiau.

- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at yr Ysgrifennydd Busnes, Canghellor y Trysorlys a Phrif Weinidog y DU i ofyn bod camau brys yn cael eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng prisiau ynni.

#### **ITEM 14. MATERION BRYS**

To consider any items which the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

### **Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu**

**At: Pob Aelod o'r Cyngor**

## **PWYLLGOR CYNGOR RHONDDA CYNON TAF CYNGOR**

Cofnodion o gyfarfod rhithwir y Cyngor a gynhaliwyd Dydd Mercher, 24 Tachwedd 2021 am 5.00 pm.

### **Y Cyngorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol - Cyngor Aelodau oedd yn bresennol:-:-**

Y Cyngorydd S Powderhill (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorydd S Trask	Y Cyngorydd R Williams
Y Cyngorydd J Bonetto	Y Cyngorydd S Bradwick
Y Cyngorydd R Bevan	Y Cyngorydd A Calvert
Y Cyngorydd T Williams	Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings
Y Cyngorydd D Williams	Y Cyngorydd G Davies
Y Cyngorydd S Pickering	Y Cyngorydd L De Vet
Y Cyngorydd S Rees	Y Cyngorydd J Elliott
Y Cyngorydd S Evans	Y Cyngorydd S.Evans
Y Cyngorydd S. Rees-Owen	Y Cyngorydd M Forey
Y Cyngorydd A Fox	Y Cyngorydd M Norris
Y Cyngorydd E Webster	Y Cyngorydd M Webber
Y Cyngorydd M Griffiths	Y Cyngorydd A Roberts
Y Cyngorydd M Weaver	Y Cyngorydd G Holmes
Y Cyngorydd L Walker	Y Cyngorydd G Hopkins
Y Cyngorydd P Howe	Y Cyngorydd K Morgan
Y Cyngorydd R Yeo	Y Cyngorydd P Jarman
Y Cyngorydd G Thomas	Y Cyngorydd A Morgan
Y Cyngorydd M Adams	Y Cyngorydd J Rosser
Y Cyngorydd G Stacey	Y Cyngorydd C Leyshon
Y Cyngorydd J Brencher	Y Cyngorydd Owen-Jones
Y Cyngorydd W Owen	Y Cyngorydd S Morgans
Y Cyngorydd S Belzak	Y Cyngorydd E Stephens
Y Cyngorydd W Lewis	Y Cyngorydd G Jones
Y Cyngorydd W Treeby	Y Cyngorydd K Jones
Y Cyngorydd W Jones	Y Cyngorydd L Jones
Y Cyngorydd L Hooper	Y Cyngorydd J Harries
Y Cyngorydd D Grehan	Y Cyngorydd H Fychan
Y Cyngorydd M Fidler Jones	Y Cyngorydd J Williams
Y Cyngorydd A Davies-Jones	Y Cyngorydd J Davies
Y Cyngorydd J Cullwick	Y Cyngorydd A Cox
Y Cyngorydd A Chapman	Y Cyngorydd G Caple
Y Cyngorydd J Barton	

### **Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol**

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr  
Mr C Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu  
Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol  
Mr P Mee, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant  
Ms L Davies, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned

## 81 Ymddiheuriadau

Cafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Gynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol H Boggis, J Edwards, E George, E Griffiths, G Hughes, J James AS, R Lewis, M Powell, SM Powell, M Tegg a R Turner.

## 82 Datganiadau o Fuddiant

Yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, cafodd y datganiadau o fuddiant canlynol eu gwneud ynglŷn â'r agenda:

Eitem 6 - Cronfa Bensiwn Rhondda Cynon Taf 2020/21 – Datganiad o Gyfrifon ac Adroddiad Archwilio Allanol

Eitem 7 - Partneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru (PPC) - Cytundeb Rhyng-awdurdod

- Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings - "Rydw i'n talu arian i Gynllun Pensiwn yr Awdurdod Lleol yn rhan o fy lwfans gyda'r Cyngor a thrwy gynllun pensiwn Coleg y Cymoedd"
- Y Cyngorydd A Roberts – "Rydw i a fy mab, sy'n gweithio i'r Awdurdod, yn aelodau o gynllun pensiwn yr awdurdod lleol "
- Y Cyngorydd D Owen-Jones - "“Rwy'n aelod o Gynllun Pensiwn yr Awdurdod Lleol ”"
- Y Cyngorydd S Bradwick - "Fi yw cadeirydd Bwrdd Pensiwn Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru. Mae gan Gyngor RhCT gytundeb lefel gwasanaeth gyda'r Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub i ddarparu'r gwasanaeth yma ar gyfer pensiynau ein diffoddwyr tân"
- Y Cyngorydd S Bradwick - "Mae gen i bensiwn RhCT ac rydw i yn talu i mewn i'r cynllun pensiwn fel Aelod Etholedig"
- Y Cyngorydd L Jones - "“Rydw i'n aelod o Gynllun Pensiwn yr Awdurdod Lleol ”"
- Y Cyngorydd G Caple "Rydw i'n derbyn pensiwn yn rhan o Gynllun Pensiwn Llywodraeth Leo ac rydw i hefyd yn Aelod o Bwyllgor y Gronfa Bensiwn"
- Y Cyngorydd D R Bevan - "“Mae gen i ddau aelod o'r teulu, un yn derbyn pensiwn y cyngor ac un sy'n derbyn y Cynllun Pensiwn yr Awdurdod Lleol. Rydw i'n derbyn Cynllun Pensiwn yr Awdurdod Lleol”"

Eitem 8 ar yr Agenda – Rhybudd o Gynnig

- Y Cyngorydd L M Adams - "Mae pedwar aelod o fy nheulu yn gwasanaethu yn y Lluedd Arfog"

## 83 Cyhoeddiadau

- Cyhoeddodd y Cyngorydd AS Fox (ar ran yr Aelod Lleol, y Cyngorydd R Williams) fod dau grŵp ym Mhenrhiwceibr, sef Pwll Padlo Gerddi Lee ac Eglwys Sant Winifred wedi derbyn gwobr Uchel Siryf Morgannwg. Mae'r ddau wedi cael eu cydnabod am eu gwaith yn y gymuned ac allgymorth a'r prosiectau y maen nhw wedi'u cyflawni (yn enwedig yn ystod cyfnod covid). Mae'r prosiectau yma wedi gwella bywydau nifer o



deuluoedd. Mae rhai o'r prosiectau'n cynnwys, mynd i'r afael â llwgu yn ystod y gwyliau, mynd i'r afael â thlodi misglwyf, cefnogi grwpiau mamau newydd a chynnal sesiynau celf a chreffft wythnosol i blant. Maen nhw wedi darparu cymorth amhrisiadwy i dros 50 o deuluoedd bob wythnos gyda hanfodion bwyd yn ystod covid. Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Fox bod y Maer yn anfon llythyr i longyfarch y grwpiau.

- Roedd y Cynghorydd W Jones yn dymuno llongyfarch Capel Blaen-cwm ar gyflawni Baner Werdd Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus ar gyfer eu gardd gymunedol. Mae'r grŵp hefyd yn cynnal Banc Bwyd o'r Eglwys a'r caffi 'Pay as You Feel' sy'n rhoi cyfle i drigolion sy'n dalu beth maen nhw'n gallu'i dalu ar gyfer y bwyd. Roedd y Cynghorydd Jones hefyd am longyfarch y Cynghorydd G Davies a'i wraig sy'n rhedeg y caffi.
- Cyhoeddodd y Cynghorydd GR Davies 'fod sesiynau Therapi Coetir wythnosol 'Croeso i'n Coedwig' wedi derbyn Gwobr NHS Forest 2021 yn rhan o gategori Defnydd Arloesol o Fannau Gwyrdd gan Weithwyr Gofal Iechyd Proffesiynol. Cafodd Therapi Coetir ei sefydlu 3 blynedd yn ôl yn rhan o raglen 'Byddwch yn Heini RhCT' a phrosiect 'Creu eich Lle' y Gronfa Loteri. Mae'r cynllun wedi mynd o nerth i nerth a bellach yn gynaliadwy ac yn denu nifer o gyfranogwyr a gwirfoddolwyr ac yn croesawu pobl newydd. Prif gydran y sesiynau yw ymlacio trwy ymgymryd ag ymwybyddiaeth ofalgar ym myd natur. Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd G R Davies a fyddai modd anfon llythyr gan y Maer i longyfarch y grŵp ar ei gyflawniadau.

## 84 Cofnodion

**PENDERFYNWYD** cymeradwyo cofnodion o'r cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 20 Hydref, 2021 yn rhai cywir.

## 85 Datganiadau

Dywedodd Arweinydd y Cyngor fod y Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol wedi'i ymestyn i gynnwys darparwyr gofal cymdeithasol i oedolion y sector annibynnol sy'n darparu gofal preswyl a nyrsio i bobl hŷn, darpariaeth byw â chymorth, gofal ychwanegol a gofal cartref a chynorthwyr personol sy'n darparu gofal a chymorth trwy daliadau uniongyrchol, a hynny yn dilyn penderfyniad gan y Cabinet. Ychwanegodd fod y Cyngor eisoes wedi cymryd camau i gyflwyno'r Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol ar gyfer gwasanaethau gofal cartref a ddarperir gan y sector annibynnol yn rhan o drefniadau cytundeb fframwaith y Cyngor yn ogystal â'i staff mewnol ei hun.

Yn sgil gweithredu'r Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol o 1 Rhagfyr 2021, fydd dim un gweithiwr sy'n gweithio ym maes gofal cymdeithasol Cyngor RhCT yn ennill llai na £9.50 yr awr. Bydd hyn yn cynyddu i £9.90 yr awr o 1 Ebrill 2022. Cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd fod y Cyngor am weithredu'r gyfradd fesul awr uwch honno'n gynt a bydd diweddariad pellach yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r Cabinet a'r Cyngor yn y Flwyddyn Newydd i gadarnhau'r dyddiad gweithredu.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod trafodaethau yn parhau gyda Llywodraeth Cymru ynghylch y Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol, i sicrhau gweithlu cynaliadwy ar gyfer maes gofal a chymorth yn y cartref a gofal preswyl a nyrsio. Bydd cyflwyno'r Cyflog Byw Gwirioneddol ym mhob rhan o'r gweithlu hwn yn cynorthwyo gyda'r

broses recriwtio a'r heriau y mae'r maes yn eu hwynebu o ran recriwtio, o fewn yr Awdurdod Lleol a ledled Cymru.

## 86 Cwestiynau Gan y Cynghorwyr

### **Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol R Williams i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Gwasanaethau i Blant, Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol C Leyshon: -**

“A wnaiff yr Aelod o'r Cabinet roi datganiad mewn perthynas ag Apêl Siôn Corn eleni ac egluro pa rôl y mae modd i'r Aelodau ei chwarae wrth gefnogi'r fenter?”

#### **Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Morgan:**

Dyweddodd y Cyngorydd C Leyshon fod Apêl Siôn Corn, a drefnir gan y Cyngor, yn apêl hirsefydlog sy'n cefnogi teuluoedd sy'n hysbys i'r Gwasanaethau i Blant ond sydd ddim yn derbyn gofal. Pan fydd y Cyngor yn gweithio'n benodol gydag un plentyn mewn teulu a bod brodyr a chwiorydd eraill yn y cartref, byddan nhw hefyd yn derbyn cymorth. Ychwanegodd y Cyngorydd Leyshon fod llwyddiant yr Apêl yn dibynnu ar haelioni'r cyhoedd, busnesau lleol, yn ogystal ag Aelodau Etholedig a staff y Cyngor.

Roedd y Cyngorydd Leyshon wedi cydnabod fod eleni yn arbennig o heriol i deuluoedd gyda'r cynnydd Credyd Cynhwysol yn dod i ben ynghyd â chostau cynyddol ynni a thanwydd. Roedd y Cyngorydd wedi diolch i'r Aelodau am eu cymorth a oedd wedi sicrhau bod cannoedd o blant yn cael anrheg ar Ddydd Nadolig. Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Leyshon fod modd i Aelodau gynorthwyo trwy hyrwyddo'r apêl yn eu wardiau gan ddefnyddio'u cyfrifon ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol ac annog trigolion a busnesau lleol i gymryd rhan yn yr apêl trwy addo prynu anrheg i blentyn neu berson ifanc.

#### **Nid oedd unrhyw gwestiwn atodol.**

### **Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol M Forey i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Menter, Datblygu a Thai, Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol, D. R. Bevan:**

“Sut mae'r Cyngor yn cefnogi canol ein trefi i adfer yn dilyn pandemig COVID-19, yn y dyfodol agos a'r hir dymor?”

#### **Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol D.R.Bevan:**

Cyhoeddodd y Cyngorydd D R Bevan y bydd ystod o fentrau a mesurau a gyflwynwyd yn parhau ac yn cael eu datblygu yn y dyfodol megis y £460,000 o gymorth grant sydd ar gael i helpu busnesau i addasu i amodau masnachu newydd, gan gynnwys manau awyr agored, gyda chymorth LIC. Derbyniodd dros 80 o fusnesau'r cymorth yma, gan gynnwys busnesau mewn canol trefi llai megis Abercynon a Threherbert.

Dyweddodd y Cyngorydd D R Bevan fod Cronfa Buddsoddi mewn Mentrau'r Cyngor hefyd wedi cael ei addasu i sicrhau ei fod yn fwy hyblyg i fusnesau fanteisio arni yn ystod cyfnod adfer yn dilyn Covid. Lanswyd cynllun cymorth grant newydd i fusnesau gwerth £35miliwn i help gyda'r broses adfer yn dilyn

Covid ledled Cymru ddoe ac fe fydd yn cael ei ddarparu gan y Cyngor. Ychwanegodd fod gwaith gydag AGB RhCT a'r Siambrau Masnach, gan gynnwys ymgyrch farchnata Siopa'n Lleol, yn rhoi cyfle i bob un o'n trefi allweddol, Pontypridd, Treorci ac Aberdâr, farchnata eu busnesau lleol eu hunain.

Esboniodd y Cynghorydd Bevan fod cyfres o brosiectau yn cael ei datblygu ar gyfer eiddo canol y dref yn ogystal â mentrau i gynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr a gwariant lleol mewn trefi, gan fanteisio ar ffynonellau cyllid newydd fel Cronfa Codi'r Gwastad y DU. Cyfeiriodd y Cynghorydd Bevan at Ganolfan Drafnidiaeth y Porth a fydd yn rhoi mynediad gwell i'r dref gan ddefnyddio gwasanaethau newydd y Metro a'r bysiau.

I gloi, dywedodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Menter, Datblygu a Thai fod cyfanswm y gefnogaeth yn cyfateb i fwy na £75miliwn gyda swm sylweddol wedi'i roi i fusnesau yng nghanol ein trefi.

**Nid oedd unrhyw gwestiwn atodol.**

**Cwestiwn gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol D. Williams i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant, Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

"A wnewch chi rannu gwybodaeth ychwanegol mewn perthynas â'r cyhoeddiad diweddar bod y Cabinet wedi cymeradwyo cyllid ychwanegol ar gyfer gwelliannau Ysgolion yr 21<sup>ain</sup> Ganrif, yn enwedig o ran y cynnig ar gyfer ardal Glyn-coch"

**Ymateb gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

Ymatebodd y Cynghorydd Rosser trwy ddweud y bydd proses ymgynghori statudol ar gyfer trefniadaeth ysgolion yn cychwyn yn y Flwyddyn Newydd, yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth y Cabinet, a hynny mewn perthynas â chreu ysgol gynradd newydd sbon ar gyfer ardal Glyn-coch. Ychwanegodd nad oedd unrhyw brosiect arall sy'n rhan o raglen fuddsoddi Ysgolion yr 21<sup>ain</sup> Ganrif yn galw am ymgynghoriad statudol.

Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Rosser y bydd diweddariadau pellach yn cael eu darparu wrth i brosiectau gael eu datblygu ac amserlenni yn cael eu cadarnhau, ac roedd hi'n rhagweld y bydd trigolion lleol yn y gymuned yn cadw llygad ar y cynnydd hwn.

**Cwestiwn ategol gan y Cynghorydd D Williams:**

**Croesawodd y Cynghorydd Williams y cynnydd ac ychwanegodd y bydd y gymuned yn sicr yn edrych ymlaen at hyn. Gofynnodd pa waith ymgysylltu y bydd y Cyngor yn ei wneud gyda staff a disgyblion o ran y cynlluniau lliw a sut bydd yr ysgol yn edrych?**

**Ymateb gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Rosser fod datblygu'r cynigion yn cynnwys nifer o gamau ymgysylltu megis:

- Cynnal cyfarfodydd datblygu gyda'r pennaeth i drafod lleoliad yr ystafelloedd, cynllun cyffredinol y safle a bydd gan y staff ehangach gyfle hefyd i gyfrannu at gynllun ystafelloedd a dodrefn;
- Bydd disgyblion sy'n rhan o'r cyngor ysgol yn cael cyfle i gyflwyno eu barn ar liwiau, tra bydd contractwr y cynllun hefyd yn ymgysylltu â disgyblion yn ystod y camau dylunio ac adeiladu;
- Yn olaf, ychwanegodd y Cyngorydd Rosser fod yr holl ddigwyddiadau hyn yn amodol ar y Cabinet yn cymeradwyo ymgynghoriad statudol. Byddwn ni'n ceisio cymeradwyaeth ynghylch achos busnes hefyd i gwblhau trefniadau cyllido.

**Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol S. Pickering i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth - Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Crimmings:**

“All yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth ddarparu diweddiariad mewn perthynas â'r buddsoddiad ar gyfer Parc Coffa Ynysangharad gan amlinellu unrhyw gynlluniau sydd ar y gweill ar gyfer y dyfodol?”

Cadarnhaodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod cynnydd wedi'i wneud yn ystod 2021 i ddarparu pecyn o welliannau gwerth £1.2miliwn a ariannwyd gan y Cyngor a Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhan o fenter Parc Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd. Mae gwelliannau hefyd wedi cynnwys adnewyddiad llawn o'r holl brif lwybrau, gosod goleuadau stryd LED wedi'u huwchraddio a chyfleuster newid newydd yn Lido Cenedlaethol Cymru, Lido Ponty.

Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod cyllid ychwanegol gwerth £1.9miliwn wedi'i sicrhau gan Gronfa Treftadaeth y Loteri Genedlaethol a Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer dylunio ac adfer yr ardd isel, ardal y bandstand, yr ardal creigiâu a darparu canolfan hyfforddi/gweithgareddau newydd. Disgwylir y bydd yr elfen hon o'r prosiect yn cael ei chwblhau ar ddechrau 2023.

**Nid oedd unrhyw gwestiwn atodol.**

**Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol P Howe i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden, a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth, Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Crimmings:**

“Allech chi roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr ystafelloedd newid ym Mharc Darren, Glynrhedynog, os gwelwch yn dda?”

**Ymateb gan y Cyngorydd A. Crimmings:**

Cadarnhaodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod ailosod yr ystafelloedd newid sy'n gwasanaethu'r Astroturf ym Mharc Darren wedi'u cymeradwyo yn rhan o'r rhaglen gyfalaf 20/21 ar gyfer Parciau. Ychwanegodd y Cyngorydd fod angen symud y prosiect i'r flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol o ganlyniad i'r pandemig ac mae wedi arwain at nifer o rwystrau, yn bennaf oherwydd y mynediad cyfyngedig i'r safle.

Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod hyn wedi arwain at ganslo'r archeb ar gyfer adeilad dros dro a oedd ar fin cael ei anfon i'r safle a'r penderfyniad i fwrw

ymlaen ag adeilad brics yn ei le. Mae swyddogion wrthi'n cwblhau dyluniadau yn barod ar gyfer cyflwyno cais am ganiatâd cynllunio cyn gynted â phosibl, rydyn ni'n gobeithio y bydd hynny mor gynnar â'r mis nesaf.

#### **Cwestiwn Ategol gan y Cynghorydd P Howe:**

Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Howe fod yr Aelod o'r Cabinet eisoes wedi ateb ei gwestiwn ategol.

#### **Cwestiwn gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol P Jarman i Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol L Hooper, Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd:**

“A wnewch chi ddatganiad ar amrywiaeth mewn Bywyd Cyhoeddus?”

#### **Ymateb y Cynghorydd L Hooper:**

Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Hooper fod amrywiaeth mewn bywyd cyhoeddus yn rhan hanfodol o sicrhau bod y broses ddemocrataidd yn cynrychioli'r rhai rydyn ni'n eu cynrychioli ac o fudd pawb. Mae mwy o amrywiaeth yn arwain at broses benderfynu well a rhagor o ymgysylltu â'r trigolion hynny. Ychwanegodd y Cynghorydd fod llawer o waith wedi cael ei wneud yn y maes yma ers iddo ddod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd megis sut i wneud rôl y Cynghorydd yn fwy deniadol trwy gyflwyno cyfarfodydd hybrid a sicrhau bod cyfarfodydd mor hygyrch â phosibl ar gyfer Aelodau a sicrhau bod cymorth gofal ar gael i Aelodau beth bynnag yw eu hanghenion gofal unigol.

Cyfeiriodd y Cynghorydd Hooper at adroddiad y Panel Annibynnol ar Gydabyddiaeth Ariannol a oedd yn nodi cynigion ar gyfer tâl Cynghorwyr gan nodi ei fod e wedi ymateb i'r Panel yn rhan o'i rôl fel Cadeirydd. Rhoddodd wybod am y gwelliannau pellach sydd wedi cael eu gwneud i wefan y Cyngor i sicrhau bod yr wybodaeth yn fwy hygyrch a deniadol yn ogystal â phresenoldeb y Cyngor ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol. I gloi, rhoddodd y Cynghorydd Hooper wybod bod rhagor i'w wneud yn y maes hwn, a hynny gan y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, Aelodau Etholedig a phob Grŵp Gwleidyddol.

#### **Cwestiwn Ategol gan y Cynghorydd P Jarman:**

“Cyfeiriodd y Cynghorydd Jarman at wefan y Cyngor, nododd y dylai fod yn ffynhonnell ddibynadwy ar gyfer gwybodaeth gyhoeddus ac mae'n rhestru enwau a manylion pob un o'r 75 Aelod sy'n cynrychioli'r Cyngor hwn waeth beth fo'u rhyw neu gysylltiadau gwleidyddol. Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Jarman mai dim ond y 3 Aelod o'r Plaid Lafur sydd wedi'u nodi ar dudalen we'r Cyngor lle mae enwau'r Aelodau Seneddol ac Aelodau'r Senedd yn cael eu cyhoeddi. Tynnodd y Cynghorydd Jarman sylw at y ffaith ei fod yn gwahaniaethu yn erbyn y rhai sydd wedi eu hethol yn rhan o'r broses ddemocrataidd gan nad yw unrhyw un o'r 4 Aelod Plaid Cymru a'r 4 Aelod o'r Plaid Geidwadol sy'n Aelodau Rhanbarthol y Senedd ar gyfer Canol De Cymru a Gorllewin De Cymru yn cael eu cynrychioli, er bod dau yn Aelodau o'r Cyngor yma. Ymhlith yr Aelodau sydd wedi'u hepgor y mae Huw Irranca-Davies, Aelod o'r Senedd (Llafur) dros Ogwr a Chris Elmore, Aelod o'r Senedd sydd hefyd yn cynrychioli rhan o RCT.

Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Jarman beth fydd y Cynghorydd Hooper yn ei wneud i

unioni'r sefyllfa”.

**Ymateb y Cynghorydd L Hooper:**

Atgoffodd y Cynghorydd Hooper yr Aelodau o'i addewid fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, a hynny bod modd i Aelodau gysylltu ag ef ynghylch unrhyw ymholiad sy'n ymwneud â materion democrataidd. Ychwanegodd y byddai'n mynd ati i ddiweddarau'r tudalennau gwe perthnasol a gofyn bod adroddiad yn cael ei gyflwyno yn ystod cyfarfod nesaf o'r Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd ble'n addas.

**Cwestiwn gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Brencher i Arweinydd y Cyngor - Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**

“All Arweinydd y Cyngor roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ynghylch cwblhau cynllun Llys Cadwyn, Pontypridd, a'r gwaith marchnata dilynol?”

