



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

**A Hybrid meeting of the CABINET will be held on  
Tuesday, 21st September, 2021 at 11.00 am**

**Contact: Emma Wilkins - Council Business Unit (Tel No. 07385401935)**

Councillors and members of the public wishing to request the facility to address the Cabinet on any of the business as listed below, must request to do so by 5pm on the Friday, 17 September 2021 Councillors and Members of the public should stipulate if this address will be in the medium of English or Welsh.

It must be noted that the facility to address the Cabinet is at the discretion of the Chair and each request will be considered based on the agenda items being considered, the public interest/interest of the member in each matter and the demands of the business on that day. To make such a request please email:- [ExecutiveandRegulatoryBusinessUnit@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:ExecutiveandRegulatoryBusinessUnit@rctcbc.gov.uk)

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive disclosures of personal interest from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

**Note:**

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest; and
2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of a prejudicial interest they **must** notify the Chairman when they leave.

**2. MINUTES**

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 as an accurate record.

**(Pages 5 - 16)**

**3. CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

To receive the report of the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication, which provides Cabinet Members with an update on the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet over the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

**(Pages 17 - 56)**

**4. CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT**

To receive the report of the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication providing Members with the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2020 – 2021.

**(Pages 57 - 86)**

**5. REVIEW OF REGULATION, AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF FLOOD AND WATER LEGISLATION**

To receive the report of the Group Director Prosperity Development and Frontline services advising Members of the review of the regulation, awareness and enforcement of flood and water legislation within the Council following Storm Dennis.

**(Pages 87 - 116)**

**6. UNADOPTED ROADS**

To receive the report of the Group Director Prosperity Development and Frontline services proposing a pilot programme of works to private streets.

**(Pages 117 - 138)**

**7. 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME - PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE EDUCATION PROVISION FOR YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG LLYN-Y-FORWYN**

To receive the report of the Director of Education & Inclusion Services advising Members of the outcome of the recent publication of a Statutory Notice in respect of the proposal to carry out a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llyn-y-Forwyn ("YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn"), by way of transferring the school to a new building on a new site.

**(Pages 139 - 144)**

**8. DESIGNATION AS A COUNTRY PARK OF LAND AT CLYDACH VALE, TONYPANDY CURRENTLY KNOWN AS CWM CLYDACH COUNTRYSIDE PARK**

To receive the Joint report of the Director of Corporate Estates and Director of Public Health, Protection & Community Services seeking Members authority to designate land currently known as Cwm Clydach Countryside Park at Clydach Vale, Tonypandy (within the Rhondda Fawr Valley) as a Country Park in accordance with the provisions of the Countryside Act 1968.

**(Pages 145 - 152)**

**9. COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN - INVESTMENT PRIORITIES**

To receive the report of the Director of Finance & Digital Services setting out the position regarding the opportunity for Cabinet to propose to Council to further invest in the Council's priority areas, aligned to the Corporate Plan, "Making a Difference" 2020 – 2024.

**(Pages 153 - 158)**

**10. COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES REPORT (Q1)**

To receive the report of the Director, Finance and Digital Services, which provides the Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective.

**(Pages 159 - 184)**

**11. URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any urgent business as the Chairman feels appropriate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Smith', is written over a faint, circular official stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication**

**Circulation:-**

**Councillors:** Councillor A Morgan (Chair)  
Councillor M Webber (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor R Bevan  
Councillor A Crimmings  
Councillor M Norris  
Councillor J Rosser  
Councillor R Lewis  
Councillor C Leyshon  
Councillor G Hopkins

**Officers:** Chris Bradshaw, Chief Executive  
Christian Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Nigel Wheeler, Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services  
Paul Mee, Group Director Community & Children's Services  
Richard Evans, Director of Human Resources  
David Powell, Director of Corporate Estates  
Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity & Development  
Andy Wilkins, Director of Legal Services  
Barrie Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services  
Louise Davies, Director, Public Health, Protection and Community Services  
Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services  
Derek James, Service Director – Prosperity & Development  
Paul Griffiths, Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services  
Neil Griffiths, Head Of Financial Services - Community & Children's Services

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL CABINET**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 20 July 2021 at 11.00 am

### **County Borough Councillors - Cabinet Members in attendance:-**

Councillor A Morgan (Chair)

Councillor M Webber	Councillor R Bevan
Councillor A Crimmings	Councillor M Norris
Councillor R Lewis	Councillor C Leyshon
Councillor G Hopkins	

### **Officers in attendance**

Mr P Mee, Group Director Community & Children's Services  
Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Mr R Evans, Director of Human Resources  
Mr D Powell, Director of Corporate Estates  
Mr S Gale, Director of Prosperity & Development  
Mr A Wilkins, Director of Legal Services  
Mr B Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services  
Ms C Jones, Head of Access & Inclusion  
Ms A Richards, Temporary Service Director - 21st Century Schools and Transformation  
Ms N Goodman - Senior 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Officer

## **21 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, the following declarations were made pertaining to the agenda:

- County Borough Councillor R Bevan declared a personal interest and remained in the meeting when the item was discussed and voted upon: Item – SACRE “My granddaughter attends a Church in Wales school. Although this is outside of the County Borough she does reside within”
- County Borough Councillor R Lewis declared a personal interest and remained in the meeting when the item was discussed and voted upon: Item – Draft WESP – “I am on the governing body of a school referenced within the report”
- County Borough Councillor M Webber declared a personal interest and remained in the meeting when the item was discussed and voted upon: Item – Corporate Asset Management Plan - “I am on the governing body of a school referenced within the report”

## **22 Minutes**

The Cabinet **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 17<sup>TH</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

**23 APOLOGY**

An apology for absence was received from County Borough Councillor J Rosser.

**24 CWM TAF MORGANNWG SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL PLAN 2021/2022**

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services presented the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board Annual plan to the Cabinet, reminding Members of the statutory responsibility by the Board to publish an Annual Plan each year, which sets out its priorities for the coming year.

Members were advised that the Board had acknowledged the difficulties and challenges partner agencies had faced over the past year, with the Group Director advising that this year's Annual Plan recognised those challenges and aimed to learn the lessons from a year of unprecedented demands on services.

Members were provided with an overview of the plan and advised that a detailed work plan for the Board and its subgroups would sit underneath the Annual Plan. The work plan would include the actions required to achieve the improvements required, who is responsible, timescales and measures of success. The progress of the work plan would be monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis and would form the basis of the Annual Report for 2021/2022.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services & Welsh Language thanked the Board for the plan before Members and the work undertaken during the pandemic. The Cabinet Member commented that he was confident of the Board continuing to deliver on behalf of the residents of Cwm Taf Morgannwg in accordance with the new plan, which he noted was ambitious yet realistic.

The cabinet Member for Children & Young People reiterated her thanks and referenced the achievable outcomes within the plan and the effective partnership arrangements in place to help deliver the plan going forward.

Following discussion's it was **RESOLVED** to:

1. To note and endorse the content of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board Annual Plan for 2021/22.

**25 CWM TAF MORGANWG CARERS ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021**

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services presented the annual report before Members which sought Member's approval for submission of the report to Welsh Government.

The Group Director advised that Welsh Government provided transitional

funding of £1million per annum for Wales in 2020/21 (£161,000 for Cwm Taf Morgannwg) to protect and build on progress to date and to support the expansion of Carers rights under the implementation of the SSWB Act. The annual report before Members detailed how the transitional funding was spent in Cwm Taf Morgannwg during the year. Members were provided with the key areas of work across the region which included:

- Around £135,500 of the Carers Grant funding was allocated to third sector organisations through an application process.
- Support to encourage GP surgeries to take part in accredited Carer Awareness training to become Carer Champions.
- Improvements to the hospital discharge process for unpaid carers.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services & Welsh Language spoke of the opportunity before them to acknowledge the work taken forward with carers and vulnerable people across the County Borough, through the publication of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Carers Annual Report.

The Cabinet Member welcomed the funding allocated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector and spoke of the positive work taken forward by the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector and took the opportunity to put on record his thanks for their continuing support. Reference was made to the Support to encourage GP surgeries to take part in accredited Carer Awareness training to become Carer Champions. The Cabinet Member welcomed the Improvements to the hospital discharge process for unpaid carers.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services welcomed the report before Members and spoke positively of the Young Carer Card scheme which was launched in RCT in March 2021, which offers young carers an easy way to start a conversation about their role and also provided the added benefit of discounts attached in local shops for those with the card.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED**:

1. To approve the 2020/21 Cwm Taf Morgannwg Carers Annual Report attached as Appendix 1 to the report.
2. To note the publication by Welsh Government of a Strategy for Unpaid Carers in March 2021 and acknowledges this as a key document in planning and delivering carer services across the Council.

## **26 LEARNING DISABILITY DAY SERVICE OFFER**

The Group Director, Community & Children's Services presented Members with the report which provided key information and issues relating to the Council's current day service offer for people with a learning disability.

The Group Director explained that the current day service offer was

predominantly building based and followed a traditional “day centre” maintenance model that provided services for adults with a learning disability with limited scope to offer choice and control and raise aspiration for people - a more innovative and diverse response is required. At present Covid-19 has impacted on the ability of day services to operate some of the existing building based day services due to the requirements for social distancing and it was added that this could have longer term implications. The Group Director commented that it was important that Adult Services take on board any learning and good practice from during the pandemic to help shape the future day services offer.

The report before Members looked to recommend that with Cabinets agreement the Council continue ongoing engagement with people with a learning disability, their families and carers, staff and partners and co-produce a new day opportunities strategy to transform the Council's current day services offer for people with a learning disability and ensure that services, both in the short and long term, are arranged and delivered in a way that achieves the best possible individual outcomes for people and make the best use of Council resources. The Group Director discussed the production of a draft day opportunities strategy for approval prior to formal public consultation, if Members were in agreement.

Members were advised that the Council were currently unable to provide a day service at Treforest Day Centre due to the serious flooding and damage in February 2020 and that this service remained temporarily closed, which would allow for further evaluation to be undertaken when the proposed draft day opportunities strategy is reported back to Cabinet for approval

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services & Welsh Language spoke of the common theme running across the transformation agenda and the recognition of the need to improve the offer the Council provide to adult population, in particular older and vulnerable people, including those with learning disability. The Cabinet Member added that it was widely acknowledged that the current provision was limited and agreed that it was the right time to review and improve the service provided. The Cabinet Member welcomed open discussions with user groups, clients and wider population, to improve the opportunities available.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. To consider the information provided in this report, including the summary of key observations and feedback from the engagement undertaken as part of the implementation of the new Learning Disability Transformation Programme.
2. To approve the on-going engagement with people with a learning disability, their families and carers, staff and partners and the proposals to co-produce a new day opportunities strategy to transform the Council's current day services offer and future service provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf as set out in Section 9 of the report.
3. To receive a further report that presents the co-produced draft day opportunities strategy for people with a learning disability for

approval prior to formal public consultation.

4. To approve to the Treforest Day Centre remaining temporarily closed and for arrangements to continue to be made to support people registered at Treforest Day Centre and their families and carers to meet their assessed need as set out in paragraph 7.21 of the report.

## **27 DRAFT WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Temporary Service Director of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Transformation provided Members with the draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP), as required by Section 84 of The School Standards and Organisation Act 2013. Members were advised that since the first WESP was submitted to the Welsh Government in 2016 by the Council, there had been significant changes in the Welsh medium education sector at local and national levels. These changes had been mainly influenced by Welsh Government legislation, in particular the new Welsh in Education Action Plan and further implementation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme. The two new focuses for the WESP needed to be extending the duration of the WESP from its current three year implementation cycle to a ten year implementation cycle; and the removal of the current duty on Local Authorities to plan their provision of Welsh medium education based on demand, with the requirement that Local Authorities achieve targets set by the Welsh Government which aim to increase the percentage of year one learners in Welsh medium education over the duration of the WESP.

The Officer continued by providing Members with an overview of the draft WESP highlighting the target set to increase the percentage of year one learners in Welsh medium education, and the seven outcomes or areas setting out how Local Authorities are expected to improve Welsh medium and Welsh language education in their locality.

The Temporary Service Director spoke of the partnership engagement needed to be taken forward to assist in achieving the desired outcomes and the need for a public consultation to be undertaken.

The Leader thanked Members of the Welsh Language Cabinet Steering Group for their prior consideration to the draft WESP and noted the comments arising out of the meeting which had been circulated to Members in advance.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services and Welsh Language welcomed the move to a 10year strategy and spoke positively of the engagement with partners to draft the strategic plan, which had produced a balanced and realistic plan to take forward. Further consultation on the draft plan was important to further strengthen the ambitions of the Council in delivering the welsh government targets.

The Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities, Well-being and Cultural Services commented on the ambitious strategy before Members and commented on the investment already made by the Authority through welsh medium education settings, which was reflected in the plan.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. To note the contents of this report and the draft WESP attached in appendix 1 to the report.
2. To Consider the draft WESP.
3. To agree for officers to engage and consult with a wide range of stakeholders on the draft WESP.
4. To agree to review the results of the consultation on the draft WESP at a future meeting of the Cabinet

(**N.B.** For transparency, the comments and feedback of the Welsh Language Cabinet Steering Group were attached to the decision notice for this item)

## **28 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES PROGRAMME - MUTUAL INVESTMENT MODEL (MIM) - UPDATE**

The Senior 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Officer provided Members with an overview of the report which provided an update on the Mutual Investment Model (MIM) funding element of Welsh Government's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme in relation to the Council's MIM Pathfinder Project.

Members were advised of the need to progress the MIM pathfinder projects to the next stage in accordance with the Approval Process for New Projects as set out in Schedule 5 of the Strategic Partnering Agreement for the delivery of new school buildings and to keep on track with the timescales outlined in the indicative programme.

The Leader of the Council referenced the comments of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee following their pre-scrutiny of the report and thanked Members for their comments which had been shared with Cabinet Members in advance of the meeting.

The Leader referenced the three new schools referenced in the report to be taken forward which were within identified areas of growth. The Leader commented that RCT were only one of two Local Authorities taking forward the MIM investment model and welcomed the investment being taken forward.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED**:

- I. To note the information contained within the report.
- II. To note the costs incurred to date and indicative costs going forward.
- III. To approve the submission of an Outline Business Case to Welsh Government for consideration in July / August 2021.
- IV. To approve progression to Stage 2 of the MIM process with Welsh Government and the private sector partner.
- V. To note that formal approval to proceed to deliver the Pathfinder

Project, and to enter into associated legal documentation to facilitate the same including a Project Agreement, would require further approval of the Cabinet.

(**N.B.** For transparency, the comments and feedback of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee were attached to the decision notice for this item)

**29 PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH PRIMARY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR THE LLANILID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

The Temporary Service Director of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Transformation provided an update to Members on the proposal to establish new primary education provision to serve the new housing development at Llanilid, Llanharan. Members were advised that this would be achieved, in the first instance, by treating the new building that will be provided by the housing developers as an extension to the dual-language provision at the existing Dolau Primary School.

Members were advised of the number of planning constraints the housing developers taking forward the build of the school had encountered and for this purpose it was suggested that as a result of this delay, and to mitigate any additional risks that may arise with this project, a delay to the implementation date by three years, the maximum delay allowed within the School organisation Code, which will postpone the implementation date of the proposal until September 2024 be considered.

The Leader of the school supported the proposal and the new timeframe to be taken forward.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services and Welsh Language spoke on the item, as a local member and welcomed the extension.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- I. To note the information contained within the Report.
- II. To agree to delay the implementation date of the proposal to September 2024.

**30 A PROPOSAL TO PILOT A VIRTUAL SCHOOL MODEL TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES OF CHILDREN WHO ARE LOOKED AFTER**

The Head of Inclusion Services informed Members of the opportunity to consider a joint pilot strategy between Education and Inclusion Services and Children's Services to improve the educational outcomes of children who are looked after (CLA) by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) through the creation of a Virtual School Model (VSM).

Members were advised that the proposal to pilot an integrated model of support would promote the educational achievement of CLA who attend both in county and out of county educational settings. It was also explained that the proposal would promote opportunities to develop more inclusive practices within schools and to support the implementation of wider educational reforms to meet the needs of learners who are CLA.

The Cabinet Member for Children Services welcomed the pilot and referenced the need to improve the educational outcomes of children who are looked after and the role of each Member as a corporate parent. The Cabinet Member welcomed the evaluation following the pilot.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- i. To note the content of this report.
- ii. To proceed with the proposal to provide funding to pilot a Virtual School Model to improve the educational outcomes for children who are looked after (CLA) by RCTCBC.
- iii. To receive a further report presenting an evaluation of the Virtual School Model pilot to inform future actions.

### **31 STANDARD ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

The Temporary Service Director for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Transformation presented the report to Members which provided information on the Council's statutory duties to establish a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

The Officer advised that the main function of SACRE was 'to advise the authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in county schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the Council or as the Council may see fit'.

Members were informed that changes in the way support for schools is organised and delivered had resulted in changes in the provision of traditional subject led advisory service to a more school-to-school self-supporting system. Such changes in working practices had required SACRE to fulfil its role and functions with schools using a consultative model.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services and Welsh Language thanked Members of SACRE for work over the last year.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the Annual Report 2019-2020.

### **32 COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT – 31st March 2021 (Quarter 4/Year End)**

The Director of Finance and Digital Services provided Members with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective, for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

Members were provided with details in respect of an executive summary, revenue monitoring, capital monitoring, organisational health, corporate priorities and enhancing the Councils response to extreme weather conditions.

The Director advised that good progress had been made overall across the

Council's three Corporate Plan priorities of People, Places and Prosperity, where focus was afforded on providing essential support to residents and businesses to help counter the significant impact of Covid-19 alongside the continued delivery of strategic projects.

The second progress update on the delivery of recommendations to enhance the Council's response to extreme weather events showed a positive position, with key actions being taken forward that provided a clear direction for the future.

In respect of the year-end revenue budget position, it was advised that this currently stood as a £0.204M overspend and represents an improved position to that reported for quarters 1 to 3 of 2020/21. The Director added that this position is set in the unprecedented context of Covid-19 and takes account of additional one-off Welsh Government funding claimed during the year, and also reflects the continuation of key budget pressures particularly across Adult Services and Children's Services. Members were reminded that it would be critically important that additional Welsh Government funding to address 'core' cost pressures remains in place for 2021/22 and beyond, for example, across social care services, together with additional Covid-19 funding to fund additional expenditure and income losses as a direct result of the pandemic.