**Ymateb gan y Cynghorydd A. Morgan:**

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd y cafodd y prosiect ei gwblhau yn 2020, yn unol â'r rhaglen y cytunwyd arni. Mae nifer o denantiaid eisoes wedi symud i'r adeilad ac mae'r datblygiad wedi cyfrannu at nifer cynyddol o ymwelwyr yn y dref. Esboniodd fod strategaeth farchnata wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn hyd yma ac mae eisoes wedi arwain at 3 sefydliad ar wahân yn meddiannu adeilad 3 Llys Cadwyn, sef Trafnidiaeth Cymru, Bradley's Coffee a Lounges sydd wedi'u lleoli yn yr adeilad mwyaf o'r tri. Defnyddiodd y Cyngor adeilad 1 Llys Cadwyn fel canolfan i'r gymuned yn ystod y pandemig ac yn fwy diweddar mae'r gampfa, llyfrgell a'r gwasanaeth 'i bob un' wedi bod yn gweithredu'n llwyddiannus. Cytunwyd ar Benawdau'r Telerau ar gyfer darpar denant llawr gwaelod a llawr cyntaf adeilad 2 Llys Cadwyn ac mae'r ddwy ochr wedi penodi eu cynghorwyr cyfreithiol. I gloi, rhoddodd yr Arweinydd wybod bod trafodaethau cynnar ar y gweill gyda darpar denantiaid ar gyfer yr uned fanwerthu fach sy'n wynebu Stryd y Taf.

**87 Rhaglen Waith Y Cyngor 2021/22**

Rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu ddiweddariad ar y rhaglen waith y mae'r Cyngor wedi'i mabwysiadu/chyhoeddi gan roi gwybod y bydd cyfarfod nesaf y Cyngor yn cael ei gynnal ar 15 Rhagfyr gan weithredu dull hybrid. Ychwanegodd y bydd hyfforddiant ar gael i'r holl Aelodau yn rhan o 'sesiynau drws agored' a fydd yn cael eu cynnal yn Siambr y Cyngor. Bydd dwy eitem yn cael eu hystyried yng nghyfarfod nesaf y Cyngor:

- Adduned Amrywiaeth RhCT (drafft)
- Dau Adroddiad Blynyddol ar gyfer 2020/21 (Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio)

**88 Cronfa Bensiwn Rhondda Cynon Taf 2020/21 – Datganiad o Gyfrifon ac Adroddiad Archwilio Allanol**

Cyflwynodd Mr M Jones, Archwilio Cymru, yr adroddiad mewn perthynas â Datganiad o Gyfrifon Cronfa Bensiwn Rhondda Cynon Taf ar gyfer 2020-21 gan nodi bod yr adroddiad llawn a'r atodiadau cysylltiedig ynghlwm er gwybodaeth.

Roedd Mr Jones yn dymuno nodi nad oedd llawer o wybodaeth i'w chyflwyno a doedd dim newidiadau i'w rhannu gyda'r Cyngor. Aeth ymlaen i ychwanegu bod hyn yn dyst i effeithlonrwydd carfanau Cyllid Cyngor RhCT.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol fod y cyfrifon wedi'u paratoi mewn modd priodol erbyn dechrau Gorffennaf 2021 ac wedi llwyddo yn y broses archwilio. Nid yw unrhyw ddatganiad ariannol wedi cael ei effeithio ac mae gwerth y gronfa ychydig yn llai na £4.5biliwn. Rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr wybod bod gan y Cyngor, ac yntau'n gweithredu fel awdurdod gweinyddu'r gronfa, drefniadau llywodraethu cadarn ar waith, gan gynnwys Pwyllgor y Gronfa Bensiwn a Bwrdd Pensiynau RhCT.

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

(a) Cymeradwyo a nodi Datganiad o Gyfrifon Cronfa Bensiynau Rhondda Cynon Taf (Atodiad 1), a'r Llythyr Cynrychiolaeth cysylltiedig (Atodiad 2); a

(b) Nodi deilliant cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Archwilio a Llywodraethu a gafodd ei gynnal ar 12 Gorffennaf 2021 yn unol â gofynion Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (paragraff 8.2).

## **89 Partneriaeth Pensiynau Cymru (PPC) - Cytundeb Rhyng-awdurdod**

Wrth gyflwyno ei adroddiad, nododd y Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol fanylion y diwygiadau arfaethedig i Gytundeb Rhyng-Awdurdod Partneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr fod y Cyngor wedi cytuno i sefydlu Trefniadau Cydgyfrannu Buddsoddiadau Partneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru yn 2017. Mae'r rhain wedi'u llywodraethu gan Gytundeb Rhyng-awdurdod (IAA) a phroses benderfynu yn rhan o Gydbwyllgor Llywodraethu (JGC). Ychwanegodd fod pob un o'r wyth Cronfa Bensiwn yng Nghymru yn rhan o'r cydweithrediad hwn a oedd yn ymateb i ofynion cronni gorfodol Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer buddsoddiadau'r gronfa pensiwn. Ers sefydlu'r bartneriaeth pensiwn, mae 68% o fuddsoddiadau cyfanredol Cronfa Bensiwn Cymru (gwerth £14.6biliwn) wedi'u trosglwyddo i is-gronfeydd Partneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru.

Esboniodd y Cyfarwyddwr y cynigir bod y cytundeb rhyng-awdurdod bellach yn cael ei ddiweddarau i ganiatáu cyfraniadau pellach o ddosbarthiadau asedau buddsoddi ac i alluogi penodi aelod cyfetholedig heb hawl pleidleisio i fod yn rhan o'r Cydbwyllgor Llywodraethu, yn ogystal â mân ddiweddariadau eraill i adlewyrchu'r trefniadau gweithio.

Yn dilyn trafodaeth, **PENDERFYNWYD** nodi a chytuno ar y diwygiadau arfaethedig fel y'u nodir ym mharagraff 5 yn yr adroddiad ac yn Atodiad 1.

## **90 Adroddiad Canol Blwyddyn Cylch Rheoli'r Trysorlys 2020-21**

Yn unol â gofynion Cod Ymarfer Sefydliad Siartredig Cyllid Cyhoeddus a Chyfrifyddiaeth mewn perthynas â Rheoli'r Trysorlys, rhoddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol wybodaeth i'r Aelodau am waith Rheoli Trysorlys y Cyngor yn ystod chwe mis cyntaf 2021/22 yn ogystal â gwybodaeth am

Ddangosyddion Darbodus a Thrysorlys yn ystod yr un cyfnod.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr y bu cynnydd yn y gofynion benthyca eleni er bod y benthyca mwy hirdymor wedi digwydd yn ystod hanner cyntaf y flwyddyn. Mae'r Cyngor yn parhau i fenthyg £150miliwn yn llai na'r disgwyl o'i gymharu â'r angen sylfaenol i fenthyca neu ofynion cyllido cyfalaf ac o ganlyniad i hynny mae o fewn y ffiniau gweithredol a'r terfyn sydd wedi'i awdurdodi. Rhoddodd wybod bod balansau arian parod cyfartalog am hanner cyntaf y flwyddyn ychydig dros £20miliwn gydag elw isel iawn ar fuddsoddiadau tymor byr. Mae hyn yn pwysleisio'r strategaeth gyfredol o ran lleihau balansau arian parod a chynnal y drefn o fenthyg llai o arian.

I gloi, dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol fod y Cyngor wedi cydymffurfio â'r holl ddangosyddion a therfynau.

Ar ôl ystyried y mater, **PENDERFYNWYD** cymeradwyo cynnwys yr

## 91 Enwebiadau ar gyfer Rhyddfrait y Fwrdeistref Sirol

Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth ei adroddiad sy'n ceisio cynghori ac sy'n ceisio cymeradwyaeth yr Aelodau mewn perthynas ag argymhellion Gweithgor Rhyddid y Fwrdeistref, sy'n cael ei gadeirio gan y Maer, a oedd wedi cwrdd ar 10 Mai 2021 ac 11 Hydref 2021.

Dywedodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth fod argymhellion gan Weithgor Rhyddid y Fwrdeistref yn cynnwys cyflwyno Rhyddid y Fwrdeistref i Mr Neil Jenkins i gydnabod ei gyfraniad rhagorol i rygbi a'r tîm Cenedlaethol ac i'r holl weithwyr allweddol i gydnabod eu hymdrechion yn ystod y pandemig. O ran yr ail argymhelliad, cynghorodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth fod y Gweithgor (sy'n cynnwys y Maer, Dirprwy Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Arweinwyr y Grwpiau Gwleidyddol) yn cynnig bod yr anrhydedd yn cael ei ddyfarnu yn ystod achlysur i'r cyhoedd a fydd yn cael ei gynnal am ddim, yn amodol ar gytundeb y Cyngor Llawn. Bydd yr achlysur yn cael ei drefnu ar gyfer Haf 2022 a bydd yr achlysur mor hygyrch â phosibl.

Yn dilyn trafodaeth **PENDERFYNWYD** cefnogi argymhelliad Gweithgor Rhyddfrait y Fwrdeistref i gyflwyno anrhydedd Rhyddfrait y Fwrdeistref Sirol i:

1. Neil Jenkins (cyn diwedd Blwyddyn y Cyngor 2021/22)
2. Gweithwyr Allweddol (yr achlysur hygyrch ac am ddim i'w drefnu yn ystod Blwyddyn nesaf y Cyngor, sef 2022/23)

## 92 Deddf Gamblo 2005 - Datganiad o Egwyddor (Polisi Lleol) 2022 - 2025

Rhoddodd Cyfarwyddwr Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymuned ei adroddiad i'r Aelodau, sy'n trafod y Datganiad o Egwyddor diwygiedig, o dan ddarpariaethau Deddf Gamblo 2005 (h.y. y datganiad polisi lleol ar gyfer rheoli gweithgareddau gamblo o fewn ffiniau Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf), ar gyfer 2022-2025 yn unol â gofynion statudol.

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

1. Cymeradwyo'r diwygiadau i'r polisi, a oedd wedi'u trafod a'u cymeradwyo gan y Pwyllgor Trwyddedu ar [14 Medi 2021](#) a'r Cabinet ar [18 Hydref 2021](#); a



2. Mabwysiadu'r Datganiad o Egwyddor diwygiedig yn unol â'r gofynion statudol.

### 93 Rhybuddion o Gynnig

Derbyniwyd y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol yn enwau'r Cynghorwyr L Hooper, S Trask a J James:

"Mae nifer o unigolion a theuluoedd ledled Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf yn dyheu am fod yn berchen ar eu cartrefi eu hunain, ac mae'r Cyngor yn ymdrechu i'w helpu i wireddu'r freuddwyd yma.

O ganlyniad i brisiau tai cynyddol a phrinder eiddo, mae gwireddu'r freuddwyd o fod yn berchen ar gartref yn ymddangos yn fwyfwy heriol i unigolion a theuluoedd. Un ffactor sydd wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol at hyn yw tuedd gynyddol datblygwyr tai i gymryd rhan mewn arfer y cyfeirir ato'n gyffredin fel 'bancio tir', lle mae'r datblygwr yn llwyddo i sicrhau caniatâd cynllunio ond nad yw'n cyflawni'r datblygiad arfaethedig.

Mae hwn yn fater sy'n effeithio ar y Deyrnas Unedig yn ei chyfanrwydd, ac mae'n berthnasol ar gyfer hyd at 4,517 eiddo a roddwyd caniatâd i'w hadeiladu yn y Fwrdeistref Sirol yma rhwng 2012/13 a 2019/20, ond sydd eto i'w hadeiladu.

Er bod nifer o ffactorau a all esbonio pam na chaiff cais llwyddiannus i adeiladu eiddo ei ddwyn ymlaen, mae'n amlwg bod llawer iawn o'r achosion hyn o ganlyniad i'r arfer o 'fancio tir'.

Yn ogystal ag atal llawer o'n preswylwyr rhag prynu eu cartrefi cyntaf, gall hyn hefyd gael effaith andwyol ar ymddiriedaeth preswylwyr yn y system gynllunio pan fydd datblygwyr yn 'bancio tir' ar safleoedd 'tir llwyd' - gan roi pwysau ar y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol i gynnig safleoedd newydd ar gyfer dyraniadau tai a allai fod yn llai addas ar gyfer datblygiad o'r fath.

Felly, mae'r Cyngor yma'n penderfynu:

- Y bydd Arweinydd y Cyngor yn ysgrifennu at Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd Cymru (y mae ei phortffolio yn cynnwys tai) yn gofyn bod Awdurdodau Lleol yng Nghymru yn cael y grym i godi taliadau treth y cyngor ar geisiadau anghyflawn sydd ddim wedi'u dwyn ymlaen ar ôl amserlen gytûn a bennwyd gan yr awdurdodau lleol.

- Gofyn i swyddogion y cyngor gyflwyno adroddiad i'r Cyngor Llawn yn y Flwyddyn Newydd, yn nodi pa gamau mae modd eu cymryd yn y tymor byr i leihau effaith yr arfer niweidiol yma.

Yn dilyn trafodaeth ar y mater, **PENDERFYNWYD** – peidio â mabwysiadu'r Rhybudd o Gynnig.

**(Nodwch:** Roedd yr Aelodau canlynol o'r Grŵp Ceidwadol, Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol Hooper a Chynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol Trask, yn ogystal â'r Aelod Annibynnol Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol S Belzak yn dymuno bod y cofnodion yn nodi eu bod nhw wedi pleidleisio o blaid y Rhybudd o Gynnig).

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yniwyd y Rhybudd o Gynnig isod sydd yn enwau Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol

G. Davies, P Jarman, E, Webster, D. Grehan, E. Stephens, L. Jones, J. Williams, A. Cox, S. Evans, A. Chapman, S. Rees-Owen, M. Weaver, J. Davies, J. Cullwick, K. Morgan, H. Fychan ac E. Griffiths.

"Mae'r Cyngor yma'n mynegi pryderon ynghylch polisi llywodraeth y DU i recriwtio pobl ifainc 16 oed i'r fyddin. Llywodraeth y DU yw'r unig wlad o fewn NATO ac Ewrop sy'n gwneud hyn.

Mae modd i'r polisi yma gael effaith niweidiol ar bobl ifainc 16 a 17 oed sydd wedi'u recriwtio. Mae tystiolaeth yn dangos: -

- 1) Eu bod ddwywaith yn fwy tebygol o gael eu lladd wrth eu gwaith na recriwtiaid hŷn.
- 2) Eu bod nhw'n fwy tebygol o ddiodef problem iechyd meddwl fel PTSD, ac iselder.
- 3) Eu bod nhw'n fwy tebygol o fod yn gaeth i alcohol a chyffuriau
- 4) Eu bod nhw'n fwy tebygol o gyflawni hunanladdiad.
- 5) Bod 28% yn methu â chwblhau'r hyfforddiant sylfaenol.

Gwrthwynebwyd y polisi gan Gomisiynydd Plant Cymru ar y sail ei fod yn gwrthdaro â Chonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau i'r Plentyn.

Mae'r Cyngor yn bwriadu ysgrifennu at Brif Weinidog y DU yn gofyn i'r polisi gael ei newid ar frys. Bydd copi o'r llythyr hefyd yn cael ei anfon at Brif Weinidog Cymru.

Yn dilyn trafodaeth ar y mater, **PENDERFYNWYD** – peidio â **mabwysiadu'r Rhybudd o Gynnig**.

**(Noder:** Roedd yr Aelodau canlynol o Grŵp Plaid Cymru, Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol; y Cynghorydd A Chapman, y Cynghorydd A Cox, y Cynghorydd J Cullwick, y Cynghorydd G Davies, y Cynghorydd J Davies, y Cynghorydd S Evans, y Cynghorydd H Fychan, y Cynghorydd D Grehan, y Cynghorydd P Jarman, y Cynghorydd L Jones, y Cynghorydd K Morgan, y Cynghorydd S Rees-Owen y Cynghorydd E Stephens, y Cynghorydd M Weaver, y Cynghorydd E Webster a'r Cynghorydd J Williams a'r Aelod Annibynnol, Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol S Belzak yn dymuno bod y cofnodion yn nodi eu bod nhw wedi pleidleisio o blaid y Rhybudd o Gynnig

Roedd Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol canlynol o Grŵp Annibynnol RhCT; y Cynghorydd P Howe, y Cynghorydd K Jones, y Cynghorydd W Jones, y Cynghorydd W Owen a'r Cynghorydd L Walker a Chynghorwyr y Grŵp Ceidwadol; y Cynghorydd L Hooper a'r Cynghorydd S Trask yn dymuno bod y cofnodion yn nodi eu bod nhw wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn y Rhybudd o Gynnig).

**Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.40 pm**

**Cllr S Powderhill  
Cadeirydd.**

## **Cyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf**

Cofnodion cyfarfod hybrid y Cyngor a gafodd ei gynnal ddydd Mercher 15 Rhagfyr 2021 am 5.00pm

### **Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol – Aelodau o'r Cyngor a oedd yn bresennol:-**

#### **Y Cynghorydd S Powderhill (Cadeirydd)**

Y Cynghorydd S Trask	Y Cynghorydd R Williams
Y Cynghorydd G Hughes	Y Cynghorydd M Powell
Y Cynghorydd H Boggis	Y Cynghorydd J Bonetto
Y Cynghorydd S Bradwick	Y Cynghorydd R Bevan
Y Cynghorydd A Calvert	Y Cynghorydd T Williams
Y Cynghorydd A Crimmings	Y Cynghorydd D Williams
Y Cynghorydd G Davies	Y Cynghorydd L De Vet
Y Cynghorydd S Rees	Y Cynghorydd J Elliott
Y Cynghorydd S Evans	Y Cynghorydd S Evans
Y Cynghorydd M Forey	Y Cynghorydd A. Fox
Y Cynghorydd M Norris	Y Cynghorydd E Webster
Y Cynghorydd M Griffiths	Y Cynghorydd A Roberts
Y Cynghorydd G Holmes	Y Cynghorydd L Walker
Y Cynghorydd G Hopkins	Y Cynghorydd P Howe
Y Cynghorydd R Yeo	Y Cynghorydd P Jarman
Y Cynghorydd R Turner	Y Cynghorydd G Thomas
Y Cynghorydd A Morgan	Y Cynghorydd M Adams
Y Cynghorydd J Rosser	Y Cynghorydd R Lewis
Y Cynghorydd C Leyshon	Y Cynghorydd J Brencher
Y Cynghorydd W Owen	Y Cynghorydd S Morgans
Y Cynghorydd E. Stephens	Y Cynghorydd W Lewis
Y Cynghorydd G Jones	Y Cynghorydd W Treeby
Y Cynghorydd W. Jones	Y Cynghorydd L Jones
Y Cynghorydd L Hooper	Y Cynghorydd J Harries
Y Cynghorydd D Grehan	Y Cynghorydd E George
Y Cynghorydd H Fychan	Y Cynghorydd J Williams
Y Cynghorydd A Davies-Jones	Y Cynghorydd J Davies
Y Cynghorydd J Cullwick	Y Cynghorydd A Cox
Y Cynghorydd E Griffiths	Y Cynghorydd G Caple
Y Cynghorydd J Edwards	Y Cynghorydd J Barton

#### **Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol**

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr  
Mr C Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth – Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu  
Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyllid a Digidol  
Mr P Mee, Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y Gwasanaethau Cymuned a Gwasanaethau i Blant  
Mr R Evans, Cyfarwyddwr Materion Adnoddau Dynol  
Mr P Nicholls, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth, Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol

## 94 Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau

Croesawodd y Llywydd bawb i gyfarfod hybrid cyntaf y Cyngor a chyhoeddodd enwau'r Cynghorwyr a oedd yn bresennol yn Siambr y Cyngor:

Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Morgan, A Crimmings, G Caple, S Bradwick, R Williams, LM Adams, L Walker, J Davies, S Trask a L Hooper.

Roedd y Swyddogion canlynol hefyd yn bresennol yn Siambr y Cyngor:

Mr C Bradshaw, Prif Weithredwr, Mr B Davies, Cyfarwyddwr Cyllid a Gwasanaethau Digidol, Mr P Nicholls, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Mr C Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth - Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu.

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol S Belzak, A Chapman, J James AS, K Jones, M Fidler Jones, K Morgan, D Owen-Jones, S Pickering, SM Powell, S Rees-Owen, G Stacey, M Tegg, M Weaver a M Webber.

## 95 Datganiad o Fuddiant

Yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, cafodd sawl datganiad o fuddiant personol ei wneud nes ymlaen yn y cyfarfod mewn perthynas â'r agenda (gweler Cofnod Rhif 103 – Rhybudd o Gynnig).

## 96 Cyhoeddiadau

- Roedd y Cynghorydd S Powderhill a'r Cynghorydd C Leyshon wedi canmol Melissa Foster a Christina Prewitt ar eu haddewid i gasglu sbwriel am 365 diwrnod, gan ddechrau ar Nos Galan 2020 a gorffen ar Nos Galan 2021. Cyhoeddwyd eu bod nhw wedi casglu sbwriel mewn llawer o ardaloedd lleol megis Trallwng, Trefforest, Y Ddraenen Wen, Beddau, Glyn- taf, Cilfynydd, Radur, Castell Coch ac Ogwr hyd yma yn ogystal â lleoliadau ymhellach i ffwrdd fel Windermere a Kendall. Gofynnwyd bod llythyr gan y Maer yn cael ei anfon at Melissa a Christina i gydnabod eu hymdrechion.
- Cyhoeddodd y Cynghorydd Sera Evans fod Ysgol Gynradd y Parc yng Nghwm-parc wedi derbyn gwobr 'Calon y Gymuned' gan Sefydliad Ymgysylltu â'r Gymuned a dyma'r ysgol gyntaf yng Nghymru i ennill y wobwr. Mae'r ysgol wedi bod yn cefnogi ei disgyblion, teuluoedd a'r gymuned gyda gweithgareddau fel dosbarthiadau tylino babanod, sesiynau i deuluoedd â phlant bach, prosiectau eco-gymunedol, ymweld â'r grŵp dementia lleol ddwywaith y mis, cynnig cyfleoedd hyfforddi yn ogystal â chynnal gweithdai i'r gymuned a darparu pecynnau bwyd angenrheidiol. Dyfarnwyd y wobwr 'Hyrwyddwr Cymunedol Eithriadol' i Swyddog Ymgysylltu â Theuluoedd yr Ysgol, Leanne Gough, gan gydnabod ei hangerdd dros les ei disgyblion a'u teuluoedd yng Nghwm-parc. Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd bod y Maer yn anfon llythyr i gydnabod cyflawniad yr ysgol.

- Cyhoeddodd y Cynghorydd A Cox fod 'House of Hansen' sydd wedi'i leoli ar Stryd Hannah, Porth wedi ennill 'Salon Harddwch y Flwyddyn 2021' yng ngwobrau Gwallt a Harddwch Cymru. Dyma gwmni o'r Porth sydd wedi bod yn y dref ers dros 10 mlynedd ac mae'r busnes hefyd yn cynnig hyfforddiant harddwch i unigolion. Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Cox bod y Maer yn anfon llythyr at Stacey Hansen a'r salon i gydnabod y wobr.

## 97 Cofnodion

**PENDERFYNODD** y Cyngor gymeradwyo cofnodion y cyfarfod, a gynhaliwyd ar 24 Tachwedd (3.30pm) yn rhai cywir.

## 98 Datganiadau

Rhoddodd yr Arweinydd ddiweddariad ynghylch y datblygiadau diweddaraf o ran Covid ar lefel lleol a chenedlaethol. Dywedodd fod y nifer uchaf o achosion erioed, sef cyfanswm o 78,600 o achosion, wedi'u cofnodi ledled y DU. Roedd sefyllfa fwy sefydlog i'w gweld yn Rhondda Cynon Taf dros y 7 diwrnod diwethaf, er mae'n debygol y bydd hyn yn newid dros yr wythnosau nesaf gyda chynnydd cyflym yn nifer yr achosion, yn enwedig gyda dyfodiad yr amrywiolyn newydd, sef Omicron. Hyd yma mae 3 achos o Omicron wedi'u cadarnhau yng Nghwm Taf Morgannwg.

Roedd yr Arweinydd wedi diolch i'r swyddogion hynny o garfan yr awdurdod lleol am eu cyfraniad nhw at y rhaglen frechu, ychwanegodd fod 105 o staff y Cyngor yn cefnogi'r gwaith o gyflawni'r targed o roi 50,000 o frechlynnau'r wythnos. Bydd y ffigur yma'n cynyddu i rhwng 140 a 150 o staff i gefnogi'r GIG yng ngoleuni targedau newydd a osodwyd gan Lywodraethau Cymru.