The Director concluded by advising that capital investment was at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 £102M, supporting visible improvements to infrastructure and assets, taking account of Covid-19 restrictions and safety requirements.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Estates spoke of the positive report before Members and referenced the areas within the report, including the reduction in overspend from previous quarters and the further £102m in capital spend which was a boost to the local economy. The Cabinet Member concluded by referencing the Welsh Government already provided to the Authority through the pandemic and the need for this to continue to help sustain services.

The Leader spoke of the difficult year endured with both the flooding and the covid pandemic and spoke of the year round efforts taken forward by Officers and Cabinet Members to deliver a balanced budget. The Leader took the opportunity to comment on the Welsh Government support received and requested that this detail be made publicly available, as outlined below.

<b>Grant Scheme</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>Accounting treatment</b>
Additional Expenditure and Loss of Income (Hardship Fund)	48.9 67	Principal
Furlough Scheme	2.02 6	Principal
Social Care Bonus Scheme £500	2.80 7	Agent
Statutory Sick Pay Enhancement	0.16 7	Agent

Care Home Testing	0.10 0	Principal
Self Isolation Payments	0.51 0	Agent
NDR Rate Relief (Retail, Leisure & Hospitality)	15.9 20	Agent
Business Grants to Support Business	73.2 89	Agent
Test Trace Protect (TTP)	4.30 0	Principal
Start Up Grants	0.13 3	Agent

The Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development and Planning acknowledged the efforts by officers to balance the budget and spoke of the projects taken forward within town centre and other areas of growth for the local economy. The Cabinet Member also referenced the tourism development across the county borough.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED**:

- I. To Note the continued unprecedented circumstances Council Services are operating within as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Revenue**

- II. To Note and agree the General Fund revenue outturn position of the Council as at the 31st March 2021 (Section 2 of the Executive Summary) including the additional one-off Welsh Government Covid-19 funding accounted for during the year to support service delivery

**Capital**

- III. To note the capital outturn position of the Council as at the 31st March 2021 (Sections 3a – e of the Executive Summary).
- IV. To note the details of the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators as at the 31st March 2021 (Section 3f of the Executive Summary).

**Corporate Plan Priorities**

- V. To note the year end position regarding progress made against agreed corporate priorities (section 5a -c of the Executive Summary)
- VI. To note the progress update to enhance the Council's short term and long term response to extreme weather events (section 6 of the Executive summary)

### 33 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING UPDATE

The Director of Finance and Digital Services provided Cabinet Members with an update on the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2021/22 to 2024/25, based on current modelling assumptions in advance of formulating the detailed budget strategy proposals for 2022/23 during the autumn.

Members were advised that the report and the accompanying 'Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25' sets out the current position on the financial challenges facing the Council in the medium term. The report notes, that subject to the level of funding from Welsh Government, a significant budget gap is likely to be faced in 2022/23 and for the following two years.

The Director added that the proactive strategy adopted in recent years through early identification of savings and the targeting of key areas such as new ways of working and an increased emphasis on preventative approaches could still deliver significant efficiency savings.

It was noted that the focus would switch to the 2022/23 budget strategy upon receipt of the Provisional Local Government Settlement and, as part of this, setting out a range of budget saving options to enable the Council to deliver a balanced budget for the forthcoming year.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services commented on the balancing act needed to be taken forward and the Welsh Government Settlement, to assist in establishing a balanced budget. The Cabinet Member spoke of the potential funding gap which could range between 2-4%.

The Leader of the Council referenced the RSG and the implications with budget gap, pay pressure and inflation. The Leader spoke of how recovery from the pandemic might look and the impact that this might have on the budget going forward and also referenced the lobbying taken forward by WLGA to UK Government.

Other Members referenced the difficult decisions needed to be taken over previous years with austerity measures and thanked officers for the work taken forward with budget setting and the investment in core priorities.

Following discussions it was **RESOLVED**

- i. To note the current position modelled in respect of the 'Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25' and receive further updates in the autumn as part of the annual budget setting process; and
- ii. To note that the MTFP will be presented to Council in September and will be reviewed by the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee in line with their terms of reference alongside our budget consultation arrangements.

## **34 EXEMPTION OF THE PUBLIC**

It was **RESOLVED**: "That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of the exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 4 of the Schedule 12A of the Act".

## **35 CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018/23: INTERIM UPDATE**

The Director of Corporate Estates provided Members with an overview of the exempt report before them which detailed progress against the key themes of the Corporate Asset Management Plan 2018/23.

Members put on record their thanks to the Service area for the work carried out during the pandemic to ensure the safety of staff and public.

Following discussions it was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report

**This meeting closed at 12.01 pm**

**Cllr A Morgan  
Chairman.**



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

### **CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### **CABINET WORK PROGRAMME: 2021- 22 MUNICIPAL YEAR.**

#### **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATIONS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.**

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

- 1.1 To present, for Cabinet Members' comment and approval, an update on the Cabinet Work Programme on the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet over the 2021-22 Municipal Year. The Work Programme will guide and direct the activities of other arms of the Council, as well as the Cabinet itself.

##### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet approve the Work Programme for the 2021-22 Municipal Year (with appropriate amendment where necessary) and receive a further update on a 3 monthly basis.

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

- 3.1 At the Council AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021, it was agreed that going forward a detailed Cabinet Work Programme be published for a 6 month period, allowing sufficient notice and opportunity for consultation and / or pre scrutiny. Amendments to paragraph 12.1 (Part 4) of the Council's Constitution were amended to reflect this position, although still allowing updated versions of the programme to be provided on a 3 monthly cycle to the Cabinet.
- 3.2 The Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021, provides that information about forthcoming executive decisions must be made available to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to ensure these Committees are best informed to undertake and better plan their work. Although the Council are already well placed in respect of this duty, it is important to ensure the development of an accurate and robust Cabinet work programme, outlining consideration of Key Decisions which will

strengthen the robust Governance arrangements intended to be taken forward.

- 3.3 The updated Work Programme is attached to this report for Members' consideration and covers the 2021-22 Municipal Year.
- 3.4 For ease of reference the work programme will also be available on the main Cabinet [webpage](#) for Members and members of the public information.

#### **4. CABINET REPORTS**

- 4.1 The proposed work programme is a rolling work programme for the 2021/22 Municipal Year, which is reported to Cabinet on a 3 month cycle to allow for regular updates and amendments.
- 4.2 An updated work programme is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 4.3 During the period outlined, the Work Programme may be subject to further change to take into account any additional/deletion reports, including any new consultative documents or legislative initiatives from the Welsh Government, which require urgent attention.
- 4.4 In accordance with paragraph 2.5 (Part 4) of the Council's Constitution, any Member of the Council may also request the Leader to put an item on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting. There is also the ability for a resolution to be made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the full Council that an item be considered by the Cabinet, which could alter the forward Work Programme.
- 4.5 In addition to publishing the Cabinet work programme on the main Cabinet web page, the Work Programme is will also be published on a standalone 'Work Programme page' on the website to again assist Members of the public, by improving transparency.

#### **5. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 The work programme has been compiled by members of the Senior Leadership Team in discussion with the relevant portfolio holder(s) and has been consulted upon with the relevant scrutiny committees in respect of pre-scrutiny.

#### **5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

An Equality Impact Assessment including the socio-economic duty is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

**6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable. Any implications to the welsh language will be presented within each of the reports outlined within the work programme.

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

The report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 12.1 (Part 4) of the Council's Constitution and the future requirements of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

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

The Cabinet work programme encompasses all of the Council priorities as it indicates reports coming forward across the Directorates which may impact upon the Council's corporate priorities and others. It also embraces the Future Generations Acts as all future decisions taken by the Cabinet seek to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the County Borough.

**10. CONCLUSION**

An updated Cabinet work programme for the 2021-22 Municipal Year is attached.

**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**

**CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATIONS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LEADER AND DEPUTY  
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.**

**Item: CABINET WORK PROGRAMME: 2021-22 MUNICIPAL YEAR.**

**Background Papers**

- Paragraph 12.1 (Part 4) of the Council's Constitution.

## Cabinet Work Programme.

Forward plan of proposed Cabinet Business for the 2021/22 Municipal Year

Specific Period: -June 2021 – May 2022.

(Summary of proposed Key Decisions coming forward for Cabinet Members consideration.)

*N.B – The work programme is subject to change to take account of any additional / deletion of reports, including any new consultative documents or legislative initiatives from the Welsh Government, which require urgent attention.*

Contact: Emma Wilkins (Tel No. 01443 424110)

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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## Chief Executive

Cabinet Work Programme	In line with the Council's Constitution there is a need to advise and publish the Cabinet Work Programme.	Continuous	Cabinet	Every 3 months June 21 September 21 December 21 March 22	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication – C Hanagan	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Members</li> <li>SLT</li> <li>Overview &amp; Scrutiny</li> </ul>
Council's Performance & Resources Report	To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective	Continuous	Cabinet	Quarter 4 – July 2021  Quarter 1 – September 2021  Quarter 2 – November 2021  Quarter 3 – March 2022	Councillor M Norris. Director of Finance & Digital Services - B Davies	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report is presented to the Finance &amp; Performance Scrutiny Committee following consideration by Cabinet</li> </ul>

## JUNE

Leader's Scheme of Delegation	To formally receive the Leader's Scheme of Delegation following the 2021 Council AGM		Cabinet	June 2021	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication – C Hanagan	Open	Cabinet Members
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Climate Change Consultation Strategy	To receive the findings from the recent consultation on the Council's Draft Climate Change Strategy.		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor R Lewis – Climate Change Champion Chief Executive	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview and Scrutiny</li> <li>Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group</li> </ul>
Access and Engagement Improvements within Democracy	To receive an update in respect of the introduction arrangements to enable the broadcasting of committee meetings and the ability to operate through a hybrid approach. These developments aim to encourage engagement and improve public participation in the democratic process.		Cabinet	June 2021	Deputy Leader Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication – C Hanagan	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

## JULY

Corporate Asset Management Plan Interim Update	To brief members on progress with the plan		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor M Norris. Director of Corporate Estates – D Powell	Exempt	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Medium Term Financial Plan Update	To provide Members with an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2021/22 – 2024/2025		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor M Norris. Director of Finance & Digital Services - B Davies	Open	Report is presented to the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee following consideration by Cabinet
100-102 Taff St - Surrender of lease	To surrender the lease of 100 – 102 Taff St, Pontypridd		Delegated Decision	August 2021	Councillor M Norris & A Morgan Director of Corporate Estates – D Powell	Exempt	

## SEPTEMBER

Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report	To consider the Annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board.		Cabinet	September 2021	Cllr C Leyshon Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication – C Hanagan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate Parenting Board</li> <li>Children &amp; Young People Scrutiny</li> </ul>
Council Corporate Plan - Investment Priorities	To consider the investment priorities.		Cabinet	September 2021	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies		

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Cynon Valley Waste Disposal Company Limited and Amgen Rhondda Limited – Annual General Meeting	To provide Members with details of the AGM in respect of the Cynon Valley Waste Disposal Company Ltd and Amgen Rhondda Ltd.		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor A Crimmings Director of Legal Services - A Wilkins	Exempt	
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## OCTOBER

Budget Consultation Report	To inform Members of the proposed approach to resident engagement and consultation in respect of the 2022/23 budget.		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor M Webber Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication – C Hanagan	Open	
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Council's Corporate Performance Report	To consider the Corporate Performance Report and recommend its endorsement by Council		Cabinet	October 2021	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Chief Executive – C Bradshaw	Open	
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Improving the Council's recruitment process for	To provide Cabinet with a number of options that could		Cabinet	September 2021	Deputy Leader, Councillor M Webber		Open
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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the Armed Forces Community	improve the Council's recruitment process, so as to make it easier for the Armed Forces Community and veterans to overcome barriers to civilian employment.				Director, Human Resources, Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication		
Digital Strategy Work - Update	To provide Members with an update in respect of the Digital Strategy Work Programme		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor M Norris. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	
Electrical Vehicle Charging Strategy	To provide Members with the EVC following consultation		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor R Lewis Director of Corporate Estates – D Powell		Climate change steering group
Ombudsman Annual Report and Letter	To consider the Annual Report and letter of the Ombudsman		Cabinet	October 2021	Deputy Leader, Councillor M Webber. Director of Legal Services – A Wilkins		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Governance &amp; Audit</li> </ul>

## NOVEMBER

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) -	To enable Members to review the Council's use of the Regulation of		Cabinet	November 2021	Deputy Leader, Councillor M Webber. Director of Legal & Services – A Wilkins	Open	
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Use of RIPA in 2020-21 by RCTCBC	Investigatory Powers Act 2000 ('RIPA')						
Council Tax Base 2022/23	To receive the report in respect of setting the Council Tax Base 2022/23		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor M Norris. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	

## DECEMBER

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## JANUARY

Budget Report	To agree a draft Revenue Budget Strategy for 2022/23 as a basis to consult with stakeholders		Cabinet	January 2022	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies		
Corporate Asset Management Plan Interim Update	To brief members on progress with the plan		Cabinet	January 2022	Councillor M Norris. Director of Corporate Estates – D Powell	Exempt	

## FEBRUARY

Budget Report	The need to adopt a budget strategy to recommend to Council as the basis of the budget		Cabinet	February 2022	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Consultation - Service Users, Road shows, School Budget Forum &amp; Scrutiny.</li> </ul>
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	strategy for the financial year ending March 2023, following consideration of the consultation feedback						
Council Fees & Charges	The need to advise Cabinet of the proposed Council Fees and Charges for the financial year 2022/23		Cabinet	February 2022	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	
Capital Programme	To propose to Council the three year capital programme		Cabinet	February 2022	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	
NDR relief schemes	To receive an update in respect of the NDR relief schemes		Cabinet	February 2022	Councillor M Norris. Director of Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Open	

**MARCH**

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Annual Equalities Report	To receive the report of the Director, Human Resources in respect of the Annual Equalities Report.		Cabinet	March 2022	Deputy Leader, Councillor M Webber Director, Human Resources – R Evans	Open	

#### APRIL

#### MAY

Strategic Equality Plan	To provide Members with details of the Councils Strategic Equality plan		Cabinet	May 2022	Deputy Leader, Councillor M Webber Director, Human Resources – R Evans	Open	
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#### ON GOING UPDATES

The Council's Response to Covid-19	To formally receive a service update on the Council's service response to the Covid-19 pandemic	Continuous	Cabinet	When Applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan, Chief Executive – C Bradshaw	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Members</li> <li>SLT</li> <li>Overview &amp; Scrutiny</li> </ul>
RCT Flooding Update	To receive updates in respect of flooding in Rhondda Cynon Taf in addition to statutory reporting		Cabinet	When Applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan, Chief Executive – C Bradshaw		

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	requirements into flooding.						
Brexit	To receive a verbal update in respect of Brexit		Cabinet	When appropriate	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Chief Executive – C Bradshaw	Open	
Corporate Plan – Updates on delivery	To receive reports outlining delivery and ambition of the Corporate Plan		Cabinet	When Applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan & Chief Executive, C Bradshaw	Open	
Cardiff Capital Region - City Deal	The need to advise of the progress being made in respect of the City Deal		Cabinet	When Applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan & Chief Executive, C Bradshaw	Open	
Staff Panel Report	To receive details of the proposals put forward by the Council's Staff Panel in respect of efficiency savings and smarter ways of working		Cabinet	When Applicable	Councillor M Webber & Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication - C Hanagan	Open	
Scrutiny Recommendations	To receive recommendations coming forward		Cabinet	Continuous	Specific to the Scrutiny Review undertaken	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	following a scrutiny review.						
Write off of irrecoverable Debts	Need to provide Cabinet with a position statement on irrecoverable debts		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan & Councillor M Norris. Director, Finance & Digital Services – B Davies	Exempt	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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## Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services

### JUNE

Online Active Travel Consultation : Outcome Of Exercise	To consider the outcome of an online active travel consultation exercise that the Council undertook a few months ago, in collaboration with the Welsh Government.		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor A Crimmings Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		
North West Cardiff Corridor Transportation Study	To receive an update on a transportation study which is determining which public transport options offer the best business case in order to improve access through North West Cardiff towards the city centre.		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor A Crimmings Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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UK Levelling Up fund	To receive information relating to the UK Levelling Up Fund		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Removal of means testing for medium and large DFG's	Update in relation to the Removal of means testing for medium and large DFG's		Delegated Decision	June 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		

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## JULY

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## AUGUST

Welsh Governments Town Centre Business Grant	To take forward the Grant from WG		Delegated Decision	August 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
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## SEPTEMBER

Trivallis housing adaptation impact report and an update on wider partnership working between RCT and Trivallis to provide adapted	To provide an update on the innovative methods used by Trivallis in order to spend their 2020/2021 Adaptations Budget		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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homes for some of our most vulnerable residents	as a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic						
Approval of the Tourism Strategy	To receive the Tourism Strategy consultation		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Unadopted Roads	To receive a report advising Members of unadopted roads across the Authority		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor A Morgan Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		
Review of Regulation, Awareness and Enforcement of Flood and Water Legislation	To advise members in regard to the review of the regulation, awareness and enforcement of flood and water legislation within the Council following Storm Dennis		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor A Morgan Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		
Community infrastructure levy annual monitoring report	CIL regulations require a report to update Cabinet on the performance of CIL during the last		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		Finance & Performance

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	year and make any amendments deemed necessary.						
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## OCTOBER

Revised LDP Preferred Strategy	To receive the Revised LDP Preferred Strategy		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Planning Annual Monitoring	To approve the Planning Annual Performance Report , prior to submission to Welsh Government		Delegated Decision	October 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
LDP Annual Monitoring Report	To approve the LDP annual monitoring report, prior to submission to Welsh Government		Delegated Decision	October 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		

## NOVEMBER

Tonypandy Placemaking Plan	To receive the Tonypandy Placemaking Plan		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Town Centre Strategy (Aberdare Acquisitions)	To receive the Town Centre Strategy		Delegated Decision	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan		

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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					Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Pontypridd Placemaking Plan	To receive the Pontypridd Placemaking Plan		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Local Broadband Fund	To receive information relating to the Local Broadband Fund		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
National Heritage Lottery Fund Priorities	To receive information relating to the National Heritage Lottery Fund Priorities		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Bingo Hall Future Use	To consider the future use of the Bingo Hall, Pontypridd		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Pontypridd M&S Future Use	To consider the future use of M&S, Pontypridd		Cabinet	November 2021	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		