Pwysleisiodd yr Arweinydd fod modd i bawb sydd heb gael y brechlyn cyntaf neu'r ail frechlyn fynd i Ganolfan Frechu heb apwyntiad. O ran y brechlyn atgyfnerthu, pwysleisiodd bwysigrwydd mynychu'r apwyntiadau a neilltuwyd gan fod nifer fawr o staff y Cyngor wedi gorfod cael eu hadleoli i fynd i'r afael â'r cynnydd yn nifer y galwadau gan drigolion sy'n dymuno newid/ymholi ynghylch eu hapwyntiadau. Roedd yr Arweinydd yn annog pawb i ddefnyddio'r cyfleuster ar-lein lle bo modd ac yn achos yr holl drigolion sy'n gaeth i'r tŷ, mae meddygon teulu lleol yn trefnu ymweliadau â thai ac felly nid yw'n broblem i ganolfan alwadau'r Cyngor.

I gloi, pwysleisiodd yr Arweinydd y bydd yr amrywiolyn newydd yn arwain at nifer fawr o heintiau a bydd modd iddo effeithio ar nifer y staff sydd ar gael, yn enwedig yn y sector gofal cymdeithasol, sydd bob amser yn heriol. Ychwanegodd y byddai diweddariadau pellach yn cael eu darparu maes o law.

## 99 Cwestiynau gan yr Aelodau

**Cafodd yr Aelodau wybod y derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth y Cynghorwyr G Stacey ac M Webber, Dirprwy Arweinydd y Cyngor. Cadarnhaodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth - Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfathrebu na fyddai cwestiwn 6 yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ac y byddai ymatebion ysgrifenedig yn cael eu darparu mewn perthynas â chwestiynau 5, 14 a 23.**

**Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Cox i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant, Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

“Pa baratodau y mae CBS RhCT yn eu gwneud mewn perthynas â'r cynnig i gyflwyno Prydau Ysgol am Ddim i holl ddisgyblion cynradd Cymru?”

**Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Rosser fod gwasanaethau arlwygo RhCT ar hyn o bryd yn adolygu'r ddarpariaeth prydau ysgol ym mhob un o ysgolion cynradd ac ysgolion arbennig y Cyngor drwy asesu offer y gegin a'r cyfleusterau storio er mwyn amcangyfrif y cynnydd yn nifer y prydau bwyd a'r gofynion ychwanegol o ran staff, offer, storio a faint o le sydd yn y ffreutur. Ychwanegodd y Cyngorydd Rosser fod y Cyngor wedi cwrrd ag Awdurdodau Lleol eraill, cyflenwyr a chynrychiolwyr Llywodraeth Cymru i drafod yr heriau a wynebwr ledled Cymru a'i fod ar hyn o bryd yn aros i Lywodraeth Cymru gadarnhau manylion y cynnig, y trefniadau ariannu a'r amserlenni er mwyn dechrau'r gwaith gweithredu.

**Cwestiwn Ategol gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Cox:**

“A yw'r Cyngor yn edrych ar y fformiwlâu ariannu yn fewnol ac yn asesu ai dyma'r fformiwla ariannu orau ar gyfer y gwasanaeth ac yn asesu'r buddion ar gyfer yr ysgolion? A wnaiff yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ymuno â mi i longyfarch yr ymgyrchwyr sydd wedi brwydro'n galed am gyfnod hir i sicrhau bod hyn yn cael ei fabwysiadu ac i Blaid Cymru sydd wedi mynnu hyn yn rhan o'r cytundeb gyda Llafur er gwaethaf ei wrthod yn y Senedd?”

**Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Rosser:**

Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Rosser fod y Cyngor yn aros i gael rhagor o wybodaeth am drefniadau ariannu ond rhoddodd sicrwydd y byddai popeth yn cael ei asesu'n briodol ac mewn da bryd. Ychwanegodd fod pawb yn falch o'r canlyniad ond ychwanegodd mai'r penderfyniad cywir oedd aros ar gyfer adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant cyn ymrwymo i'r cynnig, a hynny gan nad oedd Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi rhoi unrhyw sicrwydd ynghylch cyllid.

Atgoffodd y Cyngorydd Rosser y Cyngor fod y Cynnig gan Blaid Cymru yn galw am brydau ysgol am ddim ar gyfer *pob* plentyn, gan gynnwys y rhai mewn ysgolion preifat. Mae hefyd yn gofyn bod pob teulu sy'n derbyn Credyd Cynhwysol yn gymwys ond nid oedd y cynnig yn cynnwys costau nac yn cynnig unrhyw argymhellion ynghylch cyllid. I gloi, dywedodd y Cyngorydd Rosser fod hyn yn enghraifft o gydweithio ym myd gwleidyddiaeth yng Nghymru a mae modd dathlu'r newidiadau cadarnhaol y mae'r cynnig yn ei wneud.

**Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G Holmes i Arweinydd y Cyngor - Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Morgan:**

“Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyhoeddi y bydd teuluoedd ar incwm isel a budd-daliadau cymwys yn derbyn £100 i'w helpu gyda'u biliau cyfleustodau y gaeaf hwn. All Arweinydd y Cyngor roi rhagor o wybodaeth am hyn a faint o bobl fydd yn elwa o hyn yn RhCT?”

**Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Morgan:**

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod y Cynllun Tanwydd y Gaeaf yn mynd yn fyw ar wefan y Cyngor ddydd Llun yr wythnos hon a bydd y cynllun yn rhoi cyfle i unigolion perthnasol wneud cais am £100 i'w helpu gyda chostau cyfleustodau dros y Gaeaf. Esboniodd fod y Cyngor wedi ysgrifennu at tua 15,400 o aelwydydd sy'n hawlio cymorth ar hyn o bryd yn rhan o Gynllun Gostyngiadau Treth y Cyngor RhCT. Mae yna nifer o aelwydydd eraill sy'n gymwys ac sy'n hawlio budd-dal perthnasol ond sydd ddim yn gymwys ar gyfer Gostyngiad Treth y Cyngor ac mae opsiwn gyda nhw i hawlio'r cymorth ar wefan y Cyngor. Ar hyn o bryd rydyn ni'n amcangyfrif y bydd hyd at 15,800 o aelwydydd eraill yn elwa o'r cymorth hwn sy'n golygu ei bod hi'n bosibl y bydd 31,200 o aelwydydd yn RhCT yn gymwys i gael y taliad hwn, sy'n golygu bod £3.12m yn mynd yn uniongyrchol i'r teuluoedd tlotafl yn y Sir dros y gaeaf.

Rhoddodd yr Arweinydd wybod bod Swyddogion wrthi'n cyflawni gwaith i ennill dealltwriaeth well o bwy yw'r aelwydydd yma, a'u nodi nhw, fel bod modd i'r Cyngor ganolbwyntio ar gysylltu â nhw. I gloi, galwodd yr Arweinydd ar yr Aelodau i annog aelwydydd i gofrestru ar gyfer y cymorth hwn.

#### **Cwestiwn ategol gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G Holmes:**

"Mae llawer o bensynwyr yn byw ar eu pen eu hunain ac yn ei chael hi'n anodd oherwydd y cynnydd mewn costau, oes modd i ni alw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu rhagor o gymorth iddyn nhw?"

#### **Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Morgan:**

Cadarnhaodd y Cyngorydd Morgan fod hyn y tu allan i gwmpas y gronfa ond dywedodd fod gan aelwydydd Pobl Hŷn hawl i Lwfans Tanwydd Gaeaf ar hyn o bryd a bod gan y rhai dros 80 oed hawl i gynnydd pellach gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd y byddai'n codi hyn gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru cyn gynted â phosibl.

#### **Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol R Williams i'r Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth - Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Crimmings:**

"All yr Aelod Cabinet roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ffigurau ailgylchu hyd yma eleni a chadarnhau a ydyn ni ar y trywydd iawn i gyrraedd targedau Llywodraeth Cymru?"

#### **Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Crimmings:**

Cadarnhaodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod gan y Cyngor dargedau statudol ar gyfer ailgylchu sydd wedi'u pennu gan Lywodraeth Cymru a tharged eleni yw 64%. Gall methu â'i gyflawni arwain at ddirwy o £200 am bob tunnell ychwanegol. Ychwanegodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings taw'r her gynyddol dros y 18 mis diwethaf oedd darparu gwasanaethau yn ystod y pandemig a dymunodd ddiolch i'r staff am eu hymroddiad a'u hymrwymiad. Cadarnhaodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod y cyfraddau ailgylchu ar gyfer y flwyddyn hyd yma (Ebrill-Hydref) ychydig dros 69% (69.11%) sy'n uwch na tharged Llywodraeth Cymru, mae hwn yn cynrychioli cyflawniad sylweddol gan y Cyngor a thrigolion RhCT yn ystod y Pandemig.

Dywedodd y Cyngorydd Crimmings fod ffigurau eleni'n cynrychioli'r ffigurau uchaf erioed ar gyfer y Cyngor ac mae bod mor agos at y targedau yn ystod y cyfyngiadau yn dyst i ymrwymiad y staff a threfniadau casglu. Dywedodd y Cyngorydd mai'r targed nesaf ar gyfer y Cyngor hwn yw targed 2024/2025 o 70%

ac, os gellir ei gynnal a'i wella ychydig, bydd y Cyngor ar y trywydd iawn i barhau i weithio tuag at gyflawni ei nod o 80%. Mae newid arferion gweithredu wedi rheoli effaith y cyfyngiadau a difrifoldeb y mesurau er mwyn bodloni rheolau a chanllawiau a sicrhau bod gwasanaethau yn cael eu darparu mewn modd diogel, a hynny o ran y staff a'r trigolion.

**Cwestiwn Ategol gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol R. Williams:**

“Beth arall y mae modd i ni ei wneud o ran cyfathrebu â thrigolion i gyrraedd targed y Cyngor o 80%?”

**Ymateb gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A Crimmings:**

Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Crimmings fod y Cyngor, er y cynnydd rhagorol ac ymdrechion trigolion, yn awyddus i gyflawni mwy. Yn ddiweddar, mae negeseuon ailgylchu Nadoligaidd wedi'u rhannu ar gyfrifon cyfryngau cymdeithasol y Cyngor. Mae ymgyrchoedd llwyddiannus hefyd wedi'u cynnal dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, yn lleol ac yn rhan o'r ymgyrch ranbarthol “Bydd Wych” gydag Awdurdodau Lleol eraill De Ddwyrain Cymru. Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Crimmings fod y Cyngor yn bwriadu lansio ymgyrch codi ymwybyddiaeth ryngweithiol yn 2022 i bwysleisio bod angen i drigolion ailgylchu cymaint â phosibl. I gloi, cadarnhaodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd, Hamdden a Gwasanaethau Treftadaeth fod yr Awdurdod yn parhau i edrych ar ffyrdd o leihau ei ôl troed carbon, mae dwy enghraifft ddiweddar yn cynnwys y sachau gwastraff gwyrdd newydd a threialu cerbyd casglu trydan yn ddiweddar.

**Cwestiwn gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Caple i Arweinydd y Cyngor, Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**

“A wnaiff yr Arweinydd ddatganiad ar sut mae'r Cyngor yma yn gweithio gyda Trivallis a darparwyr tai cymdeithasol eraill i gyflawni gwelliannau amgylcheddol?”

**Ymateb gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**

Cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd fod y Cyngor wedi gweithio'n agos gyda chymdeithas tai Trivallis dros nifer o flynyddoedd i nodi llwybrau troed wedi'u mabwysiadu ar ei hystadau a gwelliannau eraill i seilwaith. Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae'r Cyngor wedi derbyn cymorth ariannol gan Trivallis ac mae'r Cyngor wedi cyfrannu'r un swm i gynnal gwaith gwella ystadau ym Mhen-y-waun, Cwm-bach, Maerdy, Dinas, Cymer, Trebanog a Thonyrefail. Yn ogystal â hyn, cynhaliwyd gwaith ar y cyd ar fuddsoddi ym meysydd chwarae ar safleoedd Trivallis. Mae gan y Cyngor Warden Gorfodi/Ymwybyddiaeth ar hyn o bryd (wedi'i ariannu gan Trivallis o dan Gytundeb Lefel Gwasanaeth) sy'n delio â phroblemau/troseddau amgylcheddol ar yr ystadau.

Nododd yr Arweinydd fod gan y Cyngor staff glanhau ychwanegol (2 swydd cyfwerth ag amser llawn) sy'n ymgymryd â gwaith glanhau ychwanegol ar nifer o ystadau Trivallis sy'n achosi problemau. Hefyd, mae'r Cyngor yn gweithio'n rheolaidd gyda Trivallis i nodi problemau (gwastraff/tipio'n anghyfreithlon/ac ati yn bennaf) a chydlynu gweithwyr i gynnal gwaith glanhau ac ymateb i broblemau.

**Cwestiwn ategol gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Caple:**

“Oes modd i chi ehangu ar y buddion ariannol i'r Cyngor a Trivallis o ganlyniad i'r gwelliannau amlwg ar gyfer tenantiaid a thrigolion hen Ystadau'r Cyngor e.e. gwelliannau i briffyrdd ar Ystad Rhiw Garn, Trebanog?”

**Ymateb gan Gynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**



Nododd yr Arweinydd ei bod yn bwysig manteisio i'r eithaf ar y buddion lle mae modd i'r Cyngor weithio'n agos â Trivallis. Rhoddodd enghraifft o hyn gan gyfeirio at wella mynediad i fflatau. Mewn rhai achosion, mae'r Cyngor wedi ymgymryd â gwaith a oedd yn rhan o gylch gwaith Trivallis o ran gwelliannau amgylcheddol ond mae eu hychwanegu nhw at gontractau'r Cyngor pan fo ar y safle yn barod yn manteisio i'r eithaf ar effeithlonrwydd yn achos y Cyngor a Trivallis.

Cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd ei fod wedi ymweld â safleoedd gyda Trivallis a swyddogion yr Awdurdod Lleol er mwyn trafod rhaglen waith y flwyddyn nesaf. O ran gwella llifogydd, nododd yr Arweinydd fod Trivallis wedi gwneud cyfraniadau ariannol er mwyn gwella asedau llifogydd i ddarparu mesurau gwrthsefyll ychwanegol yn yr eiddo. Yn ogystal â Trivallis, cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd fod gwaith ar y cyd â Darparwy'r Tai eraill yn parhau.

### **Cwestiwn gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. P. Thomas i Arweinydd y Cyngor, Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**

"A all Arweinydd y Cyngor amlinellu pa geisiadau sydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru, ac sy'n mynd i gael eu cyflwyno iddi, o ran gwella cwlferi a chynlluniau lliniaru llifogydd?"

### **Ymateb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan:**

Nododd yr Arweinydd fod carfan Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd y Cyngor wrthi'n datblygu ceisiadau am nifer o brosiectau a chmau prosiectau mawr fydd yn llywio amserlen Llywodraeth Cymru o ran ceisiadau grant ar gyfer blwyddyn ariannol 2022/23. Rhoddwyd gwybod i Aelodau y Cafodd y ceisiadau am y rhain eu cyflwyno erbyn 10 Rhagfyr 2021. Mae'r garfan yn edrych ar gynlluniau piblinellau cenedlaethol ac mae wedi cyflwyno cynlluniau ar gyfer y tair blynedd nesaf. Bydd cynlluniau pellach yn cael eu hychwanegu at flynyddoedd dau a thri dros amser.

Rhoddodd yr Arweinydd wybod bod cyllid sylweddol wedi'i dderbyn trwy'r prosiectau ar raddfa fach sy'n cynnwys prosiectau hyd at £150K. Mae nifer o gynlluniau wedi'u cymeradwyo yn barod. Mae nifer o geisiadau wedi cael eu cyflwyno ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf a bydd rhagor o wybodaeth o ran cymeradwyo ar gael erbyn mis Chwefror/Mawrth 2022, er bod pob cais wedi'i gyflwyno hyd yn hyn wedi cael ei gymeradwyo gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

O ran y Gronfa Ffyrdd Cydnerth, sy'n cynnwys cynlluniau draenio priffyrdd yn bennaf, nododd yr Arweinydd fod nifer o gwlferei wedi achosi llifogydd ar briffyrdd. Hefyd, nododd fod eiddo preswyl wedi'u heffeithio wedi bod yn destun ceisiadau grant unigol. Cyfanswm buddsoddiad y ceisiadau grant yma yw £8M y flwyddyn nesaf.

Yn dilyn llifogydd pellach, mae'r Cyngor yn parhau i gyflymu rhaglen heriol o brosiectau rheoli perygl llifogydd gyda 9 cais arall am waith ar raddfa fach wedi'u cyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru. Cafodd y rhain eu cymeradwyo ym mis Tachwedd 2021 ar gyfer 2021/22, gan greu buddsoddiad arall o £480k. Cyfanswm y portffolio presennol o brosiectau rheoli perygl llifogydd sy'n cael eu cyflawni neu'u datblygu yn 2021/22 yw 70. I gloi, esboniodd yr Arweinydd fod y prosiectau yma'n debygol o barhau dros y 5-10 mlynedd nesaf.

### **Cwestiwn Ategol gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Thomas:**

“Mewn perthynas â'r datganiad i'r wasg diweddar o ran Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru sy'n annog pobl i wirio eu risg llifogydd, oes modd i chi roi cyngor pellach os bydd trigolion yn cysylltu â ni?”

Esboniodd yr Arweinydd fod y datganiad i'r wasg diweddar o ran Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ar wefan y Cyngor wedi hyrwyddo'r offeryn gwirio codau post sydd i'w ddefnyddio ar wefan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Caiff trigolion wirio a ydyn nhw mewn perygl o fathau penodol o lifogydd. O safbwynt y Cyngor, cytunodd y Cabinet ar Garfan Gorfodi Llifogydd a Swyddog Ymwybyddiaeth a Chymorth Llifogydd yn ddiweddar, fydd yn ymgysylltu â thrigolion er mwyn cynnig cyngor ar faterion lliniaru llifogydd.

#### **100 Rhaglen Waith y Cyngor 2021/22**

Cadarnhaodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu nad oedd unrhyw newidiadau o ran Rhaglen Waith y Cyngor 2021/22 sydd wedi'i mabwysiadu a'i chyhoeddi.

#### **101 Amrywiaeth mewn Democratiaeth**

Cyflwynodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu ei adroddiad a geisiodd gymeradwyaeth y Cyngor mewn perthynas â'r 'Datganiad Amrywiaeth' fel addewid ffurfiol y Cyngor i ddod yn Gyngor Amrywiol. Aeth e ati i atgoffa Aelodau o'r penderfyniad a wnaethpwyd gan Aelodau i ddod yn Gyngor Amrywiol yn y cyfarfod arbennig o'r Cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 26 Mai 2021. Roedd trafodaeth am gyfres o argymhellion gan Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, ac roedd pob Grŵp Gwleidyddol o blaid. RhCT oedd y Cyngor cyntaf yng Nghymru i wneud yr addewid.

Nododd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi canolbwyntio'n sylweddol ar yr agenda amrywiaeth ac mae nifer o argymhellion wedi dod i'r amlwg o waith Amrywiaeth mewn Democratiaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ac mae sylw yn cael ei roi i'r rhain trwy Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021.

Rhannwyd manylion gan y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth mewn perthynas â'r Gweithgor a sefydlwyd gan Bwyllgor y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd i fwrw ymlaen â'r mater a hyrwyddo cyfranogi ac ymgysylltu cyn etholiadau llywodraeth leol 2022. I gydnabod y gwaith sydd wedi'i gynnal a'r blaenoriaethau parhaus fel sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr adroddiad sydd wedi'i atodi, cynigir mabwysiadu'r datganiad amrywiaeth.

Ar ôl trafod yr adroddiad ac atodiadau cysylltiedig, **PENDERFYNWYD:**

1. Mabwysiadu'r 'Datganiad Amrywiaeth' sydd wedi'i atodi, yn amodol ar gynnwys y pwynt ychwanegol canlynol “i annog pob Aelod i fod yn rhan o Gynllun Pensiwn Llywodraeth Leol i helpu i'w hamddiffyn nhw ar ôl ymddeol” a bwrw ymlaen â'r datganiad fel addewid ffurfiol y Cyngor i ddod yn Gyngor Amrywiol.

#### **102 Adroddiadau Blynyddol 2020/21**

Trwy ei adroddiad, cyflwynodd Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu Adroddiadau Blynyddol y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio ar gyfer Blwyddyn y Cyngor 2020/21. Ychwanegodd gan nodi

bod y ddau adroddiad blynyddol wedi'u cymeradwyo gan y Pwyllgorau priodol ar gyfer eu cyflwyno i'r Cyngor Llawn.

Yn dilyn sylwadau gan Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol L Hooper, a Chadeirydd y Pwyllgor Archwilio, Mr C Jones, **PENDERFYNWYD** nodi'r Adroddiadau Blynyddol ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio ar gyfer Blwyddyn y Cyngor 2020/21 (yn amodol ar gywiro gwall argraffu ar dudalen 3 Adroddiad Blynyddol y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd).

### 103 Rhybudd o Gynnig

Derbyniwyd y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol yn enwau Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol: S. Bradwick, M. Forey, L. M. Adams, J. Barton, D. R. Bevan, H. Boggis, J. Bonetto, J. Brencher, A. Calvert, G. Caple, A. Crimmings, A. Davies-Jones, L. De- Vet, J. Edwards, J. Elliott, S. Evans, G. Jones, M. Fidler Jones, A. Fox, E. George, M. Griffiths, J. Harries, G. Holmes, G. Hopkins, R. Lewis, W. Lewis, C. Leyshon, A. Morgan, S. Morgans, M. A. Norris, D. Owen-Jones, S. Pickering, S. Powell, S. Rees, A. Roberts, J. Rosser, G. Stacey, M. Tegg, G. Thomas, W. Treeby, R. K. Turner, M. Webber, D. Williams, R. Williams, T. Williams, R. Yeo

Dylai banciau fod yn wasanaeth hanfodol yn ein cymunedau, gan gynnig mynediad cyfleus i drigolion i'w harian a'u galluogi nhw i ofalu am unrhyw faterion ariannol personol. Yn aml, maen nhw wedi'u lleoli yng nghanol ein trefi, yn agos at gyfleusterau a siopau hanfodol eraill.

Yr hysbysiad sy'n nodi y bydd cwmni Barclays yn cau ei gangen yn Sgwâr Fictoria yn Aberdâr ym mis Mawrth 2022 yw'r enghraifft ddiweddaraf o wasanaethau ariannol yn cael eu tynnu'n ôl o gymunedau Rhondda Cynon Taf. Os bydd y cynlluniau'n cael eu cymeradwyo, byddan nhw'n cael effaith niweidiol ar y cyfleoedd sydd gan ein trigolion i ddefnyddio'r cyfleusterau yma, yn ogystal â chael effaith ar fywiogrwydd canol ein trefi. Mae'r Cyngor wedi gweithio'n galed i sicrhau bod ein canol trefi yn llefydd deniadol a chroesawgar ar gyfer y cymunedau y maen nhw'n eu gwasanaethu, yn enwedig ar ôl yr anawsterau eithriadol y mae masnachwyr lleol wedi'u hwynebu yn ystod y 18 mis diwethaf.

Mae Aberdâr eisoes wedi gweld NatWest a HSBC yn tynnu eu gwasanaethau o'r dref, tra bod Trefforest, Treorci, Porth ac Aberpennar ymhlith yr ardaloedd eraill sydd hefyd wedi gweld banciau'n cau yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf

Ni fydd y sicrwydd sy'n cael ei ddarparu gan Barclays ynghylch y gwasanaethau agosaf ym Merthyr Tudful a Phontypridd yn fawr o gysur i nifer o bobl, bydd y daith i'r naill gangen yn cymryd rhwng 40-50 munud.

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn dymuno cofnodi ei wrthwynebiad i'r cynlluniau i gau Banc Barclays yn Aberdâr ac yn penderfynu:

- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cysylltiadau Corfforaethol Wales and West a Phrif Weithredwr Banc Barclays i alw am ailystyried y cynlluniau.
- Gofyn bod y Cyngor yn ceisio sicrhau bod y buddion cymdeithasol sy'n gysylltiedig â chynnal cyfleusterau bancio lleol yn ein cymunedau yn cael eu cynnwys yn rhan o'n perthynas â'r sector bancio yn y dyfodol.

Yn y cyfarfod, cyhoeddodd y Cadeirydd, yn unol â Rheol 10.4.1 o Weithdrefn y Cyngor, fod y diwygiad canlynol i'r Rhybudd o Gynnig wedi'i dderbyn gan Gyngorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol P. Jarman, A. Cox, J. Williams, D. Grehan, G. Davies, J. Davies, J. Cullwick, K. Morgan, L. Jones, E. Stephens, S. Rees-Owen, M. Weaver, E. Webster, A. Chapman, S. Evans, H. Fychan ac E. Griffiths.