## DECEMBER


Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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## JANUARY


## FEBRUARY

Community Infrastructure Levy “CIL” Consultation Responses	To update Cabinet on the responses resulting from the Community Infrastructure Levy “CIL” consultation in respect of the Council’s Regulation 123 List		Cabinet	February 2022	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale	Open	
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## MARCH

Review of Adapted Housing	To review Adapted Housing		Cabinet	March 2022	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Local Housing Market assessment	To receive the Local Housing Market assessment		Cabinet	March 2022	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		
Supplementary Capital Programme - Highways,	The need to seek approval for detailed investment within the		Cabinet	March 2022	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan.	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Transportation & Strategic projects	service following Council's approval of the 3 year Capital Programme.				Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		
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#### APRIL

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#### MAY

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#### ONGOING UPDATES

Processing Of Mixed Kerbside Recycling	To provide Members with an update in respect of the opportunities of investment into processing of Mixed Kerbside Recycling		Cabinet		Leader of the Council Councillor A Morgan. Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler	Exempt	
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Highways Investment Scheme	To receive regular updates in respect of the Highways Investment Scheme		Cabinet		Leader of the Council Councillor A Morgan. Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler		
Review of Mainstream School Transport Provision	Need to provide Cabinet with the outcomes of the periodic review of the Council's mainstream School Transport Provision		Cabinet	Periodic Review / when applicable	Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan. Group Director – Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services – N Wheeler	Open	
Porth Town Centre Strategy	To receive updates as and when applicable		Cabinet	When appropriate	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale		

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Taff Vale Update and Business Plan	Taff Vale Update Report.		Cabinet	When appropriate	Councillor R Bevan Director of Prosperity & Development - S Gale	Open	
Scrutiny Recommendations	To receive any recommendations coming forward following a scrutiny review.		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Specific to Scrutiny Review undertaken	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutiny</li> </ul>

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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## Community & Children's Services

### JUNE

Asylum Seeker Dispersal Scheme Participation	To receive an update in respect of the Asylum Seeker Dispersal Scheme Participation		Cabinet	June 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Community Renewal Fund	To receive an update on the delivery status of the UK Community Renewal Fund within Rhondda Cynon Taf, identified as a Priority Place for the funding opportunity by UK Government.		Cabinet	June 2021			

### JULY

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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Cwm Taf Carer's Annual Report	To approve for submission to WG the annual report.		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor G Hopkins & Group Director Community & Children's Services - P Mee	Open	multi agency Cwm Taf Carers Partnership
Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Annual Plan	To receive the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Annual Plan		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor G Hopkins, Cllr T Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	
Learning disability day service offer	To provide for Members consideration key information and issues relating to the Council's current day service offer for people with a learning disability		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor G Hopkins Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	
Publication of 2021 Air Quality Progress Report	To publish the 2021 Air Quality Progress Report		Delegated Decision	July 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies	Open	

## AUGUST

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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**SEPTEMBER**

Director Social Services Annual Report (Draft)	Statutory required- Annual report on the delivery, performance, risks & planned improvements to the Social Services function of the Council	Draft	Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor G Hopkins & Councillor C Leyshon - Group Director Community & Children's Services - P Mee	Open	Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee  Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee  •
Declaration of Clydach Vale as a Country Park	To seek Cabinet approval to declare Clydach Vale as a Country Park		Cabinet	September 2021	Cllr A Crimmings Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Public Space Protection Order- Review and Recommendations	To receive a report in respect of Public Space Protection Orders.		Cabinet	September 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Fostering Services – Foster Carer Allowances (PM)	To provide Cabinet with an update on Foster Care Allowances		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor G Hopkins , T Leyshon	Exempt	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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					Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee		
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**OCTOBER**

Food Resilience	To provide Cabinet with an update		Cabinet	October 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Leisure Strategy	To provide Cabinet with the Leisure Strategy		Cabinet	October 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Director Social Services Annual Report	To receive the final report of the Director, Social Services prior to its publication		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillors G Hopkins & T Leyshon. Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee  Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
Gambling Act Policy	To receive the Gambling Act Policy		Cabinet	October 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		Licensing Committee

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Living Landscape Project	To receive the comments of the Climate Change Steering Group in respect of the Living Landscape Project		Cabinet	October 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		Climate Change Steering Group
Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Annual Report	In accordance with the SSWB Act, the need to report the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Annual Report to the Cabinet, setting out their priorities for the coming year.		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor G Hopkins & Councillor C Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board</li> </ul>
Social Services Annual Complaints Report	Provide Cabinet with an overview of the operation & effectiveness of the Council's Social Services complaints procedure		Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor G Hopkins Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	

**NOVEMBER**

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Early Years Transformation Programme update	To provide Cabinet with an update on the Early Years Transformation Programme		Cabinet	November 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		
Homelessness Strategy	To provide Cabinet with an update on the Homelessness Strategy		Cabinet	September 2021	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services – L Davies		

## DECEMBER

## JANUARY

Publication of 2021 Air Quality Progress Report	To publish the 2021 Air Quality Progress Report		Delegated Decision	January 2022	Cllr R Lewis Director, Public Health Protection & Community Services	Open	
National Adoption Annual Report	To receive the National Adoption Annual Report		Cabinet	January 2022	Councillor C Leyshon and Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	

## FEBRUARY

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Regional Adoption Annual Report	To consider the Regional Adoption Annual Report		Cabinet	February 2021	Councillor G Hopkins, Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee		
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**MARCH**

**APRIL**

**MAY**

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**ONGOING UPDATES**

Modernisation of Residential Care and Day Care for Older People – Consultation feedback	To receive the consultation feedback		Cabinet	When Applicable	Councillor G Hopkins, Group Director Community & Children's Services – G Isingrini		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
SS&WB Board Development	To consider any updates as appropriate in respect of the SS&WB Board		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Regional Transformation Agenda	To receive an update on the regional transformation agenda		Cabinet	When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon and Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee		
Development of Community Hubs	To consider the development of Community Hubs across the County Borough		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor R Lewis Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services	Open	
Extra Care Strategy	To receive update reports on the Council's progress in respect of delivery of the Extra Care Strategy		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	
Advocacy	To provide Cabinet with an update in respect of advocacy		Cabinet	When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon and Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee		
Cwm Taf MASH Annual Report	To receive the Annual report of the Cwm Taf MASH		Cabinet	When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	
Social Services & Wellbeing Act	To provide updates as and when necessary on the Council's duties in respect of the Act		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor C Leyshon Group Director Community & Children's Services – P Mee	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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Local Air Quality Management Reports	To provide details of the Local Air Quality Management Reports		Delegated Decision	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor R Lewis Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services	Open	
Scrutiny Recommendations	To receive any recommendations coming forward following a scrutiny review.		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Specific to Scrutiny Review undertaken	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutiny</li> </ul>

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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## Education & Inclusion Services

### JUNE

School Holiday Enrichment Programme	To provide information on the SHEP pilot			June 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author: Andrea Richards)	Open	
Progress report Greater Pontypridd Schools Band B	To receive updated project costs and re-profiling of programme following JR determination		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Gaynor Davies/Andrea Richards)	Open	
YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn	To receive the outcome of the consultation for the proposed new school		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Gaynor Davies/Andrea Richards)	Open	
FEO Pilot & potential rollout to Primaries	To seek approval on the extension of the secondary FEO pilot		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	and a new primary FEO pilot				(Author(s): Daniel Williams)		
Additional repairs and maintenance investment in schools	To provide an update on additional repairs and maintenance following additional WG grant funding.		Cabinet	June 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Andrea Richards/Lisa Howell)	Open	

## JULY

RCT SACRE Annual Report	To receive the annual report of RCT SACRE		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Angela Hill, CSC SACRE Consultant)	Open	
Proposal re. Virtual School Model for CLA	An opportunity to consider a joint pilot strategy between Education and Inclusion Services and Children's Services to improve the educational outcomes of children who are looked after (CLA) by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author: Ceri Jones)	Open	

Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	(RCTCBC) through the creation of a Virtual School Model (VSM).						
Band B Mutual Investment Module	To receive update on costs and programme		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Gaynor Davies/Andrea Richards)	Open	
WESP	To receive the draft 10 year Welsh in Education Strategic Programme to approve for consultation		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Gaynor Davies/Grace Zecca-Hanagan)	Open	Welsh Language Cabinet Steering Group.
Proposals To Establish Primary Education Provision For The Llanilid Housing Development	To Receive an update on the proposal to establish new primary education provision to serve the new housing development at Llanilid, Llanharan		Cabinet	July 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies	Open	

**SEPTEMBER**

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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn	To receive the outcome of the statutory notice period new school and make a decision on whether to proceed with the proposal		Cabinet	September 2021	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Gaynor Davies/Andrea Richards)	Open	
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## OCTOBER

Special School report - provisional			Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor J Rosser & Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Andrea Richards/Ceri Jones)	Open	
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Joint report with environmental services Update on food safety legislation (Natasha's Law)			Cabinet	October 2021	Councillor J Rosser & Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Andrea Richards/Louise Davies)	Open	
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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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ALNET Transformation and Implementation	To provide an update on the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (2018)		Cabinet	December 2021	Councillor J Rosser & Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author(s): Ceri Jones)	Open	
WESP	To receive an update on the WESP following the public consultation undertaken.		Cabinet	December 2021	Councillor J Rosser & Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies		WLSG Children & Young Peoples Scrutiny