Roedd y cynnig diwygiedig yn nodi:

Dylai banciau fod yn wasanaeth hanfodol yn ein cymunedau, gan gynnig mynediad cyfleus i drigolion i'w harian a'u galluogi nhw i ofalu am unrhyw faterion ariannol personol. Yn aml, maen nhw wedi'u lleoli yng nghanol ein trefi, yn agos at gyfleusterau a siopau hanfodol eraill.

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Mae Aberdâr eisoes wedi gweld NatWest, The Co-operative Bank a HSBC yn tynnu eu gwasanaethau o'r dref, tra bod Trefforest, Treorci, Porth ac Aberpennar ymhlith yr ardaloedd eraill sydd hefyd wedi gweld banciau'n cau yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf

Ni fydd y sicrwydd sy'n cael ei ddarparu gan Barclays ynghylch y gwasanaethau agosaf ym Merthyr Tudful a Phontypridd yn fawr o gysur i nifer o bobl, bydd y daith i'r naill gangen yn cymryd rhwng 40-50 munud.

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn dymuno cofnodi ei wrthwynebiad i'r cynlluniau i gau Banc Barclays yn Aberdâr ac yn penderfynu:

- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cysylltiadau Corfforaethol Wales and West a Phrif Weithredwr Banc Barclays i alw am ailystyried y cynlluniau.
- Gofyn bod adroddiad ar y cyd gan y Prif Weithredwr, y Swyddog 151 a'r Swyddog Monitro yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r Cyngor gan fynd i'r afael â phob mater sy'n berthnasol i drafod opsiwn i newid ein bancwyr o Barclays.
- Gofyn bod y Cyngor yn ceisio sicrhau bod y buddion cymdeithasol sy'n gysylltiedig â chynnal cyfleusterau bancio lleol yn ein cymunedau yn cael eu cynnwys yn rhan o'n perthynas â'r sector bancio yn y dyfodol.
- Nodi cyhoeddiad Llywodraeth Cymru i ddatblygu a lansio Banc Cymunedol newydd i Gymru sydd â'i bencadlys yng Nghymru. Mae'r Cyngor hwn hefyd yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflymu

gwaith sefydlu a chyflwyno Banc Cambria sy'n bwriadu agor canghennau'r stryd fawr mewn trefi ledled Cymru.

**(Noder:** Yn ystod adeg yma'r cyfarfod ac yn unol â Chod Ymddygiad y Cyngor, cafodd y datganiadau o fuddiant personol canlynol eu gwneud ynglŷn â'r Rhybudd o Gynnig:

- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Morgan: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. P. Thomas: "Rydw i'n bancio yng nghanen Aberdâr banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Hughes: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol Sheryl Evans: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol E. George: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol D. Grehan: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. R. Davies: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Jones: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Bonetto: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol D. R. Bevan: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol G. Caple: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol P. Howe: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"
- Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol A. Crimmings: "Rydw i'n bancio gyda banc Barclays"

Yn ystod trafodaethau, ac mewn perthynas â'r diwygiad i'r Rhybudd o Gynnig, darllenodd Arweinydd y Cyngor y datganiad canlynol mewn ymateb i ymholiad o ran prosesau caffael y Cyngor mewn perthynas â banc Barclays:

"Mae gyda ni berthynas contractiol gyda Barclays i ddarparu gwasanaethau bancio corfforaethol i'r Cyngor. Dydy'r Contract ddim yn cynnwys unrhyw ddarpariaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â mandadu canghennau lleol.

- Fyddai hi ddim yn gyfreithlon i ddod â chontract i ben gan ystyried materion nad oes gyda nhw gysylltiad uniongyrchol â'r contract. Dim ond os oes materion penodol, er enghraifft cyflawniad y contractwr, y mae modd cychwyn cymalau dod â chontract i ben.
- Does dim materion mewn perthynas â chyflawni'r Contract yma ar hyn o bryd allai gychwyn hyn.
- Mae Rheoliadau Contractau Cyhoeddus 2015 a Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau'r Cyngor yn ei gwneud hi'n orfodol i Awdurdodau Contractio gynnal eu prosesau caffael mewn ffordd agored, teg a thryloyw. Mewn achos lle mae'r Cyngor yn tendro'r contract yma yn y dyfodol, fyddai hi

ddim yn gyfreithlon gwahardd na dylanwadu ar berthynas contractiol ar sail materion sydd y tu hwnt i ddarpariaethau / gwasanaethau'r contract.

- Bydd angen i unrhyw adolygiad o fancwr y Cyngor yn y dyfodol gael ei gynnal mewn ffordd agored, teg a thryloyw, ac wrth gydymffurfio â'r egwyddorion wedi'u nodi yn Rheoliadau Contractau Cyhoeddus 2015 a Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau'r Cyngor”.

Cafwyd trafodaeth bellach ac yn unol â Rheolau Gweithdrefn 12.7 y Cyngor, cynhaliwyd pleidlais mewn perthynas â'r diwygiad i'r Rhybudd o Gynnig a **PENDERFYNWYD** peidio â mabwysiadu'r diwygiad.

**(Nodwch:** Roedd Grŵp Plaid Cymru a oedd yn bresennol yn dymuno iddo gael ei gofnodi ei fod wedi pleidleisio o blaid y diwygiad i'r Rhybudd o Gynnig: Cynghorwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol P Jarman, A Cox, J Cullwick, G R Davies, S Evans, H Fychan, D Grehan, E Griffiths, L Jones, E Webster a J Williams).

Yn dilyn trafodaeth mewn perthynas â'r cynnig gwreiddiol ac yn unol â Rheolau Gweithdrefn 12.7 y Cyngor, **PENDERFYNWYD** mabwysiadu'r cynnig gwreiddiol.

**Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.50pm**

**Y Cyngorydd S Powderhill  
Cadeirydd.**

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL - 19 JANUARY 2022**

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

#### **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the public question for Member's response, as detailed within 4.1 of the report.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Receive the Question and any supplementary question proposed, as in accordance with the Council's Open Government Council Meeting Procedure Rules.

#### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To receive the question and any supplementary question posed by Members of the Public, as indicated within the report.

#### **4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

- 4.1 One public question was received to the Council Business Unit and is outlined below:

1	<p><b>Question from Mr Marshman to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Would the council provide a skate park at Ynysangharad Park Pontypridd, near to the Marks and Spencer's bridge adjacent to the tennis courts? This is for the children and teenagers from Pontypridd and the surrounding areas. This would be in line with the Future Generations Act (Wales) and would promote and facilitate a great outdoor facility for young people of all ages”.</p>
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- 4.2 In accordance with Council procedure rule 3.1 a period of up to 5 minutes each shall be allowed for the question to be put and answered at the meeting and for supplementary questions and answers thereto under these rules.

**5. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 The Presiding Member was advised upon in relation to the question received.

**6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Open Government Council Meeting Procedure Rule 3 allows Members of the Public the opportunity to ask a question at meetings of Council, promoting openness and transparency.

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with the Open Government Council Meeting Procedure Rules.

**9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

- 9.1 The opportunity for Members of the public to propose questions at Council meetings allows Members to receive information which potentially detail the Council priorities. It also embraces the Future Generations Act as all work and decisions taken by Council seek to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the County Borough.

**10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Detailing the procedure for questions of the public assists in transparency for both Members and for public engagement.

**Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**19 JANUARY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATION.**

**Item: PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

**Background Papers**

Council Constitution – [Open Government Council meeting procedure rules.](#)

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## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

#### MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.

##### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present the order of questions in respect of the Members Questions on Notice, following the amendment to the process agreed at the [Council AGM 2019](#).

##### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Receive the Questions and any supplementary questions proposed, as in accordance with the running order advised upon in 4.3 of the report, which should not exceed a 20-minute time period.

##### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 As agreed at the Council AGM on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, Members agreed to amend Council Procedure Rule 9.2 in respect of Members Questions on Notice. A further amendment was made to Council Procedure Rule 9.2 at the Council AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in respect of supplementary questions following expiry of the 20 minute time duration. [Council AGM 2021](#)

##### 4. MEMBERS QUESTION ON NOTICE

- 4.1 The closing date for receipt of Members Questions on Notice to the Council Business Unit for the Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 was 5pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.
- 4.2 Thirty-six questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022, to determine the running order of the questions at the Council Meeting.
- 4.3 The results of the ballot are outlined below:-

Number	Corresponding Question
1	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Edwards to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader please give an update on the improvement works to the culverts in Ynyshir, particularly above Heath Terrace?”</p>
2	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor L. Walker to the Cabinet member for Education &amp; Inclusion Services, County Borough Councillor J. Rosser:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member for Education &amp; Inclusion Services outline the progress made in the proposed site for the new Special school provision in RCT and what steps have been taken, if any, as regards funding and eventually building it given the chronic overcapacity in special schools”</p>
3	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Turner to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways please give an update on the latest position with regards to the Llanharan Footbridge?”</p>
4	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor T. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader provide an overview of the works completed to date to help protect residents of Bronallt Terrace in Abercwmboui from flooding, and can the Leader also outline whether further measures can be taken?”</p>
5	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor H. Boggis to the Deputy Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor M. Webber:</b></p> <p>“Will the Deputy Leader provide an update on the progress to implement a Guaranteed Interview Scheme for Armed Forces Veterans, following the decision of Cabinet?”</p>
6	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. Jones to the Chair of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee, County Borough Councillor M. Powell:</b></p> <p>“Can the Chair of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee please make a statement on the priorities of the Committee?”</p>

<b>7</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Jones to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Blaenrhondda Park Pavilion”</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Treeby to the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, County Borough Councillor C. Leyshon:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the Santa Appeal and the huge generosity shown by residents and businesses?”</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Barton to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“What action can the Council take to improve road safety and reduce speeding traffic in local communities?”</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on the implementation of the Real Living Wage to the social care sector in RCT?”</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Elliott to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader please provide an update on the various flood schemes planned and ongoing across RCT, including for the Cwmbach ward?”</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Morgans to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member make a statement on the Council’s investment in outdoor leisure facilities?”</p>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor E. Griffiths to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Pryd bydd adroddiad Adran 19 ynglyn a’r llifogydd a fu yn Nhrehafod yn cael ei gyhoeddi?”</p> <p>“When will the Section 19 report into the flooding that occurred in Trehafod be published?”</p>

<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. Stacey to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services please provide an update on the further works due to start in Ynysangharad Park?”</p>
<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Brencher to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader update on PPE supplies and if we have stock available should the country see an increase in cases due to the new variant?”</p>
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Owen-Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“What implications does the recent Welsh Government announcement to pause major roadbuilding schemes in Wales have for Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor L. M. Adams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Will the Leader provide an update on how many families have received support through the £100 Winter Fuel Support Scheme in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor A. S. Fox to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on what progress is being made on the backlog of repairs to bridges and other critical infrastructure?”</p>
<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“How is the Council supporting low-income households to meet the pressures of increasing household fuel costs during the winter?”</p>

20	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Bonetto to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor M. A. Norris:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member please outline the latest position on the Taff’s Well Thermal Spring project, in light of the good progress made to deliver the improvements to Ffynnon Taf Primary School?”</p>
21	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. Holmes to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and the Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor G. Hopkins:</b></p> <p>“Could the Cabinet Member please make a statement on delayed discharges from hospital and outline what work the Council is undertaking to assist with this?”</p>
22	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor A. Roberts to the Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities, Wellbeing and Cultural Services, County Borough Councillor R. R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member please make a statement on the Council’s work with Voluntary and Third Sector organisations in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
23	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor L. Hooper to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Could the Cabinet Member please make a statement on skate park facilities in Pontypridd and the surrounding area?”</p>
24	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. M. Powell to the Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities, Wellbeing and Cultural Services, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“How is this Council progressing plans for the introduction of Electric Charge Points throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf?”</p>
25	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor P. Jarman to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Please will you make a statement on the new Green Waste Service introduced in November 2021?”</p>
26	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor K. Morgan to the Deputy Leader, County Borough Councillor M. Webber:</b></p> <p>“How many Freedom of Information requests did RCT council refuse in 2021?”</p>

27	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Bradwick to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader of the Council provide an update on the progress of flood alleviation scheme bids for the forthcoming year please?”</p>
28	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor Sheryl. Evans to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader outline the priority areas when considering the draft budget for 2022/2023?”</p>
29	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Griffiths to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the leader update on budget discussions with the Welsh Government in his role as WLGA Leader?”</p>
30	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Powell to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Whilst Aberdare has been fortunate to get funding from RCT for a BMX track and Gravity Family Bike Park would the Cabinet Member say what RCTCBC has done to date to provide similar facilities in Pontypridd please?”</p>
31	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor R. Yeo to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on Storm Dennis damage repairs and what further works are expected to be carried out this year?”</p>
32	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. P. Thomas to the Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, County Borough Councillor S. Rees-Owen:</b></p> <p>“Can the Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee please make a statement on the priorities of the Committee?”</p>
33	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. Cople to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Council Leader provide an update on what progress is being made to replace and improve the Highway wall adjacent to the river at Britannia?”</p>



34	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Forey to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader please provide an update on how the Council is supporting colleagues in Health in the fight against the Omicron variant?”</p>
35	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Lewis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“With the change in working practices due to the pandemic what is the Council doing to support co-working spaces?”</p>
36	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Rees to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan:</b></p> <p>“Will the Leader please make a statement on the Council’s budget planning ahead of the next financial year?”</p>

- 4.4 At the Council meeting a maximum of 20 minutes shall be allowed for Questions on Notice. Any questions that are not dealt with in this time limit shall fall. Any questions on notice not answered will need to be resubmitted to the Proper Officer for the next full Council meeting in accordance with these rules.

**5. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 The amendments to the Council Procedure Rule in respect of Members Questions was considered and agreed at the Council’s AGM 2019 and AGM 2021, following consultation with the Constitution Committee.

**6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The amendment to the Council procedure rule taken forward at the Council AGM, allows the opportunity for more Members to ask a question at Council

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.2.

**9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

- 9.1 The opportunity for Members to propose questions at Council meetings allows Members to receive information which potentially detail the Council priorities. It also embraces the Future Generations Act as all work and decisions taken by Council seek to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the County Borough.

**10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Detailing the procedure for Members Questions on Notice assists in transparency for both Members and for public engagement.

**Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**19 JANUARY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATION.**

**Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Background Papers**

[Council AGM 2019.](#)

[Council AGM 2021](#)

Officer to contact: Emma Wilkins, Council Business Unit

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## Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Annual Audit Summary 2021

This is our audit summary for Rhondda Cynon Taf Council. It shows the work completed since the last Annual Audit Summary, which was issued in July 2021. Our audit summary forms part of the Auditor General for Wales' duties.



More information about these duties can be found on our [website](#).

### About the Council

#### Some of the services the Council provides



#### Key facts

The Council is made up of 75 councillors who represent the following political parties:

- Welsh Labour 48
- Plaid Cymru 17
- RCT Independent Group 6
- Conservative Party 3
- Independent 1

The Council spent £532.2 million on providing services<sup>1</sup> during 2020-21, the third-highest spending of the 22 unitary councils in Wales.

<sup>1</sup> We define spending on services as the cost of services charged to the general fund from the Expenditure Funding Analysis, less any Housing Revenue Account cost of services, plus precepts, levies and debt interest.

## Key facts

As at 31 March 2021, the Council had £171.3 million of useable financial reserves<sup>2</sup>. This is equivalent to 32.2% of the Council's annual spending on services, the seventh-highest percentage of the 22 unitary councils in Wales<sup>3</sup>.

The County Borough has 27 (18%) out of its 154 areas deemed the most deprived 10% of areas in Wales, this is the joint-third highest of the 22 unitary councils in Wales<sup>4</sup>.

Rhondda Cynon Taf's population is projected to increase by 4.5% between 2020 and 2040 from 241,492 to 252,418, including a 4.3% decrease in the number of children, a 1.2% increase in the number of the working-age population and a 23.7% increase in the number of people aged 65 and over<sup>5</sup>.

## The Auditor General's duties

### We completed work during 2020-21 to meet the following duties

- **Continuous improvement**

The Council also had to put in place arrangements to make continuous improvements, including related plans and reports, and the Auditor General had to assess whether the Council met these requirements during 2020-21.
- **Audit of Accounts**

Each year the Auditor General audits the Council's financial statements to make sure that public money is being properly accounted for.
- **Value for money**

The Auditor General examines whether the Council has put in place arrangements to get value for money for the resources it uses, and he has to be satisfied that it has done this.
- **Sustainable development principle**

Public bodies need to comply with the sustainable development principle when setting and taking steps to meet their well-being objectives. The Auditor General must assess the extent to which they are doing this.

<sup>2</sup> We define useable financial reserves as reserves usable for revenue costs, where the purpose is not protected by law. This is the total of the general fund, earmarked reserves and schools' balances. It excludes Housing Revenue Account reserves, capital receipts and capital grants unapplied.

<sup>3</sup> Source: 2020-21 Statement of Accounts

<sup>4</sup> An area in this context is defined as a 'Lower Super Output Area'. Source: Stats Wales

<sup>5</sup> Source: Stats Wales



We continue to recognise the huge strain on public services and to work in a way that seeks to reduce the impact on public bodies' response to COVID-19, while still meeting our statutory duties.



**To meet the Auditor General's duties we complete specific projects, but we also rely on other audit work, and the work of regulators such as Care Inspectorate Wales and Estyn (the education inspectorate). We take the findings of our audit work into account when assessing whether the Council has put in place arrangements to secure value for money. Our findings and conclusions are summarised below.**

## What we found

### Audit of Rhondda Cynon Taf Council's 2020-21 Accounts

Each year we audit the Council's financial statements.

#### For 2020-21:

- the Auditor General gave an unqualified true and fair opinion on the Council's financial statements on 6 October 2021.
- the Council's Annual Governance Statement and Narrative Report were prepared in line with the CIPFA Code and relevant guidance. They were also consistent with the financial statements prepared by the Council and with our knowledge of the Council.
- the quality of the draft statements presented for audit on 2 July 2021 was generally good.
- a number of changes were made to the Council's financial statements arising from our audit work, which were reported to the Council in our Audit of Financial Statements Report in September 2021.
- in addition to the Auditor General's responsibilities for auditing the Council's financial statements, he also has responsibility for the certification of a number of grant claims and returns. Our work to date has not identified any significant issues.
- the Auditor General issued the certificate confirming that the audit of accounts for 2020-21 has been completed.

## Our work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we changed the approach and focus of our performance audit work in local government and other bodies. Below is a summary of some of the work we have undertaken in response to the pandemic across a number of sectors, much of which is of relevance to local government.

We undertook a project to support public sector efforts by sharing learning through the pandemic. The project aims to help prompt some thinking, and practise exchange. [Further information is available on our website.](#)

In March 2021, we published a [national report](#) setting out an overview of progress to date on Test, Trace, Protect in Wales. In December 2020, we also published some [observations](#) of the Auditor General on procurement and supply of PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by a [report](#) in April 2021. In June 2021, we also published our [report](#) on the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Wales.

## Continuous improvement

The Auditor General certified that the Council had met its remaining Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 duties for the financial year 2020-21, as saved by an order made under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

As part of our examination of councils' performance assessments covering the 2020-21 financial year, we noted a reduced reference to comparative performance information although we recognise that the pandemic led to the suspension of some national data collection. The ability to compare data and performance with other organisations will continue to be an important element of arrangements to secure value for money and will be a challenge for councils to consider, particularly as they continue to implement the requirements relating to self-assessment set out in the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021.

## Financial sustainability

During 2020-21, we examined the financial sustainability of each council in Wales. In August 2021 we concluded that the Council continues to be well placed to manage its financial sustainability. The [full report](#) is on our website.

We also published two national summary reports: the [first report](#) in October 2020 and the [second report](#) in September 2021.

## Recovery planning

During 2020-21, we reviewed the arrangements that each council in Wales was putting in place to support recovery planning. We undertook this work on an ongoing basis, providing real-time and ongoing feedback where appropriate.

## Other inspectorates

We also took into account the reports of Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and Estyn as well as any subsequent actions taken by the Council in response.

CIW undertook an assurance check in May 2021, focusing on both children's and adults' safety and wellbeing.



The [letter](#) has now been published on CIW's website.

CIW and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales published their [joint National review](#) of the use of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) in Wales. They identified a number of key findings and recommendations.

In November 2021, CIW also published its [national overview report of assurance checks in Wales](#) and [Let me flourish](#), a national review of early help, care and support and transition for disabled children in Wales.

Estyn carried out monitoring visits to schools and pupil referral units that were in a statutory category of follow-up. It also reviewed the progress of schools requiring Estyn review. The reports for schools judged to have made sufficient progress in addressing the recommendations from their Section 28 inspection are on [Estyn's website](#).

Estyn did not undertake an inspection of Local Government Education Services in Rhondda Cynon Taf during 2020-21.

## Local government studies

As well as local work at each council, each year we also carry out studies across the local government sector to make recommendations for improving value for money. Since the last annual improvement report, we have published the following reports:

### Discretionary services (April 2021)

Financial pressures have led to councils reducing spending and cutting services, but the pandemic has shown local government services are essential to keeping people safe and healthy. We focussed on how councils define services, the systems and processes they have used to review services and how robust these are. Demand for some essential services is continuing to increase and councils are not confident that they can continue to deliver these services in the face of this rising and complex demand. Councils need to take the opportunity to refresh, reevaluate and reset what they do and to learn from the pandemic to build a better future. Our [report](#) was published in April 2021.

### Regenerating town centres in Wales (September 2021)

Between 1950 and 1980, local authorities prioritised regeneration of town centres creating new and greater retail space. However, past policy choices, changing consumer expectations and technological advances are now adversely affecting many Welsh town centres. And the pandemic has created challenges for local government and central government, with one in seven shops on Welsh high streets now empty, despite the Welsh Government investing and leveraging in £892.6 million in the last seven years. Local authorities do not have the capacity to respond to this situation and are not always using the powers they have to help regenerate towns. To deliver the best local outcomes, policies and joint working need to be aligned and integrated, and resources prioritised on town centres. Our [report](#) was published in September 2021.

## Planned work for 2021-22

We also looked at the key challenges and opportunities facing the Council. These could have an effect on the Council's ability to meet its legal obligations in relation to the sustainable development principle and the use of its resources.

The most significant risk and issue facing councils and the wider public sector during 2021-22 continues to be the COVID-19 pandemic. We have shaped our work to provide assurance and challenge in a way which helps to support the Council through this period. Our planned work for 2021-22 includes:

- Assurance and risk assessment including a focus on:
  - The Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021
  - Recovery planning
  - Carbon reduction plans
  - Self-assessment arrangements
  - Financial position
- Springing Forward – as the world moves forward, learning from the pandemic, this review looks at how effectively councils are strengthening their ability to transform, adapt and maintain the delivery of services, including those delivered in partnership with key stakeholders and communities.
- Improvement reporting audit
- Review relating to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg health partnership
- Digital review

The Auditor General is independent of government, and is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen. The Auditor General undertakes his work using staff and other resources provided by the Wales Audit Office, which is a statutory board established for that purpose and to monitor and advise the Auditor General. The Wales Audit Office is held to account by the Senedd.

The Auditor General audits local government bodies in Wales, including unitary authorities, police, fire and rescue authorities, national parks, and community councils. He also conducts local government value for money studies, assesses compliance with the remaining requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and may undertake special inspections under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

Beyond local government, the Auditor General is the external auditor of the Welsh Government and its sponsored and related public bodies, the Senedd Commission, and National Health Service bodies in Wales.

Audit Wales is the non-statutory collective name for the Auditor General for Wales and the Wales Audit Office, which are separate legal entities with their own legal functions, as described above. Audit Wales is not a legal entity.

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

This document is also available in Welsh.

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## Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf Crynodeb Archwilio Blynyddol 2021

Dyma ein crynodeb archwilio ar gyfer Cyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf. Mae'n dangos y gwaith a gwblhawyd ers y Crynodeb Archwilio Blynyddol diwethaf a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2021. Mae ein crynodeb archwilio'n rhan o ddyletswyddau Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru.



Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth am y dyletswyddau hyn ar ein [gwefan](#).

### Ynglŷn â'r Cyngor

#### Rhai o'r gwasanaethau y mae'r Cyngor yn eu darparu



#### Ffeithiau allweddol

Mae gan y Cyngor 75 o gynghorwyr sy'n cynrychioli'r pleidiau gwleidyddol canlynol:

- Llafur Cymru 48
- Plaid Cymru 17
- Grŵp Annibynnol RhCT 6
- Y Blaid Geidwadol 3
- Annibynnol 1

Gwariodd y Cyngor £532.2 miliwn ar ddarparu gwasanaethau<sup>1</sup> yn ystod 2020-21, y trydydd gwariant uchaf o'r 22 o gynghorau unedol yng Nghymru.