## JANUARY

Update on proposals to strengthen the continuum of school provision for pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD)			Cabinet	January 2022	Councillor J Rosser & Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies (Author: Ceri Jones)	Open	

## FEBRUARY

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## MARCH

Childcare Sufficiency Update – Pre-scrutiny	The need to provide details of the Childcare Sufficiency		Delegated Decision	March 2022	Councillor J Rosser.	Open	Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee
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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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	Audit undertaken, in line with Welsh Government Requirements				Director, Education & Inclusion Services -G Davies; (Author(s): Andrea Richards/Denise Humphries)		
Play Sufficiency Assessment	The need to provide details of the play sufficiency Audit undertake in line with Welsh Government Requirements.			March 2022	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services -G Davies; (Author(s): Jess Allen)		Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee
Supplementary Capital Programme – Education & Inclusion Services	The need to seek Cabinet approval for further detailed investment within the service following Council's approval of the 3 year Capital Programme.		Cabinet	March 2022	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services -G Davies (Author(s): Andrea Richards)	Open	

**APRIL**

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Key Decision	Brief Outline	Report Status	Decision Maker (Cabinet / Delegated Decision (DD))	Proposed Date	Cabinet Member / responsible Officer	Open / Exempt Report	Consultation to be undertaken prior to Decision being made?
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<b>MAY</b>
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<b>ONGOING UPDATES</b>
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Scrutiny Recommendations	To receive any recommendations coming forward following a scrutiny review.		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Specific to Scrutiny Review undertaken	Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutiny</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools	To receive any updates in respect of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme		Cabinet	Continuous / When Applicable	Councillor J Rosser. Director, Education & Inclusion Services - G Davies	Open	



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

### **CABINET**

**21st SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATION IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR CHRISTINA LEYSHON.**

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

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Cabinet with the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board for the Municipal Year 2020/21.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Provide comment as appropriate on the Annual Report (which is attached as Appendix 1 to the report).

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

- 3.1 Under the Leaders Scheme of Delegation (the 3A) the Corporate Parenting Board, comprising of a cross party membership was formed to take the lead in ensuring that the Council fulfils its responsibilities as corporate parent's to children who are looked after and formulate Council policy in respect of children who are looked after and children in need.
- 3.2 As part of the Board's Terms of reference, the Board must report its work to the Cabinet and it has been agreed that this will take the form of an Annual Report.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The first Annual Report for the Corporate Parenting Board was produced for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

- 4.2 The content of the report acted as a useful basis for a number of upcoming topics, which the Members felt needed particular attention in the 2016/17 Municipal Year.
- 4.3 On 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the Corporate Parenting Board approved the Annual Report for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year. The report is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.4 To continue what is considered to be a positive synergy between the Board and the Council's Scrutiny Committees, the Annual Report will be presented to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September for information.

## **5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 There is no consultation required for this report.

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

- 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 Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's constitution.

## **9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

- 9.1 The work of the Corporate Parenting Board links directly to the Council's Corporate Plan priority – 'Rhondda Cynon Taf's Children will receive a great start in life...'
- 9.2 In respect of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the work of the Corporate Parenting Board meets the Five Ways of Working:

### **1. Working together with other partners to deliver objectives**

The Corporate Parenting Board considers reports and presentations from various service areas of the Council. Members are aware that a number of partners and areas must contribute to tackle the range of different issues, which young people may experience, such as mental health, education and budgeting.

## **2. Involving those with an interest and seeking their views**

The Corporate Parenting Board provide looked after young people and care leavers in RCT with the opportunity to attend meetings and have their voice heard. It allows them to promote their life experiences at a strategic, policy and legislative level and provides Members with the chance to hear first-hand experiences.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 The Corporate Parenting Board Annual report outlines the work of the Board in the 2020/2021 Municipal Year and features the priority areas the Board will consider in the future ensuring that the Council provides continuous improvement to the services that it delivers for its children and young people within the Looked After System.

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF  
**CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD**  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2020/2021

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## FOREWORD

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**Councillor Christina Leyshon**  
**Cabinet Member for Children's Services**  
**Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board**

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It is with great pleasure, that I present to you the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

The Corporate Parenting Board is the principle place within the Council for cross-party Elected Members and officers to meet on a regular basis as critical friends, to support, challenge and strive for stronger collaborative working. By creating a non-judgemental environment, both officers and Members can freely voice their opinions to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children and young people who are looked after in RCT.

As such, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all Members of the Corporate Parenting Board, both new and longstanding; and, of course, to the officers for their ongoing support.

During the 2020/21 Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board have, once again, considered a vast range of reports, which were inclusive of various stories of success. Regular updates were more important than ever as the Corporate Parenting Board sought assurance that both staff and young people were provided with support through the pandemic. We have endeavoured to ensure the pandemic has not prevented the continuation of key services and we remain committed to ensuring that the children

and young people of Rhondda Cynon Taf are safe from harm and given the care and support that they deserve, regardless of numbers.



## WHAT IS THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD?

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The concept of Corporate Parenting was introduced in 1998 by the then Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dobson, who outlined the duties of members towards Children who are Looked After: *“For children who are looked after, your council has a legal and moral duty to try to provide the kind of loyal support that any good parents would give to their children...you should do your utmost to make sure that those children in public care get a good start in life...”*

### ➤ **LEGISLATION**

- **The Children and Social Work Act 2017 set out seven corporate parenting principles, to which councils should have regard in exercising their responsibilities to looked after children and care leavers:**
  1. To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people.
  2. To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings.
  3. To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people.
  4. To help those children and young people gain access to, and make best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
  5. To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
  6. For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work.
  7. To prepare children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

- **The goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**
  1. A more Equal Wales - A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic circumstances);
  2. A Healthier Wales - A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood; and
  3. A Wales of Cohesive Communities - Attractive, safe, viable and well-connected.
  
- **The Council's Corporate Plan 'Making a Difference' 2020-2024, which is guided by the Vision of making Rhondda Cynon Taf "the best place in Wales to live, work and play, where people and businesses are independent, healthy and prosperous.**
  1. PRIORITY: Ensuring **PEOPLE:** are independent, healthy and successful  
*- Improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do.*

## MEET THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD



Councillor C Leyshon  
(Chair)



Councillor G Hopkins  
(Vice Chair)



Councillor J Rosser



Councillor R Yeo



Councillor E Griffiths



Councillor S Rees-Owen



Councillor J James

*“As Councillors, you have a major role to play in ensuring that those children who are cared for by your council have the best care that they can possibly receive...the duty on you is to do all you can to ensure these children can be the best they can be.”*

Keith Towler, Children's Commissioner for Wales, 2009.

### ➤ **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- To take the lead in ensuring that the Council fulfils its responsibilities as corporate parent to children who are looked after and formulate Council policy in respect of children who are looked after and children in need.
- To ensure that all Groups and divisions within the Council work together in order to promote best outcomes for children who are looked after and children in need.
- To promote effective relationships with key partner agencies in the best interests of children who are looked after and children in need.

- To monitor the implementation of the Action Plan arising from the Best Value Review of Services to children looked after, in addition to monitoring outcomes for children looked after and children in need.
- To consider the outcomes and promote positive learning practices following consideration of Child Practice Reviews
- In accordance with HMIP to routinely review the offending rates of CLA by gender to ensure that the Corporate Parenting Board understand patterns of offending by girls and are able to take actions to address where necessary.
- To consider the impact of relevant other systems/agencies (e.g. health, courts, schools) and see how these could be improved.
- To seek the views of children looked after - the advocacy service will be asked to facilitate.
- To invite representatives from other agencies to attend as appropriate.
- To report directly to Cabinet through an Annual report of the Board.

# CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

Children Looked After remains a key priority and the Council continues to strive for a safe reduction in Children Looked After numbers and to deliver the best possible outcomes for the children and young people.

As at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, there were a total of 694 children and young people within the Local Authority's care. The demographic has been broken down and compared to that of the previous year in the tables below.

## Children Looked After by Age Group

Age Band	Total as at 31/03/2021	Total as at 31/03/2020
0-3	124	129
4-7	121	128
8-11	170	164
12-14	144	137
15	41	49
16	47	44
17	47	66
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

Figures show that the highest age band remains at 8-11 years.

### Children Looked After by Gender

Gender	Total as at 31/03/21	Total as at 31/03/2020
Female	297	303
Male	397	414
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

The Gender figures show that as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 100 more males than females remain within the Local Authority's care, which is consistent with the figures from March 2020, where there were 111 more males than females.

### Children Looked After by Placement Type

CLA Placement Type	Total as at 31/03/2021	Total as at 31/03/2020
Independent Sector Foster Placement	139	161
RCT Foster Carers	167	161
RCT Relative Foster Carers	234	233
Placed for Adoption	16	22
Placed with Parents	73	70
Education Placement	2	1
Other Lodgings	1	6
Independent Sector Residential Sector	50	53
RCT Residential Care	11	10
Secure	1	0
Total	<u>694</u>	<u>717</u>

It is recognised that each young person has a plethora of needs and that the most suitable placement type is unique to the individual.