<sup>1</sup> Rydym yn diffinio gwariant ar wasanaethau fel cost gwasanaethau a godir ar y gronfa gyffredinol o'r Dadansoddiad Ariannu Gwariant, namyn costau unrhyw wasanaethau a ariennir o'r Cyfrif Refeniw Tai, gan ychwanegu praeseptau, ardollau a llog ar ddyledion.

## Ffeithiau allweddol

O ran y sefyllfa ar 31 Mawrth 2021, roedd gan y Cyngor £171.3 miliwn o gronfeydd ariannol wrth gefn defnyddiadwy<sup>2</sup>. Mae hyn yn cyfateb i 32.2% o wariant blynyddol y Cyngor ar wasanaethau, y 7fed ganran uchaf o'r 22 o gynghorau unedol yng Nghymru<sup>3</sup>.

Mae 27 (18%) o'r 154 o ardaloedd yn y Fwrdeistref Sirol yn rhai yr ystyrir eu bod ymhlith y 10% o ardaloedd mwyaf amddifadus yng Nghymru, sy'n gwneud y Cyngor yn gydradd drydydd uchaf o'r 22 o gynghorau unedol yng Nghymru<sup>4</sup>.

Rhagamcanir y bydd poblogaeth Rhondda Cynon Taf yn cynyddu 4.5% rhwng 2020 a 2040 o 241,492 i 252,418, gan gynnwys gostyngiad o 4.3% yn nifer y plant, cynnydd o 1.2% yn nifer y boblogaeth o oedran gweithio a chynnydd o 23.7% yn nifer y bobl 65 oed a throsodd<sup>5</sup>.

## Dyletswyddau'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol

### Fe wnaethom gwblhau gwaith yn ystod 2020-21 i gyflawni'r dyletswyddau canlynol

- **Gwella'n barhaus**

Roedd rhaid i'r Cyngor sefydlu trefniadau i wneud gwelliannau parhaus, gan gynnwys cynlluniau ac adroddiadau cysylltiedig, ac roedd yn rhaid i'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol asesu a wnaeth y Cyngor ateb y gofynion hyn yn ystod 2020-21.

- **Archwilio'r Cyfrifon**

Bob blwyddyn mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn archwilio datganiadau ariannol y Cyngor i wneud yn siŵr y rhoddir cyfrif priodol am arian cyhoeddus.

- **Gwerth am arian**

Mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn archwilio pa un a yw'r Cyngor wedi sefydlu trefniadau i gael gwerth am arian am yr adnoddau y mae'n eu defnyddio, a rhaid iddo fod wedi'i argyhoeddi ei fod wedi gwneud hyn.

- **Yr egwyddor datblygu cynaliadwy**

Mae angen i gyrff cyhoeddus gydymffurfio â'r ddyletswydd datblygu cynaliadwy wrth bennu eu hamcanion llesiant a chymryd camau i'w cyflawni. Rhaid i'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol asesu i ba raddau y maent yn gwneud hyn.

<sup>2</sup> Rydym yn diffinio cronfeydd ariannol wrth gefn defnyddiadwy fel cronfeydd wrth gefn y gellir eu defnyddio ar gyfer costau refereniw, lle nad yw'r diben wedi'i ddiogelu gan y gyfraith. Mae hyn yn golygu cyfanswm y gronfa gyffredinol, cronfeydd wrth gefn wedi'u clustnodi a balansau ysgolion. Nid yw'n cynnwys cronfeydd wrth gefn y Cyfrif Refeniw Tai, derbyniadau cyfalaf na grantiau cyfalaf anghymwysedig.

<sup>3</sup> Ffynhonnell: Datganiad Cyfrifon 2020-21

<sup>4</sup> Diffinnir ardal yn y cyd-destun hwn fel 'Ardal Gynnyrch Ehangach Haen Is'. Ffynhonnell: Stats Cymru

<sup>5</sup> Ffynhonnell: Stats Cymru



Rydym yn parhau i gydnabod y straen enfawr ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus ac i weithio mewn ffordd sy'n ceisio lleihau'r effaith ar ymateb cyrff cyhoeddus i COVID-19, gan ddal i gyflawni ein dyletswyddau statudol.



I gyflawni dyletswyddau'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol rydym yn cwblhau prosiectau penodol, ond rydym hefyd yn dibynnu ar waith archwilio arall, a gwaith cyrff rheoleiddio megis Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru ac Estyn (yr arolygiaeth addysg). Rydym yn cymryd canfyddiadau ein gwaith archwilio i ystyriaeth wrth asesu pa un a yw'r Cyngor wedi sefydlu trefniadau i sicrhau gwerth am arian. Caiff ein canfyddiadau a'n casgliadau eu crynhoi isod.

## Yr hyn a ganfuom

### Archwiliad o Gyfrifon Cyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf ar gyfer 2020-21

Bob blwyddyn rydym yn archwilio datganiadau ariannol y Cyngor.

#### Ar gyfer 2020-21:

- rhoddodd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol farn ddiamed bod datganiadau ariannol y Cyngor yn gywir a theg ar 6 Hydref 2021.
- cafodd Datganiad Llywodraethu Blynyddol ac Adroddiad Naratif y Cyngor eu paratoi yn unol â Chod CIPFA a chanllawiau perthnasol. Roeddent hefyd yn gyson â'r datganiadau ariannol a baratowyd gan y Cyngor ac â'n gwybodaeth ni am y Cyngor.
- roedd ansawdd y datganiadau drafft a gyflwynwyd i'w harchwilio ar 2 Gorffennaf 2021 yn dda ar y cyfan.
- fe wnaed nifer o newidiadau i ddatganiadau ariannol y Cyngor a gododd o'n gwaith archwilio, gyda'r rheiny'n cael eu dwyn i sylw'r Cyngor yn ein Hadroddiad ar yr Archwiliad o'r Datganiadau Ariannol ym mis Medi 2021.
- yn ogystal â chyfrifoldebau'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol am archwilio datganiadau ariannol y Cyngor, mae ganddo gyfrifoldeb hefyd am ardystio nifer o hawliadau am grantiau a ffurflenni grantiau. Nid yw ein gwaith hyd yma wedi canfod unrhyw faterion arwyddocaol.
- cyhoeddodd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol y dystysgrif a oedd yn cadarnhau bod yr archwiliad o'r cyfrifon ar gyfer 2020-21 wedi cael ei gwblhau.

## Ein gwaith mewn ymateb i bandemig COVID-19

Mewn ymateb i bandemig COVID-19, fe newidiom ni ddull a ffocws ein gwaith archwilio perfformiad mewn llywodraeth leol a chyrrff eraill. Isod ceir crynodeb o rywfaint o'r gwaith yr ydym wedi'i wneud mewn ymateb i'r pandemig ar draws nifer o sectorau, y mae cryn dipyn ohono'n berthnasol i lywodraeth leol.

Fe gynhaliom ni brosiect i ategu ymdrechion y sector cyhoeddus trwy rannu gwersi a ddysgwyd trwy'r pandemig. Nod y prosiect yw ysgogi rhywfaint o feddwl, a chyfnewid ymarfer. [Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth ar ein gwefan.](#)

Ym mis Mawrth 2021, fe gyhoeddod ni [adroddiad cenedlaethol](#) a oedd yn nodi trosolwg o'r cynnydd hyd yma o ran Profi, Orlhain, Diogelu yng Nghymru. Ym mis Rhagfyr 2020, fe wnaethom hefyd gyhoeddi rhai o [arsylwadau](#) r Archwilydd Cyffredinol ar gaffael a chyflenwi Cyfarpar Diogelu Personol yn ystod pandemig COVID-19, ac yna [adroddiad](#) ar hynny ym mis Ebrill 2021. Ym mis Mehefin 2021, fe wnaethom hefyd gyhoeddi ein [hadroddiad](#) ar gyflwyno rhaglen frechu COVID-19 yng Nghymru.

## Gwella'n barhaus

Fe wnaeth yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol ardystio bod y Cyngor wedi cyflawni ei ddyletswyddau sy'n weddill dan Fesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009 ar gyfer blwyddyn ariannol 2020-21, fel y'u harbedwyd gan orchymyn a wnaed dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021.

Fel rhan o'n harchwiliad o asesiadau cynghorau o'u perfformiad ar gyfer blwyddyn ariannol 2020-21, fe wnaethom nodi bod llai o gyfeirio at wybodaeth gymharol am berfformiad er ein bod yn cydnabod bod y pandemig wedi arwain at atal gwaith i gasglu peth data ar lefel genedlaethol am y tro. Bydd y gallu i gymharu data a pherfformiad â sefydliadau eraill yn dal i fod yn elfen bwysig o drefniadau i sicrhau gwerth am arian a bydd yn her i gynghorau ei ystyried yn enwedig wrth iddynt barhau i weithredu'r gofynion sy'n ymwneud â hunanasesu a nodir yn Neddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021.

## Cynaliadwyedd ariannol

Yn ystod 2020-21, fe wnaethom archwilio cynaliadwyedd ariannol pob cyngor yng Nghymru. Ym mis Awst 2021 daethom i'r casgliad bod y Cyngor yn dal i fod mewn sefyllfa dda i reoli ei gynaliadwyedd ariannol. Mae'r [adroddiad llawn](#) ar ein gwefan.

Fe wnaethom hefyd gyhoeddi dau adroddiad cryno cenedlaethol: yr [adroddiad cyntaf](#) ym mis Hydref 2020 a'r [ail adroddiad](#) ym mis Medi 2021.

## Cynllunio adferiad

Yn ystod 2020-21, fe wnaethom adolygu'r trefniadau yr oedd pob cyngor yng Nghymru'n eu rhoi ar waith i gefnogi gwaith cynllunio adferiad. Fe wnaethom y gwaith yma ar sail barhaus, gan ddarparu adborth mewn amser real ac yn barhaus lle'r oedd yn briodol.



## Arolygiaethau eraill

Fe wnaethom hefyd ystyried canfyddiadau Archwiliadau Sicrwydd a gwblhawyd gan Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru (AGC) ac adroddiadau Estyn yn ogystal ag unrhyw gamau dilynol a gymerwyd gan y Cyngor mewn ymateb.

Cynhaliodd AGC archwiliad sicrwydd ym mis Mai 2021, a oedd yn canolbwyntio ar ddiogelwch a lles plant ac oedolion.

Mae'r [llythyr](#) bellach wedi cael ei gyhoeddi ar wefan AGC.

Fe gyhoeddodd AGC ac Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru eu [hadolygiad Cenedlaethol ar y cyd](#) o ddefnyddio'r Trefniadau Diogelu wrth Amddifadu o Ryddid yng Nghymru. Fe wnaethant nodi nifer o ganfyddiadau ac argymhellion allweddol.

Ym mis Tachwedd 2021, fe wnaeth AGC hefyd gyhoeddi ei [hadroddiad trosolwg cenedlaethol o archwiliadau sicrwydd yng Nghymru a Gadewch imi ffynnu](#), adolygiad cenedlaethol o gymorth cynnar, gofal a chefnogaeth a threfniadau pontio ar gyfer plant anabl yng Nghymru.

Cynhaliodd Estyn ymweliadau monitro ag ysgolion ac unedau cyfeirio disgyblion a oedd mewn categori statudol ar gyfer camau dilynol. Fe wnaeth hefyd adolygu cynnydd ysgolion yr oedd yn ofynnol iddynt gael adolygiad gan Estyn. Mae'r adroddiadau ar gyfer ysgolion y bernir eu bod wedi gwneud cynnydd digonol o ran mynd i'r afael â'r argymhellion o'u harolygiad Adran 28 ar [wefan Estyn](#).

Ni chynhaliodd Estyn arolygiad o Wasanaethau Addysg Llywodraeth Leol yn Rhondda Cynon Taf yn ystod 2020-21.

## Astudiaethau llywodraeth leol

Yn ogystal â gwaith lleol ym mhob cyngor, bob blwyddyn rydym hefyd yn cynnal astudiaethau ar draws y sector llywodraeth leol i wneud argymhellion ar gyfer gwella gwerth am arian. Ers yr adroddiad gwella blynyddol diwethaf, rydym wedi cyhoeddi'r adroddiadau canlynol:

### Gwasanaethau dewisol (Ebrill 2021)

Mae pwysau ariannol wedi peri i gynghorau ostwng gwariant a thorri gwasanaethau, ond mae'r pandemig wedi dangos bod gwasanaethau llywodraeth leol yn hanfodol i gadw pobl yn ddiogel ac yn iach. Fe wnaethom ganolbwyntio ar sut y mae cynghorau'n diffinio gwasanaethau, y systemau a'r prosesau y maent wedi'u defnyddio i adolygu gwasanaethau a pha mor gadarn yw'r rhain. Mae'r galw am rai gwasanaethau hanfodol yn dal i gynyddu ac nid yw cynghorau'n hyderus y gallant barhau i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hyn yn wyneb y galw cynyddol a chymhleth hwn. Mae angen i gynghorau achub ar y cyfle i adnewyddu, ailgloriannu ac ailosod yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud a dysgu o'r pandemig i greu dyfodol gwell.

Cyhoeddwyd ein [hadroddiad](#) ym mis Ebrill 2021.

### Adfywio canol trefi yng Nghymru (Medi 2021)

Rhwng 1950 a 1980, fe wnaeth awdurdodau lleol roi blaenoriaeth i adfywio canol trefi gan greu mannau adwerthu newydd a mwy. Fodd bynnag, mae dewisiadau polisi blaenorol, disgwyliadau newidiol defnyddwyr a datblygiadau technolegol bellach yn effeithio'n andwyol ar ganol sawl tref yng Nghymru. Ac mae'r pandemig wedi creu heriau i lywodraeth leol a'r Llywodraeth ganolog, gydag un siop ymhob saith ar strydoedd mawr Cymru bellach yn wag, er

bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi buddsoddi ac ysgogi buddsoddiadau gwerth £892.6 miliwn yn y saith mlynedd ddiwethaf. Nid oes gan awdurdodau lleol y capasiti i ymateb i'r sefyllfa hon ac nid ydynt wastad yn defnyddio'r pwerau sydd ganddynt i helpu i adfywio trefi. I gyflawni'r deilliannau lleol gorau, mae angen i bolisiau a threfniadau cydweithio gael eu halinio a'u hintegreiddio, ac mae angen i adnoddau gael eu blaenoriaethu ar ganol trefi. Cyhoeddwyd ein [hadroddiad](#) ym mis Medi 2021.

## Gwaith sydd yn yr arfaeth ar gyfer 2021-22

Fe wnaethom hefyd fwrw golwg ar yr heriau a chyfleoedd allweddol sy'n wynebu'r Cyngor. Gallai'r rhain gael effaith ar allu'r Cyngor i gyflawni ei rwymedigaethau cyfreithiol mewn perthynas â'r egwyddor datblygu cynaliadwy a'r modd y mae'n defnyddio'i adnoddau.

Y risg a'r mater mwyaf arwyddocaol sy'n wynebu cynghorau a'r sector cyhoeddus ehangach o hyd yn ystod 2021-22 yw pandemig COVID-19. Rydym wedi trefnu ein gwaith i ddarparu sicrwydd a her mewn ffordd sy'n helpu i gefnogi'r Cyngor trwy'r cyfnod hwn. Mae ein gwaith arfaethedig ar gyfer 2021-22 yn cynnwys:

- Sicrwydd ac asesu risg gan gynnwys ffocws ar y canlynol:
  - Deddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021
  - Cynllunio adferiad
  - Cynlluniau lleihau carbon
  - Trefniadau hunanasesu
  - Sefyllfa ariannol
- Llamu Ymlaen – wrth i'r byd symud yn ei flaen, gan ddysgu o'r pandemig, mae'r adolygiad hwn yn ystyried pa mor effeithiol y mae cynghorau'n cryfhau eu gallu i drawsnewid, addasu a pharhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau, gan gynnwys y rhai a ddarperir mewn partneriaeth gyda rhanddeiliaid allweddol a chymunedau.
- Archwiliad o adrodd ar wella
- Adolygiad sy'n ymwneud â phartneriaeth iechyd Cwm Taf Morgannwg
- Adolygiad o wasanaethau digidol

Mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn annibynnol ar y llywodraeth, ac fe'i penodir gan Ei Mawrhydi'r Frenhines. Mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn gwneud ei waith gan ddefnyddio staff ac adnoddau eraill a ddarperir gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, sy'n fwrdd statudol a sefydlwyd at y diben hwnnw ac i fonitro a chynghori'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol. Caiff Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ei dwyn i gyfrif gan y Senedd.

Mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn archwilio cyrff llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys awdurdodau unedol, yr heddlu, awdurdodau tân ac achub, parciau cenedlaethol a chynghorau cymuned. Mae hefyd yn cynnal astudiaethau o werth am arian mewn llywodraeth leol, yn asesu cydymffurfiaeth â'r gofynion sy'n weddill o Fesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009 a gall gynnal arolygiadau arbennig dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021.

Y tu hwnt i lywodraeth leol, yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol yw archwilydd allanol Llywodraeth Cymru a'r cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir ganddi ac sy'n gysylltiedig â hi, Comisiwn y Senedd a chyrff y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol yng Nghymru.

Archwilio Cymru yw'r enw cyfunol anstatudol ar gyfer Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru a Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, sy'n endidau cyfreithiol ar wahân sydd â'u swyddogaethau cyfreithiol eu hunain, fel a ddisgrifir uchod. Nid yw Archwilio Cymru yn endid cyfreithiol.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Saesneg.

tudalen wag



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021-2022**

**COMMITTEE:  
COUNCIL**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

<b>Item No:8</b>
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<b>THE COUNCIL'S 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET – THE PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT</b>
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### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES**

**AUTHOR: Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services (01443 424026)**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides Members with information in respect of the 2022/23 Provisional Local Government Settlement, and initial comments on its likely implications for the delivery of Council services.

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the Provisional 2022/23 Local Government Settlement, announced by the Minister for Finance and Local Government on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021;
- 2.2 Note that the Final 2022/23 Local Government Settlement is expected during early March 2022; and
- 2.3 Note the approach to budget consultation for 2022/23 as already determined.

#### **3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To update Members on the implications of the Provisional Settlement for 2022/23 following receipt of information on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

#### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The timing of the Local Government Settlement in Wales for 2022/23 has followed the UK Government Autumn Budget and Spending Review (SR21) as announced on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021.
- 4.2 On the 21<sup>st</sup> 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.
- 4.3 The "headlines" of the Provisional 2022/23 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 PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF THE SERVICE IMPLICATIONS OF THE 2022/23 PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT**

- 5.1 The provisional settlement indicates that our 2022/23 RSG and NDR funding will total £441.433M.
- 5.2 In anticipation of the 2022/23 local government settlement, the Council's service managers have constructed base budget requirements for next financial year. Those initial calculations provided for:-
- Estimated employee costs, 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.
- 5.3 The Provisional Settlement is at a higher level than the range modelled in the most recent Medium Term Financial Plan and recognises some of the intense funding pressures which are being experienced across local government in general but also within Rhondda Cynon Taf. **It also importantly recognises the critical role which local government continues to play in responding to the pandemic and protecting our communities and residents.**
- 5.4 Members have continued to receive updates on the projections of the Council's revenue budget position for the period to 2024/25, as part of our Medium Term Service Planning arrangements. The latest of these assessments was considered by Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021 which, based on a range of modelled settlement levels, projected a funding gap of £9.3M (at +4% settlement).
- 5.5 As referenced at section 4, the provisional settlement provides this Council with an uplift of 8.4%.
- 5.6 Cabinet on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 determined the Council Tax Base for 2022/23 at £77,707.00. The impact on the modelled budget gap of our updated tax base can also now be reflected.
- 5.7 The combined effects of the above, including the transfers into the settlement, have resulted in additional resources available to the Council as shown in table 1.

**Table 1 : Additional Resources at Provisional Settlement**

		<b>£'000</b>
Additional Resources at Provisional Settlement (8.4%)	-	20,476
Impact of Updated Tax Base	-	316
<b>Additional Resources Available</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,792</b>

- 5.8 Our base budget requirements for 2022/23 have continued to be reviewed since the preparation of the MTFP and a number of updates can now be made.
- 5.9 This has included notably the financial implications of increases to National Insurance Contributions payable by employers linked to the UK Government's Health and Social Care Levy (including the implications upon commissioned service providers) and the costs of funding the payment of the Real Living Wage to social care providers within Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 5.10 Further funding has also been identified and included in the Schools budget (ISB) to recognise the implications of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act, in addition to funding (in full) for pay and non-pay inflation and pupil number changes.
- 5.11 It is evident that demand led cost pressures are being felt across many of our service areas, plus future pay and non-pay inflationary and supply chain pressures. There are also additional cross cutting cost pressures such as energy, fuel and food in addition to the ongoing cost implications as a consequence of the pandemic.
- 5.12 In the MTFP, a number of risk items were identified and estimated in financial terms. In light of the above review and updates, it is now appropriate that these risks are removed from our base budget requirement for next year, albeit they will continue to be monitored as we go forward and continue to refresh our MTFP.
- 5.13 The impact of the above updates are summarised in table 2. This is in addition to the required £28.5M of budget increases already factored into our MTFP and includes the budget requirements associated with the transfers into the settlement.

Table 2 : Base Budget Updates

		<b>£'000</b>
Health and Social Care Levy and Pay Costs		4,700
Food and Residual Waste Management Gate Fee Support		2,430
Real Living Wage / Ind Sector Costs		3,000
Schools (incl ALN and Pupil Numbers)		2,016
Other (incl Inflation, Specialist Accommodation and Waste)		1,168
Removal of Risk Items	-	1,548
<b>Total Base Budget Requirement Updates</b>		<b>11,766</b>



- 5.14 The combined effects of the above updates on the budget gap and following receipt of the provisional settlement are now shown in table 3.

Table 3 : Revised Budget Gap 2022/23

	<b>£'000</b>
Budget Gap at MTFP (4%)	9,255
Net Base Budget Requirement Updates	11,766
Additional Resources at Provisional Settlement	- 20,792
<b>Remaining Budget Gap</b>	<b>229</b>

- 5.15 It will now be for Cabinet to consider the implications of the above scenario in the preparation of its draft budget strategy. As part of this, consideration will be given to the outcome of the first phase of the budget consultation process.
- 5.16 It is customary for our services to deliver on an efficiency requirement year on year which for the current year (2021/22) amounted to £4.6M. Senior Finance Officers continue to work with service managers to identify any such opportunities which can be factored into the 2022/23 budget strategy, noting that the focus of our service managers has largely and appropriately remained on responding to the pandemic.
- 5.17 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.
- 5.18 Cabinet may wish to consider the wider and ongoing implications of the pandemic on our services and staff, residents, businesses and communities. This will include council tax levels, the treatment of schools, our levels of fees and charges for next year and any opportunities to allocate additional resources to priority service areas.

## **6.0 DEVELOPING AN EQUITABLE BUDGET STRATEGY FOR 2022/23**

6.1 Against the backdrop of a sustained period of financial challenges and more recently significant storm damage and the pandemic, the Council must maintain a focus on robust financial management and stability. A key ingredient of this is the responsible approach taken to how we address the development of our annual budgets. Therefore, we still, as in previous years, need to ensure that the parameters for producing the 2022/23 budget are adhered to, these being :-

- a) Maintain the Council's financial stability, whilst targeting any available funding, in an efficient and effective manner, towards our key services and priorities;
- b) Look to protect those key services and jobs wherever possible;
- c) Review all areas of service provision, including eligibility to those services and charging policies in place;
- d) Take maximum advantage of all new funding opportunities made available by the Welsh Government and others where it is in the best interests of the Council;
- e) "Top slice" appropriate necessary sums to fund corporate budgets;
- f) Fully allocate any sums "earmarked" for specific services which are demonstrably the direct result of legislative changes included in the 2022/23 Local Government Settlement, in accordance with the guidance issued by the Welsh Government;
- g) Allocate across our Services, initially, an adequate allowance for movements in employee costs;
- h) Allocate an appropriate level of funding to support our schools;
- i) Continue to deploy our procurement strategy to offset the impact of certain supplies and services inflation in the coming financial year;
- j) Actively pursue efficiency in all areas of the Council, for example, through continuing our work on digitalisation, reducing office accommodation, on-going transformational change as a result of the pandemic and a focus on invest to save and preventative activities.

6.2 These parameters will provide an effective and pragmatic framework for the delivery of a fair and equitable Council budget.

### **6.3 Council Tax Levels**

- 6.4 As is the case every year in respect of Council Tax levels, the Council will have due regard to the level of increase and the ability of residents to pay, but it also has to balance this against the need to fund important services. The 'modelled' increase at this time, in line with the current years increase and our MTFP is +2.65% for 2022/23 and it is now for Cabinet to consider and recommend the level of Council Tax.
- 6.5 The local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS), will continue to operate in line with the national framework, and at the same level of funding as that originally provided for through Revenue Support Grant in 2014/15. Costs therefore associated with Council Tax uplifts and changing caseloads remain a risk that the Council must fund. To illustrate the cost implications further, a 1% increase in Council Tax will generate an additional income for the Council of £1,195k (at the 2022/23 tax base level), but will also cost £253k in additional CTRS requirements. It therefore follows that a 1% increase generates a net additional income of £942k, or stated another way, 21 per cent of any Council Tax increase is lost to support the increased costs associated with the Welsh Government's CTRS.
- 6.6 The cost and caseload of the CTRS during this year (2021/22) has returned (currently) to more pre-pandemic levels, following the additional support provided by WG for increases which were felt during 2020/21. WG continue to monitor spend with an expectation that additional funding would be provided if necessary.

## **7.0 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Whilst the primary focus is necessarily on setting out an annual budget strategy and required Council Tax levels for the forthcoming financial year, the medium term financial and service planning emphasis has been a cornerstone of robust financial management at this Council.
- 7.2 The provision by Welsh Government of an all Wales multi-year settlement with indications of prospects for 2023/24 and 2024/25 is helpful for our medium term financial planning arrangements, notwithstanding the lower levels of indicative future year settlements will present us with a challenge. In this regard it is essential that we retain our focus across the medium term planning horizon and seek to ensure that we continue to manage our cost base effectively alongside future prospects for settlement levels.
- 7.3 Work is now underway to revisit all of the assumptions through to 2024/25 within the Medium Term Financial Plan and this will be reported to Members when available. The Council must continue to identify opportunities for efficiency and savings and whilst Members will clearly focus on their legal obligation to set a balanced budget for 2022/23 by March of this year, we must also be mindful of the medium and longer term requirements.

## **8.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 8.1 There are no immediate equality and diversity and socio economic duty implications to consider as an Equality Impact Assessment will be an integral part of the budget strategy itself and will be reported on later in the process.

## **9.0 CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 The proposed approach to budget consultation for 2022/23 is set out in the Cabinet report dated 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021. It comprises 2 phases as follows :

Phase 1 - to provide 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 have agreed a draft budget strategy, and in light of the provisional local government settlement, then this draft strategy will itself be consulted upon as part of Phase 2.

## **10.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The financial modelling assumptions and implications are set out in the detail of this report. Members are not being asked to make any new financial decisions at this stage.

## **11.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS or LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 11.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report.

## **12.0 LINKS TO CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

- 12.1 The budget strategy is a key enabler for the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 "Making a Difference".
- 12.2 With regard to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, at the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Council meeting, it was agreed that the Corporate Plan priorities would also serve as its Well-being Objectives in line with the Act.

### **13.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 13.1 The Minister for Finance and Local Government (Rebecca Evans MS) announced the Provisional 2022/23 Local Government Settlement on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
- 13.2 The reported Provisional Settlement represents an increase in revenue funding for the Council of +8.4% and decrease in capital support.
- 13.3 The Council's primary objective continues to be setting a budget in 2022/23 that maintains key services and jobs as well as ensuring the ongoing financial stability of the Council.

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## WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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**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 <sup>1</sup>	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
<b>All Unitary Authorities</b>	<b>4,670,080</b>	<b>5,107,507</b>	<b>9.4%</b>		<b>244,000</b>

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.



## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22

COUNCIL

19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022

### LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

#### REPORT OF: THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

**Author:** Barrie Davies (01443 424026)

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. This report fulfils the requirement to annually consider whether to revise or replace the Council's existing Council Tax Reduction Scheme ("CTRS") and the requirement to adopt a scheme by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.
- 1.2. As part of the review, the report sets out the changes to the CTRS that were introduced in April 2013. It explains the amendments proposed, the funding implications likely and documents the consultation outcomes allowing Members to consider the adoption of the Council's local CTRS for the 2022/23 financial year, which must be adopted by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1. It is recommended that Members:

- a) Note and adopt the provisions of the Prescribed Requirements Regulations and the amendments made to those regulations by the Amendment Regulations as the Council's local CTRS for 2022/23, subject to the local discretions that the Council is able to exercise;
- b) Note the outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken by the Council on the local discretions applicable to the CTRS for 2022/23; and
- c) Confirm the discretions applicable to the Council's local CTRS for 2022/23 as set out at paragraph 5.3 (Table 2) of this report.

### **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1. The CTRS in Wales is set by regulations made under Schedule 1B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as inserted by the Local Government Finance Act 2012). On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013, the National Assembly for Wales (NAfW) approved two sets of regulations:

- (a) the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Schemes) (Wales) Regulations 2013 (“the Default Scheme Regulations”); and
- (b) the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 (“the Prescribed Requirements Regulations”) (together the “Regulations”).

The Regulations at (b) above prescribe the main features of the CTRS to be adopted by all councils in Wales.

3.2. The Prescribed Requirements Regulations contain an obligation, where each year a council must consider whether to revise its scheme, or to replace it with another scheme. Any revision or replacement must be made no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January in the year preceding the financial year for which the revision or replacement scheme will take effect. However, the Regulations were amended in January 2015 to remove the requirement for Local Authorities to consult in relation to changes made by Welsh Ministers where authorities have no discretion. This means that Local Authorities do not need to consult when the Prescribed Requirements Regulations are amended by WG annually, to reflect consequential amendments to other state benefit changes.

3.3. Although there is a national scheme for Wales, the Prescribed Requirements Regulations provide limited discretion for the Council to apply minor additional discretionary elements that are more generous than the national scheme and which provide for additional administrative flexibility. If the Council does decide to offer more generous local discretions this would further increase the cost of the CTRS. These are:-

- (a) The ability to increase the standard extended reduction period of 4 weeks given to persons who have ceased to receive qualifying benefits after they return to work (or increase hours or increase earnings), where they have previously been receiving a Council Tax reduction that is to end as a result of the change in their circumstances;
- (b) The ability to backdate the application of Council Tax reduction for periods longer than the standard period of 3 months before the claim is made; and
- (c) Discretion to disregard more than the statutory weekly £10 of income received in respect of War Disablement Pensions and War Widow’s Pensions (disregarded when calculating the income of the applicant).

3.4. The Prescribed Requirements Regulations require the Council to adopt a CTRS by 31<sup>st</sup> January each year, regardless of whether it applies any of the discretionary elements set out in the preceding paragraph. If the Council fails to make a scheme, then a default scheme shall apply under the provisions of the Default Scheme Regulations. The Council can only apply discretion if it adopts a scheme under the Prescribed Requirements Regulations.

- 3.5. Each year, WG updates the Regulations to amend the financial values used to assess an applicant's entitlement. On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 the amending Regulations - (The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2021) (the "Amendment Regulations") - were laid before WG. Due to the WG's procedures which govern the making of the Regulations, the Amendment Regulations are to be formally considered by Plenary session of WG on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and subject to approval, will come into force the following day.
- 3.6. As detailed above, each year WG has to amend the Regulations to ensure that certain financial values used to calculate entitlement to a reduction for non-passported CTRS applicants are up-rated. For 2022/23, these changes relate to: -
- Personal allowances in relation to working age, carer and disabled applicants;
  - Personal allowances in relation to pensioner applicants; and
  - Non-dependant deductions.
- 3.7. In addition to any changes to the up-rating provisions referred to above, the Amendment Regulations incorporate further amendments to reflect consequential changes relating to social security benefits and other technical changes. A summary of all the main changes is set out in Appendix 1 to this report for information.

#### **4. CONSULTATION AND EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 4.1. The Regulations specify that in preparing its CTRS, a council must consult with any person it considers are likely to have an interest. Consequently, this requirement is met by incorporating a number of questions on the discretionary areas in the local CTRS, within the Council's general budget consultation process (which includes council tax levels and service priorities to inform the annual budget setting process).
- 4.2. Phase 1 of the annual budget consultation process for the 2022/23 financial year ran from 26<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and used the Council's new Let's Talk Engagement website, reintroduced some face-to-face events in the community and provided alternate means of engagement for those having reduced or no access to the internet and for those who preferred to engage through traditional methods. As part of these arrangements, the Older Persons Advisory Group and Disability Forum were provided with the consultation information as part of providing opportunity for as many stakeholders as possible to feedback their views.
- 4.3. The overall response from the consultation process on the three discretionary areas available to the Council and which it could apply to its CTRS was as follows: -

**Table 1**

<b>Discretion Area</b>	<b>No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
Do you think that 4 weeks is a reasonable period to continue paying Council Tax Reduction when someone returns to work?	247	190	35	22
Do you think that it is reasonable for the Council to continue to totally disregard War Disablement and War Widow's Pensions income when assessing entitlement to CTR Scheme?	247	151	63	33

Do you think that 6 months is reasonable period to backdate claims for working age and pensioners?	247	173	41	33
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4.4. In addition, a presentation was made to the Council's Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the feedback from which is set out below.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme – a 4-week extended payment period for people who return to work?

- Committee Members supported the continuation of a 4-week extended payment period for people who return to work.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme – Exclude war disablement and war widow pension when assessing CTR scheme?

- Committee Members supported the exclusion of the whole amount of War Disablement Pensions and War Widow's Pensions when calculating Council Tax Reduction Scheme entitlement.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme – Backdating claims by 6 months?

- Committee Members supported the continuation of the backdated claims period of 6 months.

4.5. In terms of an Equality Impact Assessment, the Council undertook a comprehensive equality impact assessment in January 2013 based on the original scheme. This has been reviewed in light of the minor changes to each subsequent year's scheme and it is evident that there are no amendments required.

4.6. The NafW undertook a comprehensive Regulatory Impact Assessment in respect of the national Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which accompanied the Regulations when they were considered by the NafW in November 2013.

## **5. ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

5.1 The Council is required to adopt its CTRS by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. This requirement is a statutory duty and applies even if the Council chooses not to apply any of the discretions available to it. If the Council fails to make a scheme, then a default scheme will apply under the Default Scheme Regulations (as amended).

5.2 As set out in paragraph 3.3, the Council does have limited discretion to be more generous than the national scheme and provide for additional administrative flexibility (specified under Part 5, paragraphs (32) to (34) of the Prescribed Requirements Regulations).

5.3 Taking account of:-

- (a) the responses to the Council's consultation exercise relating to the discretionary elements of the scheme;
- (b) the existing Housing Benefit Scheme in relation to the treatment of War Pensions (widows, widowers and disablement), which disregards these payments in full;

and

(c) the fixed funding made available by WG (as detailed at paragraph 6),

it is recommended that the approach to the available discretions should continue in line with the arrangements for 2021/22 as set out in Table 2.

**Table 2**

<b>Discretionary Parts of the Prescribed Requirements Regulations</b> <i>(Part 5 – Other Matters that must be included in an authority’s scheme)</i>	<b>Prescribed Requirements Regulations (Minimum Requirement)</b>	<b>Recommended Discretion to be adopted</b>
<p>Ability to increase the standard extended reduction period of 4 weeks given to applicants where they have previously been receiving a Council Tax reduction that is to end, as they have ceased receiving qualifying benefits as a result of returning to work, increasing their hours of work, or receiving increased earnings.</p> <p><i>Regulation 32 (3) paragraph (33) of Schedule 1 and Regulation 33 (3), paragraph (35) and (40) of Schedule 6.</i></p>	<p>4 Weeks</p>	<p><u>Pensioners:</u> The standard period of 4 weeks specified in paragraph (33) of Schedule 1 will apply, and</p> <p><u>Non- Pensioners:</u> The standard period of 4 weeks specified in paragraph (35) and (40) of Schedule 6 will apply</p>
<p>Ability to backdate an application for CTR with regard to late claims prior to the standard period of 3 months before the claim is made.</p> <p><i>Regulation 34 (4) and paragraph (3) and (4) of Schedule 13.</i></p>	<p>3 Months</p>	<p><u>Pensioners:</u> A period of 6 months will apply.</p> <p><u>Non-Pensioners:</u> A period of 6 months will apply.</p>
<p>Ability to disregard more than the statutory weekly £10 of income received in respect of War Disablement Pensions and War Widow's Pensions (disregarded when calculating income of the applicant);</p> <p><i>Regulation 34 (5), paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b) Schedule 4 and paragraphs 20(a) and 20(b) of Schedule 9</i></p>	<p>£10</p>	<p><u>Pensioners:</u> The <b>total</b> value of any pension specified in paragraphs 1 (a) and (b), Schedule 4 will be disregarded.</p> <p><u>Non-Pensioners:</u> The <b>total</b> value of any pension specified in paragraphs 20 (a) and (b), Schedule 9 will be disregarded.</p>

5.4 It should be noted that there is no additional funding available from WG to fund the discretionary elements of the CTRS. The estimated cost of funding the discretionary elements of the Prescribed Scheme in **2021/22** is set out in Table 3 below:

**Table 3**

<b>Discretionary Element</b>	<b>Est. Annual Cost</b>	<b>No. of Applicants</b>
Extended Payments	£2,600	30
Backdated Payments	£13,000	85
War Disablement & War Widow's Pensions	£26,500	65
<b>Total estimated cost</b>	<b>£42,100</b>	<b>180</b>

5.5 Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council adopts the Prescribed Requirements Regulations (as amended by the Amendment Regulations) which set out all the components that must be included in a CTR Scheme, as the Council's CTR Scheme for 2022/23 along with the discretions as set out in Table 2.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

6.1. The current estimated annual value of CTRS to be paid in **2021/22** is £25.153M, to 24,409 applicants (£25.375M to 25,495 applicants for 2020/21, as at December 2020).

6.2. Local Authorities receive fixed funding for the CTRS from WG, which means that as a local authority's caseload, and hence costs, changes from that assumed when the WG funding was set, the local authority bears the financial risk of any variance.

6.3 The amount allocated to councils by WG through the local government settlement takes no account of:

- Any increase in Council Tax levels that may be applied for 2022/23;
- The increase or decrease in the costs of awards under the CTRS if the number of claimants increase/decrease, or if claimants become eligible for more/less help; and
- The provision for Council Tax bad debt.

6.4 The total amount of cash-limited funding for 2022/23 distributed to the local authorities in Wales contained in the provisional Local Government Settlement announced on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 is £244M (this has remained unchanged since 2013/14) and the Council's allocation for 2022/23 is £21.005M (representing 8.6% of the all Wales funding). This Council's allocation for 2021/22 was £21.936M.

6.5 Any change to actual Council Tax levels in 2022/23 made by the Council, will affect the cost of providing the local CTRS, which equates to approximately £253k for each 1% increase in Council Tax.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY / SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The equality and diversity implications are set out in the main body of the report.



## **8. CONSULTATION**

8.1 Consultation arrangements have been set out in the main body of the report.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

9.1 The relevant legislation has been referenced throughout the main body of the report.

## **10. LINKS TO CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

10.1 The recommendation for the adoption of this CTRS and the local discretions will contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 "Making a Difference" through focussing on supporting the economy, prosperity and promoting people's independence. In doing so, it will also contribute to the well-being goals as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

11.1 Each year local authorities in Wales are under a statutory obligation to consider whether to revise their CTRS or to replace it with another scheme and any revision or replacement must be made by no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January in the year preceding the financial year for which the revision or replacement scheme will take effect.

11.2 This report provides Council with details of the proposed scheme to be applicable for financial year 2022/23.

## Council Tax Reduction Scheme

### Amendments to the 2013 Regulations made by 2022

#### Regulations

1. The new statutory instrument<sup>1</sup> amends the 2013 CTRS Regulations to up-rate certain figures used within those Regulations to calculate entitlement to a Council Tax Reduction, and the amount of any reduction awarded to applicants in 2022/23. It also makes a number of consequential and technical amendments to the 2013 CTRS Regulations to take account of interrelated benefits and ensure they remain fit for purpose.
2. The up-rating increases the various figures used to calculate an applicant's entitlement to a reduction and the amount of the reduction, in line with variations for living costs and earnings. The uprated figures relate to:

Change	Impact
<p><b>Personal allowances in relation to working age, carer and disabled applicants</b></p> <p>The financial figures in respect of these allowances have been amended and have increased in line with the cost of living rises. The convention is to uprate in line with the Consumer Price Index September figure from the previous year (2021), which is 3.1%.</p>	<p><b>Costs</b></p> <p>Uprating the financial figures in respect of pensioners and working age allowances would slightly increase total reductions under Council Tax Reduction Schemes. However, if the financial figures in relation to Non-Dependant Deductions were also uprated, this would mitigate some of the increase in total reductions. Consequently, total council tax reductions are not expected to rise significantly because of the uprating.</p> <p><b>Benefits</b></p> <p>Uprating the financial figures in the 2013 CTRS Regulations will ensure that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the personal allowance for working age applicants continues to increase in line with the CPI (which is set at 3.1%). For example in 2022-23, the single person allowance would increase from £79.60 to £82.10 (an increase of £2.50).</li> <li>▪ the personal allowance for pensioners continues to increase in line with the standard minimum guarantee and savings credit. For example in 2022-23, the single person allowance would increase from £191.15 to £197.10 (an increase of £5.95).</li> <li>▪ Non-dependant deduction rates are uprated, this will ensure the calculation used to assess the eligibility of non-dependant households remains up-to-date. The calculation would continue to make a fair assessment of the income of non-dependants and the cost of council tax. This will ensure the system remains fair and equitable.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pensioners reaching state pension age: personal allowance</b></p> <p>The Regulations currently provide for higher or lower personal allowance rates for pensioners depending on whether they are over or under 65 respectively. There are no longer pensioners (within the meaning of the Regulations) who are under the age of 65. An amendment is therefore made to remove those redundant references. The effect of the amendment is that all pensioners in Wales are entitled to the higher rate of personal allowance. This means the Welsh scheme is more generous than in England</p>	
<p><b>Non-dependant deductions</b></p> <p>The financial figures in relation to both the income bands and deductions made in relation to 'non-dependants' will be uprated. If amendments are not made, appropriate deductions would not be made from CTRS awards as the income thresholds would no longer reflect average earnings and the deduction would no longer reflect the overall cost of council tax.</p>	

<sup>1</sup> The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022

### 3. Additional Consequential Amendments

In addition to the uprating of financial figures, this statutory instrument makes a number of consequential amendments to the 2013 CTRS Regulations. These will ensure the 2013 Regulations remain up-to-date and fit for purpose.

<b>Area/Issue</b>	<b>Effect of 2022 “Amendment” Regulations</b>
<p><b><u>Afghan Nationals and UK nationals from Afghanistan</u></b>            This is designed to support Afghan nationals and UK nationals from Afghanistan as a consequence of the recent changes to the Afghan Government. The amendments to the 2013 CTRS Regulations make provision to exempt this group from those counted as persons not being in Great Britain.</p>	<p>The effect of these amendments is that this group will be eligible to be included in a local authority’s CTRS and will be eligible for a discount if they meet the other requirements of the CTRS.</p>
<p><b><u>Redress Scheme for survivors of historical child abuse in Scotland</u></b>            The Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 23 April 2021. The Act sets up a scheme to make financial payments (‘redress payments’) to survivors of historical child abuse in care in Scotland.</p>	<p>To ensure that no applicant living in Wales is negatively affected because they have received a redress payment, a consequential amendment is made to disregard any redress payment received from the calculation of an applicant’s capital under the scheme. A similar amendment is also made to disregard any ex gratia payment made by the Scottish Ministers from the Advance Payment Scheme set up by the Scottish Ministers in respect of cases of historical child abuse in care.</p>
<p><b><u>Changes to income and capital disregards</u></b>            A number of payments are disregarded for the purposes of calculating ‘income’ and/or ‘capital’.</p>	<p>Will ensure these references in the 2013 Regulations remain up-to-date for 2022/2023.</p>





## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

### **WELSH CHURCH ACT FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES**

**AUTHOR** : Barrie Davies (01443) 424026

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report is to ensure the Council complies with the requirements relating to the production and approval of an Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Welsh Church Act Fund for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (a) Approve and note the Welsh Church Act Fund Annual Report and Financial Statements for the financial year 2020/2021 (Appendix 1);
- (b) Approve and note the Letter of Representation relating to the Welsh Church Act Fund (Appendix 2); and
- (c) Consider the External Auditor report (Appendix 3).

### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Council has administrative responsibility for the production of the Welsh Church Act Fund Annual Report and Financial Statements.
- 3.2 The draft financial statements were provided to Audit Wales on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- 3.3 The intervening period has seen the completion of the audit of the Financial Statements by Audit Wales and they are now in a position to provide their opinion on them as presenting a true and fair view. During the audit process a small number of amendments were necessary and these are incorporated into the Financial Statements at Appendix 1. The Audit Wales report is attached for Members consideration at Appendix 3.
- 3.4 It is normal practice for Audit Wales to request that the Responsible Finance Officer provides a “Letter of Representation”, which highlights material issues relating to the completeness and/or accuracy of the information included in the Financial Statements and could, therefore, influence the audit opinion. This is to ensure that the Financial Statements properly reflect the Fund’s financial standing and is consistent with the approach taken by Audit Wales in prior years.
- 3.5 The Letter of Representation for the Welsh Church Act Fund is provided at Appendix 2.

### **4.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 4.1 The report satisfies the legal requirement for the approval of the Welsh Church Act Fund’s Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. As a result, there are no equality and diversity or socio-economic duty implications to report.

### **5.0 CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 There are no consultation requirements emanating from the recommendations set out in the report.

### **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

**7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

7.1 The report ensures the Council complies with the legal requirements contained in the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008 No 629) and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (FRS102).

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

8.1 The report supports the Well-being of Future Generations Act in particular 'a Wales of cohesive communities' through the financial support it offers to community based groups within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend Councils.

**9.0 CONCLUSION**

9.1 The completion of the audit of the Welsh Church Act Fund Financial Statements provides Members, in their role as trustees, with the necessary assurances upon the financial affairs of the Fund.

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**The Welsh Church Act Fund within  
the areas of  
Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend  
and Merthyr Tydfil  
County Borough Councils**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
2020/21**

Registered Charity no. 506658

# Annual Report 2020/21

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## **Report of the Trustee for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

### **Duty to Prepare Annual Reports and Accounts**

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, as trustee, is responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report and Accounts for the Welsh Church Act Fund.

The trustee presents its report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the legal requirements contained in the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008 No 629) and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (FRS102).

### **Legal and Administrative Information**

#### **Name of Charity**

The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils.

#### **Charity Number**

506658

#### **Governing Document**

Trust Deed

#### **Trustee**

Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, as a corporate body, is the trustee of the Welsh Church Act Fund.

#### **Method of Appointment**

Upon becoming a Member of the Council, Councillors become a trustee of the Fund.

#### **Chief Executive**

Chris Bradshaw

#### **Principal Office**

Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

#### **Auditors**

Audit Wales, 24 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ.

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank PLC, Leicester, Leicestershire, United Kingdom, LE87 2BB.

### **COIFs (Charities Official Investment Fund)**

Managed by CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) Investment Management Ltd., Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET.

### **Solicitors**

Legal and Democratic Services, Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, Rhondda Cynon Taf, CF40 2XX.

### **Investment Managers**

There is no contract with any advisor and no annual fees are charged. However, advice is sought on an ad-hoc basis.

## **Narrative Information**

### **Constitution and Objectives**

Lloyd George, under the provisions of the 1914 and 1919 Welsh Churches Acts, established the Welsh Church Act Fund. These two acts transferred certain categories of secularised property to a Welsh Church Act Fund to be administered by the County Councils, however, these funds were not activated until 1942-47, when property to the value of almost £2.5m was handed over to the County Councils.

The Welsh Churches Acts state that income of the funds should be devoted to charitable or alms giving purposes and that each Council is required to prepare a scheme for the use of the fund.

The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils still operates under the constitution of the Mid Glamorgan Welsh Church Act Fund. The original trust deed is dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 1976 and the registered charity number is 506658.

The charitable purposes to which the fund may be applied are:

- Educational
- Relief in sickness
- Relief in need
- Libraries, Museums, Art Galleries, etc.
- Social and recreational
- Protection of historical buildings, etc.
- Medical and social research, treatment, etc.
- Probation, etc.
- Blind persons
- Aged persons
- Places of worship and burial grounds
- Emergencies or disasters
- Other charitable purposes

These purposes are consistent with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

## **Organisation**

All the Councillors of Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC act as trustee of the Welsh Church Act Fund. As the Fund covers the areas of Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil as well as Rhondda Cynon Taf, the trustee consults with representatives from these County Borough Councils on successful applications within their localities.