The data shows that most children and young people within Rhondda Cynon Taf are placed in foster placements, and in particular, with Relative Foster Carers.

Where safe and possible to do so, children and young people are placed with their parents.

It is noted that a key priority of the Regional Adoption Collaboration is to increase its supply of adopters.

## UPDATES TO THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

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### ➤ **REGULATION 73 REPORTS**

Regular updates are presented to the Corporate Parenting Board in respect of the current position of the residential Children's Homes and respite service. The reports are exempt to ensure that the Board receive a detailed picture of the goings on at each home, and are inclusive of case studies, which inform us of the everyday challenges faced by our hardworking staff, any areas of concern and, of course, the wellbeing of the children who occupy the homes.

Each of the reports received during the Municipal Year, provided the Corporate Parenting Board with honest and reliable feedback from the young people who occupy the homes and further insight into the particular challenges associated with looking after and trying to develop young people who have been disadvantaged.

### ➤ **SOCIAL SERVICES COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS**

The Corporate Parenting Board receives quarterly updates in respect of the operation and effectiveness of the statutory Social Services complaints and compliments procedure. At each meeting, Members monitor the number of complaints received, the nature of the complaints and any lessons learnt, along with noting those enquiries received from Elected Members, A.M's and M.P's.

The importance of feedback from those who use the services is invaluable to the Corporate Parenting Board. During the year, Members were provided with detailed and honest feedback in response to questions around the updates. It was pleasing to note that the service had been used by Elected Members and A.M and M.P colleagues, which builds upon the already strong relationship with officers.

## ➤ **ADVOCACY**

Following the appointment of Tros Gynnal Plant (TGP) Cymru as the Local Authority's advocacy service, the Corporate Parenting Board have received regular and informative updates at its meetings. The Board are provided with a detailed breakdown of issues by age, gender, referral source and type, along with information on the take up of the active offer. This information enables both TGP Cymru and Children Services to discuss issues that affect service delivery in the community on a strategic level and to work in partnership to provide improved and better outcomes.

It was particularly pleased to note that during the January 2021 update, there had been a 55% increase in young people referred for advocacy support, a 41% increase on Active Offer referrals and a 65% increase on advocacy issues.

The Board had previously raised questions regarding the ethnicity of those using the service and were pleased to note that the service was moving in the right direction with an increase in mixed race and Asian users.

[More information on the services provided by Tros Gynnal Plant \(TGP\) Cymru can be found here.](#)

## ➤ **Employment, Education and Training Programmes for CLA**

Although not a statutory requirement, it has been customary in recent years, for the Corporate Parenting Board to receive an annual update in respect of the Council's dedicated programmes to support Children Looked After, Care Leavers and those with care and support needs into employment, education and training and support the transition into independent living.

The Corporate Parenting Board were provided with the following breakdown of outcomes from April 2019 – March 2020 in respect of the Step in the Right Direction, Care2Work and Cater2Work programmes:

<b>Step in the Right Direction</b>	<b>Care2Work</b>	<b>Cater2Work</b>
Trainees Recruited – 11	Referrals Received – 58	Number of Cohorts – 6 (each cohort is for 10 weeks)
Trainee Placements Secured - 19	Enrolments – 39	Number of participants – 15
Trainees securing employment in RCT Council - 9	Training/Further Learning/Education – 26	Training/Further Learning/Education – 8
Trainees securing employment externally - 2	Employment Outcomes - 5	Employment - 1

## ➤ **INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER UPDATES**

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (referred to as the SSWB Act) and the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015 and 16 (referred to as the CPPCR Regulations) provide legislation and guidance pertaining to the role and functions of an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO). The Adoption and Children Act 2002 requires the Local Authority to appoint Independent Reviewing Officers to conduct reviews for Children who are Looked After and monitor the Local Authority's performance in relation to implementing the care plans for individual children. As such, regular reports are presented to the Board to monitor the activities of the IRO service.

## ➤ **RCT FORUM**

The RCT Forum provides looked after young people and care leavers in RCT with opportunities to have their voice heard and to enable their life experiences to contribute at a strategic, policy and legislative level both locally and nationally.

During the Municipal Year, the RCT Forum attended a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board to provide a summary of activity during April 2019 – March 2020. The Forum engaged with 32 care experienced children and young people in RCT, through monthly sessions focused on three main areas:

- a) Developing information resources from care experienced young people;
- b) Undertaking a training to become peer mentors who deliver wellbeing and self-care training to their peers; and
- c) A creative writing project focusing on mental health.

Receiving such feedback on the services provided by the Council for Children who are Looked After and care leavers to the Board is fundamental in helping the Board ensure that the provisions and support provided by the Council are adding benefit to the people that require them, and to ensure that the young people within the service are treated as equal to those young people outside of the service.

## ➤ **OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND RESILLIENCE SERVICE**

In November 2017, the Cwm Taf Public Services Board (PSB) agreed to work with the Welsh Government to undertake a joint collaborative approach to redesigning Early

Years arrangements across Cwm Taf. The aim of the work was to reconstruct the Early Years and Flying Start service, to create an integrated delivery model.

Receiving updates allows the Corporate Parenting Board to compare the annual data and to monitor the progress and impact of the service.

[More information on the Resilient Families Service can be accessed here.](#)

## ➤ **INDEPENDENT SECTOR PLACEMENTS MONITORING**

Our priority is to place children in the most suitable placement to meet their needs. However, to offer a range of suitable placement accommodation for Children looked after and to meet the increase in demand, it is necessary for RCT to commission placements with external fostering and residential providers, in addition to the in-house placement capacity.

External placement provision is provided by agencies which are either voluntary organisations, not for profit companies or private for profit companies. The Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru provides support to all local authorities across Wales to manage the process of commissioning and monitoring providers on the All Wales Frameworks.

An annual update of RCT external placement activity is received by the Corporate Parenting Board, which highlights gaps in information available to 4c's, for Members to compile a full analysis of external placement provision.

## ➤ **CWM TAF REGIONAL FOSTERING FRONT DOOR**

The recruitment of mainstream foster carers remains a national challenge. As such, the Regional front door for Fostering recruitment was established in April 2019 as a joint collaboration between RCT CBC and Merthyr Tydfil CBC to address some of the concerns about the numbers of foster carers recruited, the speediness of responses to enquires and the quality of recruitment work being undertaken. The primary objective of the team is to achieve a net gain in approved mainstream foster carers.

In order to monitor the progress of the service, the Corporate Parenting Board receive an analysis of key performance data and details on the future developments of the service.

[More information on the Cwm Taf Regional Fostering Front Door service can be accessed here.](#)

## ➤ **CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER 2019-2020 DATA AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY**

It is noted that RCT has many Children Looked After, in comparison to other Local Authorities and that there are various risk factors which can adversely impact the educational outcomes of Children Looked After. Notwithstanding that, improving the educational attainment of Children Looked After remains a key focus of the Corporate Parenting Board and each year, Members receive performance data for the previous academic year.

### Summary of Data for the academic year 2019-2020\*

#### **1. Incidents of Fixed Term (FT) Exclusions in Autumn and Spring term 2019/2020 involving RCT Children who are Looked After:**

Cohort	Number of FT exclusions	Number of students with a FT exclusion	Cohort of pupils of statutory school age	% of statutory school aged pupils excluded
CLA	81	47	522	9%
Non CLA	1428	889	33,186	2.7%

*Source: Plasc Jan 20 (33,708)*

#### **2. Attendance Levels of Children who are Looked between 02/09/2019 and 20/03/2020 compared with Non CLA:**

Overall attendance in RCT schools	
CLA pupils	Non CLA pupils
93%	92%
Primary school attendance	
95.9%	93.3%
Secondary school attendance	

91%	91.4%
<b>Through school attendance</b>	
90.9%	90.8%
<b>Special school attendance</b>	
95%	88.1%

- 3. In response to the disrupted educational experience due to COVID -19, PDG LAC money provided an offer of online tuition in Maths or English for all Key Stage 4 pupils taking exams. Pupils who engaged with tuition in Years 10 and 11:**

<b>Year group</b>	<b>No of pupils participating</b>
11	16 out of 25 eligible pupils
10	23 out of 31 eligible pupils

*\*Note: Any overall data for the academic year 2019 – 2020 needs to be viewed with caution due to the impact of school closures in Summer Term 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic which means that direct comparisons with previous academic years are not possible.*

Further to the performance data update, the Corporate Parenting Board received information on a recent paper commissioned by Welsh Government: [An Integrated approach to improving educational outcomes for Children Looked After](#), which had been long requested by Members.

The report considers integrated Local Authority approaches to supporting CLA, with a particular focus upon how the Virtual School model in England and Scotland could be used as a basis for local authorities in Wales to promote the educational achievement of CLA.

Following a recommendation put forward to Welsh Government to establish Virtual Schools, all Local Authorities had been part of a discussion to consider its area's needs. In the context of RCT, it was the view that the introduction of a virtual school head would not only increase capacity within the local authority in relation to supporting educational outcomes but would provide an enhanced voice to advocate for CLA pupils at a senior management level in education – strengthening the corporate parenting role.