The charity trustee has complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## **Related Parties**

A related party transaction is one where the charity has a relationship with another party, which might inhibit it from pursuing its own separate interests. It is considered that Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, Bridgend CBC and Merthyr Tydfil CBC and all Trustees of the Fund have related party relationships with the charity. Transactions with related parties are disclosed in Note 4 to the Statement of Financial Activities.

## **Grant Making Policy**

Organisations are invited to submit applications together with estimates, accounts and constitutions. One or more of the purposes mentioned previously will cover successful applicants. There are specific restrictions applied around these general categories which are as follows:

1. Students are not eligible as it is considered that the County Borough Council's education policy already covers the most worthwhile cases.
2. Individual cases of relief in sickness will be referred to by the County Borough Council's Community & Children's Services Group.
3. Individual cases of relief in need will be refused, as any provision in this area should be the responsibility of the Department for Work and Pensions. However, applications from organisations working towards relief in need will be considered on their merits.
4. No grant will be made towards organisations with an alcohol licence.
5. No grants will be made toward projects operating outside the areas of Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf.
6. Applications will be considered from organisations based outside the areas of Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf provided that the work of the organisation has local significance.
7. To be eligible, organisations should ensure their facilities are open to the public at large. Any assistance given will be towards project expenditure of a capital nature only. Revenue costs such as running expenses will not be supported. Welsh Church Act Fund grants will not be paid up front. Grant will normally be paid on completion

of the project, on submission of invoices and bank statements to evidence the expenditure.

8. Welsh Church Act Fund grant limits during 2020/21 were:

Grants under £2,000 did not require match funding, grants exceeding £2,000 required a minimum of 10% match funding and grants exceeding £10,000 required a minimum of 20% match funding from non-Welsh Church Fund sources. Maximum grant available was £50,000.

### **Details of the Grant Making Process**

When projects are fully developed and ready for a decision, recommendations are made by officers via a Grant Assessment Report. Decisions to accept or reject these recommendations are made by the Regeneration Manager in consultation with the Cabinet Member and following consultation with Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils.

### **Review of Financial Activities**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 13. A summary of the financial results are set out below:

Investment income during the year totalled £408k (£427k in 2019/20). Expenditure on charitable activities totalled £342k (£797k in 2019/20), and governance costs of £6k were incurred (£6k in 2019/20). Net incoming resources less resources expended amounted to a surplus of £60k (Net incoming resources less resources expended amounted to a deficit of £376k in 2019/20).

During 2020/21 the number of grant awards processed reduced from 57 in 2019/20 to 23. This was as a result of a lower number of applications due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Net gains on the revaluation of Investments totalled £1,326k for the year (net losses of £207k in 2019/20).

### **Investment Policy and Performance against Policy**

The Trust Deed governs the trustee's investment powers. This permits the Charity's funds to be invested in any authorised security listed on the London Stock Exchange. The trustee has complied with this policy during 2020/21.

The investment strategy of the Fund is to balance risk. Capital value is exposed to minimum risk whilst ensuring investment income is sufficient to pay for approved grants.

## **Achievements and Performance**

In line with the charity's objectives, grants of £342k were awarded in 2020/21. Further details are given in Note 2 to the Statement of Financial Activities.

## **Risk Management**

The trustee is made aware of any issues with possible detrimental effects upon the Fund as they arise. There were no such issues during 2020/21.

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Host Authority's Corporate Governance policies such as Financial Procedure Rules, Contract Procedure Rules, Codes of Conduct and Scheme of Delegation. The trustee is aware that investment values can decrease as well as increase.

## Statement of the Trustee's Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustee is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on its website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By order of the Trustee

Signed:

On behalf of the Trustee.....



## **The independent auditor's report of the Auditor General for Wales to the trustee of the Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils**

### **Opinion on financial statements**

I have audited the financial statements of the Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils (the Fund) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 under the Charities Act 2011. These comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

### **Basis for opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK (ISAs (UK)) and Practise Note 10 'Audit of Financial Statements of Public Sector Entities in the United Kingdom'. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I am independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the body's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The trustee is responsible for the

other information contained within the annual report. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my report, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, and in doing so consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information I am required to report the fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Report on other requirements**

### **Matters on which I report by exception**

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require me to report to you if, in my opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report;
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by the team;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Responsibilities of the trustee for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustee's responsibilities set out on page 8, the trustee is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustee is responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

I have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could

reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

My procedures included the following:

- Enquiring of management, the head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to the Fund's policies and procedures concerned with:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Considering as an audit team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.
- Obtaining an understanding of the Fund's framework of authority as well as other legal and regulatory frameworks that the Fund operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Fund.

In addition to the above, my procedures to respond to identified risks included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring of management, the Council and legal advisors about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the trustee;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

I also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the Fund's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Richard Harries  
On behalf of the Auditor General for Wales  
[Date]

24 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 9LJ

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	
		2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
<b><u>Income and Endowments from:</u></b>			
Investments	1	408	427
<b>Total Income and Endowments</b>		<b>408</b>	<b>427</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>			
Charitable Activities	2	(342)	(797)
Other	3	(6)	(6)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(348)</b>	<b>(803)</b>
Net gains/(Losses) on Investments		1,326	(207)
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>1,386</b>	<b>(583)</b>
<b><u>Net Movement in funds</u></b>		<b>1,386</b>	<b>(583)</b>
<b><u>Reconciliation of Funds</u></b>			
Total Funds Brought Forward at 1 <sup>st</sup> April		12,137	12,720
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>		<b>13,523</b>	<b>12,137</b>

The notes contained on pages 18 - 20 form part of these Accounts.

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Note	31/03/21	31/03/20	31/03/20
		£'000	£'000	£'000
			Restated	
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>				
Investments	2	13,396	12,070	12,070
		<b>13,396</b>	<b>12,070</b>	<b>12,070</b>
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>				
Debtors	3	103	105	105
Cash at Bank		398	664	664
		<b>501</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>769</b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>				
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	4	(374)	(702)	(702)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>127</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>13,523</b>	<b>12,137</b>	<b>12,137</b>
Represented By:				
<b><u>The Funds of the charity:</u></b>				
Revaluation Reserve				5,182
Unrestricted Funds	1*	13,523	12,137	6,955
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>		<b>13,523</b>	<b>12,137</b>	<b>12,137</b>

The notes contained on pages 21 - 22 form part of these Accounts.

\* See Note 1 Prior Year Adjustment.

**Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Note	2020/21	2019/20
		£'000	£'000
<b><u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</u></b>			
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities</b>	1	(672)	(456)
<b><u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</u></b>			
Dividends, Interest and Rents from Investments		406	405
Cost of Purchase of Units		0	0
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities</b>		406	405
<b><u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u></b>			
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities</b>		0	0
<b>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Reporting Period</b>		(266)	(51)
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Reporting Period</b>		664	715
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period</b>		398	664

The notes contained on page 23 form part of these Accounts.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Barrie Davies**  
**Director of Finance and Digital Services**  
Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC  
The Pavilions  
Cambrian Park  
Clydach Valle  
Tonypany. CF40 2XX

## **Accounting Policies**

Accounting Policies are the principles, bases, conventions and rules by which transactions are recognised, measured and presented in the accounts.

### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the legal requirements contained in the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008 No 629) and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (FRS102) except where stated otherwise.

### **Incoming Resources Policy**

Income is credited to the fund in the year to which it relates regardless of when the income is actually received.

### **Resources Expended Policy**

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis i.e. charged to the year to which it relates regardless of when the expenditure is made.

### **Grants Payable Policy**

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient. Unused grants are written back when written confirmation is provided stating that funding is no longer required.

### **Management and Administration Policy**

The allocation of Central Support Services costs to the Fund is based upon an estimate of the time spent by employees of Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC in undertaking work associated with the Fund.

### **Investment Properties**

Investment properties are recorded in the accounts at the most recent valuation of market value. Any difference in value arising out of the periodic revaluations will be charged/credited to Unrestricted Funds. The most recent valuation was at 1<sup>st</sup> December



2020 and was carried out by Chris Clarke Surveyors Ltd. In accordance with FRS 102, investment properties are not depreciated.

### **Fixed Asset Investments (Other Than Property)**

Long Term Investments are recorded in the accounts at current market value. Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, as Host Authority, administers investments on behalf of the Fund. The Treasury Management Policy statement of the Host Authority governs all such transactions.

Any unrealised and realised gains and losses on revaluation and disposal are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### **Fund Structure**

All funds are unrestricted.

### **Trustee Remuneration and Expenses**

The trustee has not received any remuneration or expenses in the year 2020/21.

### **Policy on Reserves**

Reserves are unrestricted and held for the future use of the Fund for the purposes specified in the Trust Deed.

### **Policy on Investments of Cash**

Cash is deemed to be sums of money available for immediate use by the Welsh Church Fund. Such items are cash balances held in the Fund's bank account (less unrepresented cheques). The Welsh Church Fund does not hold Cash in Hand.

### **Policy on Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors are amounts recoverable, based on the amount the Charity anticipates it will receive. There is no bad debt provision included within the Statements. Creditors are amounts due from the Welsh Church Act Fund.

### **Policy on Going Concern**

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records and produce financial statements that comply with the provisions of the trust deed. The Fund is therefore prepared on the basis of a going concern.

**Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities****1. Investment Income**

	<b>2020/21</b> <b>£'000</b>	<b>2019/20</b> <b>£'000</b>
Bank Interest	1	5
Interest on Investments	407	422
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>427</b>

**2. Charitable Activities**

During 2020/21 the Fund awarded total grants amounting to £358,268.68. Those organisations awarded grants equal to or greater than £2,000 are detailed below:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount</b> <b>£</b>
Ramoth Christian Centre, Hirwaun	(3,219.00)
Noddfa Ruhaman Capel Y Bedyddwyr, Porthcawl	(3,752.00)
Horeb Congregational Chapel, Merthyr Tydfil	(4,491.00)
St David's Church, Laleston	(4,740.00)
St Crallo's Church, Coychurch	(6,930.00)
St Fagans Church, Trecynon	(7,275.00)
St David's Church, Llangynwyd	(7,876.80)
Pete's Shop Ltd, 24 Taff St, Pontypridd	(8,074.53)
Eglwys Y Bedyddwyr, Blaencwm	(8,507.70)
Cwmparc Community Association, Treorchy	(9,030.60)
Lewis Merthyr Band, Porth	(10,000.00)
Trecynon Free library & Institute, Trecynon	(10,000.00)
Cwmparc Community Association, Treorchy	(10,000.00)
Highland Place Unitarian Church, Aberdare	(10,000.00)
St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Merthyr Tydfil	(10,000.00)
St John's Church, Cymmer	(10,000.00)
Cory Band, Treorchy	(35,506.16)
Age Concern Morgannwg Ltd - Cynon Linc, Aberdare	(45,075.89)
Ynysybwl Regeneration Partnership, Ynysybwl	(50,000.00)
Pontypridd YMCA	(50,000.00)
Cynon Valley Museum Trust, Aberdare	(50,000.00)
<b>Subtotal of grants equal to or greater than £2,000 (21 in number)</b>	<b>(354,478.68)</b>
<b>Grants less than £2,000 (2 in number)</b>	<b>(3,790.00)</b>
<b>Total grants payable for 2020/21 (23 in number)</b>	<b>(358,268.68)</b>
Grants written back to the Fund	55,961.82
Accounting and Technical Support	(39,178.75)
<b>Total Charitable Activities as per Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>(341,485.61)</b>

The Welsh Church Fund only awards grants to institutions.

The following table gives a summary analysis of grants awarded by the nature of the project during 2020/21:

<b>Analysis</b>	<b>Total Amount of Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Total Number of Grants</b>
	<b>£</b>	
Social and recreational	(126,436.76)	7
Other charitable purposes	(103,150.42)	3
Places of worship	(78,681.50)	12
Libraries, Museums and Art Galleries	(50,000.00)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>(358,268.68)</b>	<b>23</b>

### 3. Other Costs

	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Audit Fees	(6)	(6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(6)</b>

### 4. Related Party Transactions

#### 4.1 Related Transactions with Administrating Authority

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>	<b>Welsh Church Act Fund Transactions with Organisation</b>			
		<b>Net Value (£'000)</b>		<b>Balance Outstanding as at 31st March 2021 (£'000)</b>	
		<b>Payments</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Receipts</b>
Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC	Accounting & technical support	(39)	0	0	0
Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC	Interest Receivable	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>(39)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

## 4.2 Related Transactions with Members of the Council

During 2020/21, eleven Members identified an interest in nine organisations that have been awarded a grant from the Fund.

Organisation	Member's Relationship	Amount Awarded		Outstanding Amount	
		2020/21	2019/20	31/03/21	31/03/20
Eglwys y Bedyddwyr, Blaenycwm,	Secretary	8,508	10,000	0	0
Cambrian Village Trust	Director	0	50,000	0*	37,050
Llanharan Community Development Project Ltd	Trustee	0	10,000	0**	2,500
St Elvan's Church, Aberdare.	Member	0	50,000	25,000	50,000
Rhondda Lawn Tennis Club, Treorchy.	Member	0	8,272	0	8,272
Friends of Aberdare Park	Member (x3)	0	50,000	10,000	50,000
Ynysybwl Regeneration Partnership, Ynysybwl	Director	50,000	0	10,000	0
Trecynon Free Library & Institute, Trecynon.	Chair	10,000	0	10,000	0
Pontypridd YMCA	Director	50,000	0	50,000	0

\* In 2020/21 Cambrian Village Trust was paid £34,685 with £2,365 written back in year.

\*\* In 2020/21 Llanharan Community Development Project Ltd was paid £2,380 with £120 written back in the year.

## Notes to the Balance Sheet

### 1 Prior Year Adjustment

The 2019/20 Balance Sheet has been restated to aggregate the Revaluation Reserve and the Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

### 2 Fixed Asset Investments

#### 2.1 Analysis of Movement in Investments

An analysis of the fixed assets held as investments for the charity is provided below:

	<b>Land £'000</b>	<b>Securities £'000</b>	<b>Totals £'000</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	33	12,037	12,070
Net Surplus on Revaluation	11	1,315	1,326
<b>Market Value at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>13,352</b>	<b>13,396</b>

#### 2.2 Investment Securities Analysis

	<b>31/03/21 £'000</b>	<b>31/03/20 £'000</b>
Government Stock	457	462
Charities Official Investment Fund	8,094	6,705
Charities Official Fixed Interest Fund	4,801	4,870
<b>Total Market Value</b>	<b>13,352</b>	<b>12,037</b>
Historical Cost as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	7,289	7,289

### 3 Debtors

An analysis of debtors as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 is provided below:

	<b>31/03/21 £'000</b>	<b>31/03/20 £'000</b>
Amounts due from RCT CBC	1	5
Accrued Interest on Investments	102	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>105</b>

#### 3.1 Accrued Interest relates to investment income relating to 2020/21 paid in 2021/22. It is made up as follows:

	<b>£'000</b>
COIF Fixed Interest Fund	59
COIF Investment Fund	39
2 ½ % Index Linked 2024	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>

**4 Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

An analysis of creditors as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 is as follows:

	<b>31/03/21</b>	<b>31/03/20</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Miscellaneous Charitable Organisations	(336)	(643)
Audit Wales – fee accrual	(6)	(19)
Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC	(32)	(40)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(374)</b>	<b>(702)</b>

**Notes to Cash Flow****1. Reconciliation of Net Income/(Expenditure) to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities**

	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) as per the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>(583)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
(Gains)/Losses on Investments	(1,326)	207
Dividends, Interest and Rents from Investments	(408)	(427)
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	4	19
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(328)	328
<b>Net Cash Provided by (used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>(672)</b>	<b>(456)</b>

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## Appendix 2

Date/Dyddiad:  
19<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Please ask for/Gofynnwch am:  
Barrie Davies  
(01443) 424026

Auditor General for Wales  
24 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 9LJ

Dear Richard,

**Representations regarding the 2020/21 financial statements for the Welsh Church Act Fund within the Areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils**

This letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Welsh Church Act Fund for the Areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 for the purpose of expressing an opinion on their truth and fairness and their proper preparation.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made enquiries as we consider sufficient, we can make the following representations to you.

### **Management Representations**

#### **Responsibilities:**

We have fulfilled our responsibilities for:

- The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with legislative requirements and the Charities SoRP; in particular the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance therewith; and
- The design, implementation, maintenance and review of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error

## **Information Provided:**

We have provided you with:

- Full access to:
  - all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as books of account and supporting documentation, minutes of meetings and other matters;
  - additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
  - unrestricted access to staff from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- The results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- Our knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (as Trustee of the Fund) and involves:
  - management;
  - employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- Our knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators or others.
- Our knowledge of all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- The identity of all related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

## **Financial Statement representations:**

All transactions, assets and liabilities have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

The methods, the data and the significant assumptions used in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement or disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.

Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed.

All events occurring subsequent to the reporting date which require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted for or disclosed.

All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions. All misstatements have been corrected both material and those below materiality thresholds.

**Representations by the Trustee of the Welsh Church Acts Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils.**

We acknowledge that the representations made by management, above, have been discussed with us.

We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of true and fair financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. The financial statements of the Welsh Church Act Fund for the Areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils were approved by full Council of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

We confirm that we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to you. We confirm that, as far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which you are unaware.

Signed by

Director of Finance and Digital Services  
(Section 151 Officer)

Leading Member

Date

Date

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# Appendix 3

## Audit of Accounts Report – The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils

Audit year: 2020-21

Date issued: January 22

### **Purpose of this document**

This document is a draft supplied in confidence solely for the purpose of verifying the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in it and to obtain views on the conclusions reached.

### **Handling prior to publication**

This document and the copyright comprised therein is and remains the property of the Auditor General for Wales. It contains information which has been obtained by the Auditor General and the Wales Audit Office under statutory functions solely to discharge statutory functions and has been prepared as the basis for an official document that may be issued or published in due course. It may also contain information the unauthorised disclosure of which may be an offence under section 54 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004. Except as expressly permitted by law, neither the document nor any of its content may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system and/or transmitted in any form or by any means, or disclosed to any person other than the original recipient without the prior written permission of the Wales Audit Office. It must be safeguarded at all times to prevent publication or other improper use of its content. Unauthorised use or disclosure may result in legal proceedings. Any enquiries regarding disclosure or re-use of this document should be sent to the Wales Audit Office at [infoofficer@audit.wales](mailto:infoofficer@audit.wales).

This document has been prepared as part of work performed in accordance with statutory functions.

In the event of receiving a request for information to which this document may be relevant, attention is drawn to the Code of Practice issued under section 45 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The section 45 code sets out the practice in the handling of requests that is expected of public authorities, including consultation with relevant third parties. In relation to this document, the Auditor General for Wales and the Wales Audit Office are relevant third parties. Any enquiries regarding disclosure or re-use of this document should be sent to the Wales Audit Office at [infoofficer@audit.wales](mailto:infoofficer@audit.wales).

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We intend to issue an unqualified audit report on your Accounts There are some issues to report to you prior to their approval.

#### Audit of Accounts Report

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Significant issues arising from the audit	4
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Appendix 3 – Summary of Corrections Made	13

## Introduction

- 1 We summarise the main findings from our audit of your 2020-21 accounts in this report.
- 2 We have already discussed these issues with Director of Finance and Digital Services.
- 3 Auditors can never give complete assurance that accounts are correctly stated. Instead, we work to a level of 'materiality'. This level of materiality is set to try to identify and correct misstatements that might otherwise cause a user of the accounts into being misled.
- 4 We set this level at £268k for this year's audit.
- 5 There are some areas of the accounts that may be of more importance to the reader and we have set a lower materiality level for these, such as related parties.
- 6 We have now substantially completed this year's audit.
- 7 In our professional view, we have complied with the ethical standards that apply to our work; remain independent of yourselves; and, our objectivity has not been compromised in any way. There are no relationships between ourselves and yourselves that we believe could undermine our objectivity and independence.

## Proposed audit opinion

- 8 We intend to issue an unqualified audit opinion on this year's accounts once you have provided us with a Letter of Representation based on that set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 9 We issue a 'qualified' audit opinion where we have material concerns about some aspects of your accounts; otherwise we issue an unqualified opinion.
- 10 The Letter of Representation contains certain confirmations we are required to obtain from you under auditing standards.
- 11 Our proposed audit report is set out in **Appendix 2**.

## Significant issues arising from the audit

### Uncorrected misstatements

- 12 There are no misstatements identified in the accounts, which remain uncorrected.

### Corrected misstatements



- 13 There were initially misstatements in the accounts that have now been corrected by management. However, we believe that these should be drawn to your attention and they are set out with explanations in **Appendix 3**.

### **Other significant issues arising from the audit**

- 14 In the course of the audit, we consider a number of matters relating to the accounts and report any significant issues arising to you. There were no issues arising in these areas this year.

# Final Letter of Representation

[Audited body's letterhead]

Auditor General for Wales  
Wales Audit Office  
24 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 9LJ

[Date]

## Representations regarding the 2020-21 financial statements

This letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils (the Fund) for the year ended 31 March 21 for the purpose of expressing an opinion on their truth and fairness and their proper preparation.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made enquiries as we consider sufficient, we can make the following representations to you.

## Management representations

### Responsibilities

We have fulfilled our responsibilities for:

- The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with legislative requirements and the Charities SoRP; in particular the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance therewith; and
- The design, implementation, maintenance and review of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error

## Information provided

We have provided you with:

- Full access to:
  - all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as books of account and supporting documentation, minutes of meetings and other matters;

- additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- unrestricted access to staff from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- The results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- Our knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the Fund and involves:
  - management;
  - employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- Our knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators or others.
- Our knowledge of all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- The identity of all related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

## Financial statement representations

All transactions, assets and liabilities have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

The methods, the data and the significant assumptions used in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement or disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.

Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed.

All events occurring subsequent to the reporting date which require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted for or disclosed.

All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

## Representations by the Trustee of The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils

We acknowledge that the representations made by management, above, have been discussed with us.

We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of true and fair financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. The financial statements were approved by Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC as trustees on [insert date].

We confirm that we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to you. We confirm that, as far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which you are unaware.

Signed by:

[Officer who signs on behalf of management]

Date:

Signed by:

[Officer or Member who signs on behalf of those charged with governance (director only for companies)]

Date:

## Proposed Audit Report

### **The independent auditor's report of the Auditor General for Wales to the trustee of The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils**

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

I have audited the financial statements of The Welsh Church Act Fund within the areas of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils (the Fund) for the year ended 31 March 2021 under the Charities Act 2011. These comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cashflows and related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Basis of opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK (ISAs (UK)) and Practice Note 10 'Audit of Financial Statements of Public Sector Entities in the United Kingdom'. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I am independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the body's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustee[s] with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## **Other Information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The trustee is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my report, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Report on other requirements**

### **Matters on which I report by exception**

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require me to report to you if, in my opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustee's report;
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my team;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Responsibilities of the trustee[s] for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustee's responsibilities set out on page 8, the trustee is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustee is responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

I have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from

fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

My procedures included the following:

- Enquiring of management, the head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to the Fund's policies and procedures concerned with:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Considering as an audit team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.
- Obtaining an understanding of the Fund's framework of authority as well as other legal and regulatory frameworks that the Fund operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Fund.

In addition to the above, my procedures to respond to identified risks included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring of management, the Council and legal advisors about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the trustee
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

I also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the Fund's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Richard Harries  
On behalf of the Auditor General for Wales  
[Date]

24 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 9LJ



## Summary of Corrections Made

During our audit we identified the following misstatements that have been corrected by management, but which we consider should be drawn to your attention due to their relevance to your responsibilities over the financial reporting process.

### Exhibit 3: summary of corrections made

Value of correction	Nature of correction	Reason for correction
£6,508k	Reclassify £6,508k from revaluation reserve to Fund balance.	To account for financial instruments in line with the SoRP
£32k	Increase in Cash and increase in Creditors	To correctly treat money owed to RCTCBC due to timing differences of payments
Various narrative and presentational changes	Minor corrections throughout the accounts.	To provide enhanced disclosures and understanding of the information contained within the financial statements



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We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English.  
Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg.

## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

### URGENT EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN FORWARD

### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATION

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present, for Members' information an overview of the Urgent Decisions taken forward by the Cabinet Committee and the Urgent Key Officer Delegated Decisions taken forward outside of the Cabinet Committee during the period October– December 2021.
- 1.2 This is excluding those reports which were presented to another Committee of the Council for final decision.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the information contained within the report.

#### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 In accordance with the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules 17.2(a) Urgent Executive Decisions taken forward should be reported to Council for information purposes.
- 3.2 To assist in the openness and transparency of the Decision-making process within the Council.

#### 4. URGENT DECISIONS OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE

- 4.1 There were no urgent Decisions of the Cabinet Committee taken forward during this time period.

#### 5. DELEGATIONS OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

- 5.1 As outlined in Section 3 of the Leader’s Scheme of Delegation, Cabinet Members are permitted to make decisions falling under their portfolio if deemed urgent to protect the interest of the Council, subject to prior consultation with the relevant Senior Leadership Team Officer(s).
- 5.2 The Leader can take urgent decisions in the absence of the appropriate portfolio holder.
- 5.3 The confirmation and signature of the Presiding Officer or Deputy Presiding Officer to the proposed decision must be sought in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules 17.2(a)
- 5.4 There were no urgent Cabinet Member Decisions taken forward during this time period.

**6. DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS TO OFFICERS.**

- 6.1 As outlined within section 6 of the Leaders Scheme of Delegation, and in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act 2000, executive functions can be delegated to Officers (as set out within the terms of Section 5 of Part 3 of this part of the Council Constitution)
- 6.2 Following the Council AGM in 2016 and to increase transparency and accountability, Key Officer Delegated Decisions taken forward would be subject to the Overview and Scrutiny Call in procedure Rules.
- 6.3 The following urgent Key officer Delegated Decision was taken forward during the period October – December 2021:

Date	Decision Taken	Reason for Exemption
15.10.21	<a href="#">Emergency Works to Wattstown Standard Tip</a>	In order for the works to be progressed before the onset of winter weather conditions
29.10.21	<a href="#">Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Reports 2020 and 2021</a>	<i>The need to submit the Annual Monitoring reports to Welsh Government by the 31st October 2021.</i>

**7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 None Applicable, this report is for information purposes only.

**8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

## **9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 9.1 A Welsh Language Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

## **11. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED.**

- 11.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report.

## **12. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

- 12.1 All of the decisions taken forward link to the Councils Corporate plan / priorities and Members should look to each of the decisions to see how they link accordingly.

- 12.2 All decisions taken by the Executive are taken through the lens of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, ensuring that the decision takes account of the impact it could have on people living their lives in Wales now and in the future.

## **13. CONCLUSION**

- 13.1 Members are advised of the current position in respect of urgent decisions taken forward within Cabinet Committee and through Individual Cabinet Members and Officer Decisions.

### **Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**January 2022**

**URGENT EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN FORWARD**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND  
COMMUNICATION**

**Item: URGENT EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN FORWARD**

**Background Papers**

- Annual General Meeting – May 2016



## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021-22

COUNCIL - 19 JANUARY 2022

### SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP REPORT

#### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the findings and recommendations agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Working Group at its final meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021;
- 1.2 The Working Group was established to deal with 'The development of future transportation infrastructure in Rhondda Cynon Taf' following the Notice of Motion considered by Council at its meeting held on the [18<sup>th</sup> September 2019](#).
- 1.3 The recommendations were ratified at the hybrid meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on the [9<sup>th</sup> December 2021](#).

#### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Working Group as set out at paragraph 6 as ratified by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Council considered the Notice of Motion standing in the names of County Borough Councillors G.Davies, K.Morgan, P.Jarman, D.Grehan, H.Fychan, J.Williams, A.Cox, D.Macey, J.Cullwick, J.Davies, M.Weaver, S.Rees Owen, L.Jones E.Stephens E,Griffiths, E,Webster, S.M. Evans, and A. Chapman.

"With the advent of the approved Metro in 2022; coupled with the aspirations as set out in the Council's proposed Tourism strategy the time is now right to push for future rail development in the County.

This Council therefore calls on the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Cabinet and Transport for Wales to commit to extending the Aberdare passenger line to Hirwaun

subject to full consultation with the public and other stakeholders on the location of the station so that it is accessible and fully utilised.

This Council further calls on the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Cabinet and Transport for Wales to also extend the Treherbert line to Tynnewydd. subject to its inclusion in the reviewed RCT Local Development Plan.

- 3.2. At the Council meeting and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure 12.7 the mover of the motion moved an alteration to the Motion to include:

*“And that the matter be referred to the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration, with a widening of the Motion to include the wider County Borough footprint”.*

- 3.3 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed that a Working Group would be established to consider the Notice of Motion. The Working Group Members consisted of County Borough Councillors L M Adams (Chair), H Boggis, J Bonetto, G Caple, A Cox, M Griffiths, W Jones and L Walker. The Working Group was also privileged to have both County Borough Councillors G R Davies and K Morgan, initial mover and seconder to the Council's Notice of Motion as key stakeholders/observers to assist the Working Group's review.
- 3.4 At its inaugural meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the Working Group agreed the scope of its work, its terms of reference and received a comprehensive Power Point presentation from Transport for Wales. (Members noted that since the terms of reference had been agreed, the Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP) Members Steering Group had been established which would provide an effective mechanism for discussion and consultation between Members and LDP officers on the content of the revised Plan).
- 3.5 The Working Group learned that as part of the Wales-wide rail franchise, Transport for Wales (TfW) (a wholly owned arms-length company of Welsh Government) had let the 15-year rail franchise to Keolis Amey, operating as Transport for Wales Rail Services. The initial investment secured full electrification of the Valley lines within Rhondda Cynon Taf (and to Merthyr) together with new rolling stock. Once complete, high frequency fast trains will run four times an hour each way on the lines north of Pontypridd and 12 times an hour each way between Cardiff and Pontypridd, with upgrades to stations and facilities also being delivered.
- 3.6 With information provided around the range of complimentary improvements to stations with potential for additional stations and park and ride opportunities as well as specific projects such as a new rail depot to be developed at Taffs Well which would also accommodate the control centre for these rail services, Members agreed that Metro must be more than rail and would need to integrate all forms of transport to create a comprehensive, joined-up and coordinated network of routes and services across; rail, tram, bus, cycling, walking, whilst promoting more sustainable ways of fuelling private cars, freight and service vehicles.
- 3.7 In order to progress its considerations as to how future rail and transport infrastructure and services could develop and build on the early stages of implementation of the South Wales Metro in Rhondda Cynon Taf, the Working Group agreed to seek submissions from local Members and stakeholders. This would enable the Working Group to explore the concerns, points and questions raised further during the course of their work.



- 3.8 The Working Group sought views on a range of proposals such as:
- How the Council maximises opportunities to add value to current Metro investments across RCT
  - Resident and stakeholder views on improving the reach and efficiency of our transport network and services for all modes of travel, especially sustainable transport solutions, in order to improve the social and economic well-being of the County Borough and
  - How such proposals might compliment and contribute towards the impending LDP review by the Council and the development of a Strategic Development Plan for the region.
- 3.9 Eight submissions were received in total from Local Members and other stakeholders such as Community Councils and the Rhondda Tunnel Society, which were due to be considered and discussed at its second meeting in early 2020.
- 3.10 On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, and in response to measures implemented by the UK and Welsh Governments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council's committee meetings were temporarily suspended. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee undertook a more streamlined approach towards its work programme and in effect undertook its role to identify the Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that all Scrutiny working groups were suspended to allow officers to concentrate their time on business-critical matters.

#### **4. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP: CALL FOR EVIDENCE**

- 4.1 On the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the Working Group received a report from the Service Director Frontline Services which presented the summary of the submissions received in response to the call for evidence (as set out below) and the subsequent response of the Council to each individual submission (attached at Appendix 1):

Councillor G. Caple – Local Member for Cymmer  
 Councillor G. Thomas – Local Member for Rhigos  
 Councillors D. R. Bevan & L. M. Adams – Local Members for Tylorstown  
 Councillors G. R. Davies & W. Jones – Local Members for Treherbert  
 Hirwaun & Penderyn Community Council  
 Rhondda Tunnel Society  
 Welcome to Our Woods/Create Your Own Space  
 Ynysybwl & Coed Y Cwm Community Council

- 4.2 Members considered the responses to individual, specific queries raised such as the extension of the rail line from Treherbert to Tynewydd to capitalise on the benefits of the improved services as well as the 'wider County Borough footprint' which had been moved as an alteration to the original Notice of Motion. They also considered the wider transport context such as legislative, environmental and economic factors and also reflected on the developments that have taken place since the original call for evidence in 2020.
- 4.3 The Working Group acknowledged that a number of WG funded studies have potentially significant impacts for RCT are also progressing via the CCR Transport Authority and TfW with regard to the North West Transport Corridor project from Cardiff into RCT, (details of which had been presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the [15<sup>th</sup> June 2021](#)), extending passenger rail services

beyond Aberdare to Hirwaun, Strategic rail-based park and ride proposals to serve the eastern end of the A473 corridor near Upper Boat and improving regional east-west transport connectivity across the mid-valleys (i.e. Usk – Pontypool – Newbridge – Ystrad Mynach – Abercynon – Pontypridd – Pontyclun – Bridgend – Porthcawl).

- 4.4 The North West Transport Corridor Cardiff Project, a £300 plus million scheme which was commissioned in July 2019 has now identified short and long-term public transport options from Pontyclun, Talbot Green, Llantrisant, Beddau, Creigiau and Plasdwr towards Cardiff City Centre. The short-term interventions will consider Bus Rapid Transit and bus priority measures, alongside active travel, to alleviate bottlenecks on the existing network between RCT and Cardiff. The longer-term measures will focus on rail-based options mainly utilising former mineral lines. It is possible that the wider economic benefits could extend northwards into the Rhondda Valley and Gilfach Goch areas as the creation of new employment in Talbot Green and planned reduction in journey times to/from Cardiff will offer residents in these communities with improved access to new jobs, training and learning opportunities.
- 4.5 RCT has successfully secured funding via the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund towards the following transport schemes; A4119 Coedely Dualling, Porth Transport Hub.
- 4.6 The Working Group considered that as a number of studies are being undertaken by TfW, via the Cardiff Capital Region Transport Authority it would be timely to consider the re-evaluation of plans, feasibility reports and costs for the Council's pipeline of road schemes to feed into the Welsh Government review of road schemes and which could be reported to Scrutiny in due course.
- 4.7 On a local level, RCT is also developing and delivering proposals to complement the Metro such as the investment in Porth Transport Hub and working closely with TfW to facilitate delivery of the new £100m rail depot at Taffs Well. Options are also being explored with Transport for Wales to develop a new railway station that serves Treforest Industrial Estate in the vicinity of the new DWP offices. It is also promoting its active travel and in partnership with a number of organisations and bodies such as Sustrans and Public Health Wales, is raising awareness of the health, economic and environmental benefits of cycling and walking. The Council recently undertook a public engagement exercise into its future Active Travel plans which has informed the required formal consultation (now underway) and this will establish the aspirations for investment in Active Travel over the next 15 years. The updated proposals will be submitted to Welsh Government during December 2021. The 695 responses to the initial consultation were reported to Cabinet on the [17<sup>th</sup> June 2021](#)
- 4.8 It was noted that Welsh Government has initiated a review of all road schemes under the Climate Change agenda including projects that are subject to the Welsh Government's Business Case Process. Aspirations for a phased road scheme in the Rhondda Fach in the form of a 3 section extension of the Rhondda Fach Relief Road to Ferndale, to the Salisbury Hotel to Maerdy and link from Maerdy to the Heads of the Valleys would be subject to the legislation and policies governing climate change and alternative measures that will improve public transport provision along the Rhondda Fach.
- 4.9 The Working Group acknowledged that opportunities to extend the rail line towards Tower Colliery, which would improve connectivity with Zip World, are being considered without prejudicing extensions further west beyond those areas in the future.

## 5. **CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 Members recognised that that the essence of the Notice of Motion needed to be considered in the wider context and against progress of the new Welsh Transport Strategy; Llwybr Newydd, South Wales Metro, WG funded studies and many local projects.
- 5.2 Whilst considering the eight submissions and key queries raised by local Members and stakeholders, Members noted the benefits of undertaking further feasibility studies and analysis of each submission to understand any potential financial costs which will only become known following more detailed study and analysis.
- 5.3 Members proposed that, in view of the wider remit of the working group a report is presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to demonstrate that the broader scope has been captured.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Members proposed the following recommendations:
  - The Working Group acknowledges that the integrated transport map of South Wales is swiftly changing and evolving;
  - As a result, the Working Group recommends that the Council/ And RTA (Regional Transport Authority) reviews all potential infrastructure, including rapid transport and active travel in the wider context of the revised LDP;
  - This Working Group recommends that all pipe-line projects are fully evaluated, and that priority is given to integrated public transport to support greener means of travel across the region;
  - The Working Group also recommended consideration continues to be provided to the extension of the Rhondda Fach Relief Road, while recognising that the recent 'moratorium' by Welsh Government upon the funding of future highway developments would prevent progress of this scheme into reality, the development of enhanced integrated transport networks, should be a key objective in improving the economic well-being of residents.
  - When considering the wider development of transport infrastructure in future years, in the context of tackling climate change, the Working Group was of the view that selected roads schemes remain important and justified, where they support economic growth and compliment wider transport behavioural change being undertaken.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 No equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this report, however, creating sustainable communities, transport and long- term employment opportunities are of benefit to all RCT residents regardless of background.

## **8. CONSULTATION/INVOLVEMENT**

- 8.1 Consultation was undertaken with the stakeholders and local Members who responded to the call for evidence as set out in the submissions at Appendix A.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report, but detailed consideration of the capital and revenue implications will be required in order to inform a preferred strategy. It should be noted that many of the submissions set out in Appendix 1 will have a financial implication for the Council. However, at this stage, the potential financial cost will only become known following more detailed study and analysis of each submission.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report.

## **11. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT**

- 11.1 Supporting the development of a more sustainable transport solution will allow the Council to meet its stated objectives covering health and prosperity set out in the Council's Corporate Plan. For example, the planned, new public transport and active travel proposals will help address air quality and congestion issues and improve connectivity and access to new employment opportunities.
- 11.2 Many of the submissions in Appendix 1 will also meet a number of the goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. For example, a prosperous Wales, a more equal Wales, a healthier Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities.

## APPENDIX 1

### SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

NAME OF RESPONDENT	DETAILS OF SUBMISSION	RESPONSE OF THE COUNCIL
<p>Councillor Gareth Caple</p>	<p>Many railway stations are in a poor state of repair.</p> <p>Trehafod station Park &amp; Ride is unwelcome, badly signposted and underused. The northbound platform does not have disabled access and the station has poor drainage.</p> <p>Transport for Wales should work with the Council and transport providers in order to promote tourist attractions in the valleys.</p> <p>Concern about the lack of toilets on new Metro rolling stock.</p>	<p>Responsibility for stations located along the Core Valley Lines north of Cardiff has been transferred from Network Rail to Transport for Wales. Maintenance and upgrade is being undertaken as part of the investment in the South East Wales Metro. These works will cover improved access for cyclists and people with reduced mobility as well as addressing the condition and capacity of Park &amp; Ride sites.</p> <p>The Council liaises closely with transport operators and local tourist attractions and in the publicity, the local bus and rail services serving these attractions are highlighted.</p> <p>Transport for Wales is procuring the new rolling stock and is aware of this issue. Rolling stock (PACERS) fitted with toilets which are not accessible to people with restricted mobility have very recently been phased out. It is understood that when the new Metro rolling stock is introduced, passengers may have to disembark at certain stations with toilet facilities and rejoin a later journey.</p>
<p>Councillor Graham Thomas</p>	<p>Additional frequency, as part of the Metro investment, along the Aberdare line will be welcome. The extension of passenger rail services to Hirwaun will be of benefit to the residents of Rhigos and could be extended further to Hirwaun Ind Estate. This could enable more goods to be carried by rail.</p> <p>Current rail fares are prohibitive for employees earning the minimum wage.</p> <p>There should be a close analysis of an integrated transport system that includes links to bus services.</p>	<p>Comments are noted. A Transport for Wales study, with input from the Council, is currently being undertaken into the feasibility of extending passenger rail services from Aberdare to Hirwaun. This proposed scheme will also involve the construction of new intermediate stations and facilities along the extended route. The Council has recently secured the "Chicken Factory" site at Trecynnon which could serve as access and P&amp;R for a new station. The Council has also submitted a bid to the UK Government, under its "Levelling Up" Fund, to fund the construction of a 127 space Park and Share (potentially future P&amp;R) facility at Llwydcoed as part of a first phase – this will include complementary elements such as a new Active Travel bridge over the A4059.</p>

		<p>TfW Rail has reduced season ticket prices from stations located in the Heads of the Valleys for commuters travelling southwards to Pontypridd and Cardiff.</p> <p>The development of the South East Wales Metro will include the integration of ticketing and co-ordination of bus and rail services, including better orbital services between valleys. The Welsh Government is currently examining changes to the existing legislation governing the operation of local bus services. It has launched an updated Wales Transport Strategy which reflects these proposals.</p>
<b>NAME OF RESPONDENT</b>	<b>DETAILS OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>RESPONSE OF THE COUNCIL</b>
Councillors Robert Bevan & Mark Adams	Extend the Rhondda Fach Relief Road to Maerdy (Phase 2) and to the Rhigos Mountain Top (Phase 3).	<p>Both Phases can be classified as major road schemes, with Phase 2 included as a long term aspiration in the current South East Wales Valleys Local Transport Plan. If progressed further, both Phases will be subject to the Welsh Government's Business Case process, prior to any planning and design being undertaken and alignment identified.</p> <p>The Business Case process would provide evidence of the economic, social and environmental cases for developing these particular road schemes. However, any decision to proceed further must take account of the legislation and policies governing climate change, alternative measures that will improve public transport provision along the Rhondda Fach and the Well-being of Future Generations Act.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Welsh Government has recently placed a moratorium on proceeding with new road schemes, pending a full review.</p>
Councillors Geraint Davies & Will Jones	<p>Welcome the development of the South East Wales Metro including the increase in frequency and reduction in journey times.</p> <p>Extend the rail line from Treherbert to Tynewydd to capitalise on the benefits of the improved services.</p>	<p>Comments are noted.</p> <p>The potential extension of rail services from Treherbert to Tynewydd has been included for consideration as part of a wider study looking at improved transport links to/from the Mid Valleys areas. Subject to funding, this study is expected to be commissioned in the current financial year</p>

NAME OF RESPONDENT	DETAILS OF SUBMISSION	RESPONSE OF THE COUNCIL
Hirwaun & Penderyn Community Council	<p>Sets out the potential benefits of improved rail frequency and capacity on its residents.</p> <p>Important that adequate funding is available for schemes; ticket costs are affordable; improved services do not undermine local town centre economies.</p> <p>Puts forward a number of measures and schemes to support the South East Wales Metro.</p> <p>There are a number of opportunities that exist to enhance transport accessibility and connectivity in the County Borough. For example, reinstating the rail line between Neath and Merthyr via Hirwaun and making new road developments suitable for a cross-section of users.</p> <p>Puts forward a number of measures to reduce travel demand in RCT whilst encouraging economic growth and tackling climate change.</p>	<p>Comments are noted.</p> <p>All infrastructure schemes will be subject to the Business Case process which identifies whether a scheme is affordable and represents value for money. TfW Rail has reduced season ticket prices from stations located in the Heads of the Valleys for commuters travelling southwards to Pontypridd and Cardiff. It is envisaged that development and 'place making' opportunities will be identified around stations located on the South East Wales Metro network.</p> <p>Comments are noted. Measures and schemes are being looked at by Transport for Wales, in collaboration with the Regional Transport Authority, local authorities and transport operators. For example, the co-ordination of bus and rail services at key interchanges; improvements to stations in terms of making them more accessible and providing better facilities for passengers; extending passenger rail services to Hirwaun. The planned increase in frequency on Valley lines north of Cardiff will increase capacity. Where constraints exist along the single track sections, the provision of double tracks is being examined by Transport for Wales. Significant Sections of dual tracking are proposed as part of the Metro transformation of Core Valley Lines.</p> <p>As the highway authority, the Council has been investing in improvements along the principal bus corridors in RCT. These improvements cover roadside waiting facilities for passengers and tackling delays to local bus services. The Council has also been exploring the widespread provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout RCT, both in residential areas and at key facilities.</p> <p>Requests for local bus services are brought to the attention of the local bus operators who determine the times and coverage of their commercial network. The role of the Council is to determine whether a social need exists for a local bus service, that is not being met by the commercial network. This is in terms of the availability of alternative</p>

		<p>services, the level of access to key facilities and destinations and financial costs to the Council.</p> <p>Under current legislation, all new highway schemes must ensure that active travel provision (walking and cycling) is incorporated in the design of the scheme.</p> <p>The proposal to re-open the rail line between Neath and Merthyr Tydfil would be subject to the Welsh Government's business case process. Most of the existing rail alignment has not been safeguarded from development and this would have a substantial and negative impact on the engineering feasibility and financial costs of re-opening.</p> <p>The Council has implemented a number of measures across RCT to promote social distancing and accommodate changes to travel patterns as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The Council continues to promote homeworking for the majority of staff that are able to do so, thereby reducing travel demand, congestion and carbon footprint.</p> <p>With the support of the Council, local bus and taxis operators are investing in new fleets of modern, fully accessible, low emission vehicles.</p>
<b>NAME OF RESPONDENT</b>	<b>DETAILS OF SUBMISSION</b>	<b>RESPONSE OF THE COUNCIL</b>
Rhondda Tunnel Society	<p>The rail service will be a key resource bringing a large number of visitors to the Tunnel. An increase in service frequency will be important. The provision of a shuttle bus service and bike hire facilities is envisaged at the terminus station.</p> <p>It is important that the seating arrangement of the new rolling stock is flexible to accommodate cycles as well as wheelchair users and pushchairs.</p>	<p>Comments are noted. See response above.</p> <p>Transport for Wales is procuring the new rolling stock for use on the Core Valley Lines network. The carriages will be fully compliant with existing design standards and the internal layout will ensure sufficient capacity is provided to meet different passenger needs.</p> <p>The Council has commissioned a study to investigate a possible alignment for an active travel route along the Rhondda Fawr. A number of sections have already been constructed to serve key facilities which will eventually form part of a continuous route between Blaencwm and Porth.</p>



	<p>A traffic free cycle path is essential to the Tunnel.</p> <p>There is inadequate Park and Ride facilities at some stations.</p> <p>There is a need to promote sustainable travel to the Tunnel which will have health benefits and relieve traffic congestion.</p>	<p>Responsibility for stations located along the Core Valley Lines north of Cardiff has been transferred from Network Rail to Transport for Wales. Maintenance and upgrade is being undertaken as part of the investment in the South East Wales Metro. These works will cover improved access for cyclists and people with reduced mobility as well as addressing the condition and capacity of Park &amp; Ride sites.</p> <p>The Council, in partnership with a number of organisations and bodies such as Sustrans and Public Health Wales, is undertaking a number of measures to promote active travel and raise awareness of the health, economic and environmental benefits of cycling and walking. In addition to promoting the network of existing active travel routes. Full details are on the Council's website.</p> <p>A formal consultation exercise covering the development of active travel routes in Rhondda Cynon Taf will commence shortly, building on the recent online engagement which attracted 695 responses.</p>
Welcome to our Woods Create Your Space	Are supportive of the idea to restore a rail service to Tynewydd village.	The potential extension of rail services from Treherbert to Tynewydd has been included as part of a wider study looking at improved transport links to/from the Mid Valleys areas. Subject to funding, this study is expected to be commissioned in the current Financial year.
Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm Community Council	<p>Construct a new rail station near Glyncoch with a Park &amp; Ride facility. This will benefit residents who commute from the Ynysybwl area.</p> <p>YCC are fully supportive of investment and enhancement to the current transport system.</p>	<p>Responsibility for existing stations and the development of new stations along the Core Valley Lines network north of Cardiff lies with Transport for Wales. This proposal will need to be subject to achieving a satisfactory business case under the rail industry's GRIP (Governance in Rail Infrastructure Protocol) process.</p> <p>Comments are noted.</p>

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972**  
**as amended by**  
**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL**  
**19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022**

**List of Background Papers**

Report of the Service Director Democratic Services & Communication

Item - Overview & Scrutiny Working Group- The Development of Future Transport  
Infrastructure in Rhondda Cynon Taf

Appendix 1 – Summary of Submissions



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