[More information on the Improvement Strategy in relation to RCT can be accessed here.](#)

## ➤ **MISKIN**

Miskin delivers intensive family focused evidence-based interventions, which aim to improve parenting capacity to enable families to care for their children with the minimum statutory intervention. Services are delivered through individual, family, group work and holiday programmes.

The focus of the Service includes:

- High level of need, and if intensive supports are not provided the child/children are at risk of being accommodated;
- Family need an intensive period of support for child/children to return to their care;
- High level of assessed need for a child looked after, risk of placement breakdown without intensive support; and
- Child looked after requires support to return from an out of county placement to either home or a more local placement.

The Corporate Parenting Board receive annual updates in respect of the Miskin service, to monitor the effectiveness of the service, particularly at a time when demand exceeds capacity.

## ➤ **THERAPEUTIC FAMILIES TEAM**

The Therapeutic Families Team (TFT) is a multidisciplinary team, created to offer consultation, therapeutic assessments and interventions to children and families in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Recently established, the Team works with:

- Families assessed as high need where support from the Families Therapeutic Team would add value to the Resilient Families Service intervention;
- Family receiving a service from statutory Children's Services and child/ren assessed as being at risk of becoming Children Looked After (CLA); Children Looked After whose placement has been assessed as being at risk of breakdown where therapeutic support could promote placement stability;

- Children Looked After who require therapeutic support to assist in a return home to live with parents/family/friends or live independently;
- Children Looked After placed out of county who require therapeutic support to assist in moving to local placements; and
- Families assessed as high need where support from the Families Therapeutic Team would add value to the statutory Children's Services intervention.

The Corporate Parenting Board received the first annual report of the Therapeutic Families Team and will continue to monitor the positive outcomes achieved following its first year of operation.

## ➤ **VALE, VALLEYS & CARDIFF REGIONAL ADOPTION ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative (VVC) provides a regional adoption service to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. VVC is one of the five regional Collaboratives which form part of the National Adoption Service in Wales (NAS). All adoption services are required to provide an annual review of their service as set out in Regulation 22 of the Local Authority Adoption Service (Wales) Regulations 2007.

The supply of adopters remains a challenge for Local Authorities and as such, receiving the annual data and strategies for improvement of the Regional Adoption Service is vital to the Corporate Parenting Board.

The report was also considered in depth by the Council's [Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee](#).

## ➤ **FOSTERING SERVICE QUALITY OF CARE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

The Fostering Service Quality of Care Annual Report is compiled as required under the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016. Regulation 52 of the Local Authority Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2018 also requires the Local Authority Manager to put suitable arrangements in place to establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and improving the quality of service.

The Corporate Parenting Board monitored the progress in relation to carer support and consultation, education, establishing the Regional Front Door Service and the priorities for the year ahead.

## ➤ **CHILD PRACTICE REVIEW**

A Child Practice Review is conducted in line with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Children Board's duties under Working Together to Safeguard People Volume 3) which is issued under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

The process is focussed on positive outcomes for children and young people through learning lessons to improve multi agency safeguarding practice. It includes different types of reviews; concise and extended as well as multi agency practitioner forums. A panel established for the purpose conducts the review. The timeframe for such reviews is usually 12 months extending to 24 months in specific circumstances.

During the Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board received the outcome of one Child Practice Review.

# THE CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – MOVING FORWARD

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In the 2021/22 Municipal Year, key areas of focus of the Corporate Parenting Board will include:

## ➤ **REGULAR PERFORMANCE DATA**

It is essential that the Corporate Parenting Board regularly receive the qualitative data and statutory updates. The monitoring of regular performance data allows the Corporate Parenting Board to effectively analyse key areas and determine ways to further improve and enhance the services the Council provides provide. The updates will include:

- Regulation 73 Reports
- Complaints & Compliments
- Advocacy Updates
- CIW Inspections reports of the Children's Homes
- Child Practice Review

The Corporate Parenting Board will receive annual updates from the following services to continue to monitor the progress, achievements, and future aspirations:

- Miskin
- Therapeutic Families Team
- Resilient Families Service
- Youth Offending Service
- Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Service
- Fostering Services Quality of Care
- Registered Childcare Provision
- Young Carers
- Youth Offending Service

## ➤ INTERACTION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

The Corporate Parenting Board welcome the attendance of looked after young people and care leavers at its meetings and recognise that their voice must be at the centre of all discussions. Often, the Board receive reports containing data and statistics, but there is nothing more important than hearing the first-hand experiences from the young person. Encouraging their participation will be key moving forward as it can often provide Members with a different perspective and further insight into the areas where improvements need to be made.

In 2018, RCT Children Services supported children who were looked after to complete the Your Life, Your Care Survey. The survey had been developed through the Bright Spots Programme to measure the well-being of children looked after.

Following the survey, the following areas of improvement were identified:

*‘Social workers need to:*

- *Ensure that children and young people understand who they are.*
- *Work with children and young people to involve them in decisions.*
- *Explain to every child why they are in care and regularly review this with them to establish if they would like more information.*
- *Continue to communicate with schools to identify and help children who feel bullied at school and those who feel that they do not have a good friend.*
- *Give carers further training in therapeutic parenting.*
- *Consider not just organised activities but contact with nature when reviewing opportunities to have fun/hobbies*
- *Regularly review contact plans taking into account children and young people’s wishes and feelings*
- *Be aware of gender difference and give opportunities to young people (11-18 years) to build self-esteem and a positive self-image.’*

The Corporate Parenting Board will monitor the implementation of the areas identified to ensure that they have been incorporated into improvement plans; and welcome further updates from future surveys, which would be conducted on a two year basis.

## ➤ **EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Corporate Parenting Board recognise the educational disadvantages often experienced by young people who are looked after, which can have an adverse effect on opportunities moving into higher education and into adulthood.

The Corporate Parenting Board will focus on:

- Welsh Government's 'Virtual School' proposal and its benefits for the young people in RCT;
- Post-16 education, employment, and training opportunities for CLA; and
- Pupil Development Grant – An evaluation of the Cluster Based Model.

## ➤ **THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS**

In the Cwm Taf Statement of Intent for Children and Young People: 'A Shared Regional Strategy for Supporting Children, Young People and Families', emotional wellbeing was identified as a priority for improvement to better meet the needs of children and young people with complex needs.

Over the years, the Corporate Parenting Board and colleagues from Scrutiny have raised concerns regarding the level of services available to our young people and it is recognised that mental health has never been so important as we exit the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Corporate Parenting Board will focus on the provision available and the progress made by the Children and Young Persons Group to action the priorities of the Regional Strategy.

## ➤ **ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

It is recognised that the role of the Corporate Parent is a collective duty of the Council as a whole and as such, refresher training is welcomed to Board Members and to all Elected Members of the Council to further enhance knowledge and to strengthen the Council's commitment to the children and young people within our care.

## ➤ THE WORK OF WELSH GOVERNMENT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXTEND CORPORATE PARENTING

The Programme for Government, [Taking Wales Forward](#), commits to “examine ways of ensuring looked after children enjoy the same life chances as other children and if necessary reform the way they are looked after”. As part of its focus, Welsh Government policy intent is to strengthen corporate parenting across all departments within the local authority, which will enable better partnership between services to enhance the outcomes for Children Looked After.

The Corporate Parenting Board welcome future updates in relation to the work and the opportunity to consider any amendments to its Terms of Reference.

# CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021-2022

A 2021-22 work programme for the Corporate Parenting Board is set out below. The work programme is a fluid document, which can be amended by Members at any given point to accommodate a change in priorities. The programme is based on factors highlighted within the Board's Annual Report and does not include the statutory updates presented to the Board.

REPORT	DATE
Corporate Parenting Board Work Programme	July, 2021
Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2020-21	July 2021
Youth Offending Service Annual Report 2020-21	July, 2021
Registered Childcare Provision – Annual Update 2020-21	July, 2021
Young Carers Annual Report 2020-21 <i>and attendance of a young carer</i>	July, 2021
Pupil Deprivation Grant – evaluation of cluster based model.	July, 2021
Housing Offer to Care Leavers	July, 2021
RCT Forum	September, 2021
Children Looked After Website Advancements Presentation	September, 2021
Resilient Families Service – Performance Data Update 2019-20	September, 2021
Bright Spots Survey Implementation Progress and Results	September 2021
Miskin Annual Report and Therapeutic Families Team Annual Report 2020-21	November, 2021
Mental Health Provision for CLA and the progress of the priorities identified within the Cwm Taf Statement of Intent for Children and Young People: 'A Shared Regional Strategy for Supporting Children, Young People and Families'	November, 2021
PDG LAC – Offer of Online Tuition Feedback	November, 2021

Employment, Education and Training Programmes <i>and attendance of young person who has accessed the service.</i>	November, 2021
Vale, Valleys & Cardiff Regional Adoption Annual Report	January, 2022
Cwm Taf Fostering Front Door - Update on developments and impact of marketing campaigns	January, 2022
Fostering Service Quality of Care Annual Report	January, 2022
Youth Offending Service Annual Report 2021-22	March, 2022
Registered Childcare Provision – Annual Update 2021-22	March, 2022
Young Carers Annual Report 2021-22	March, 2022

# CONCLUSION

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Thank you for taking the time to read the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report for the 2020/21 Municipal Year. The report seeks to highlight the scope of work undertaken during the past year and the Council's ongoing commitment to improving the outcomes for the children and young people who are looked after in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

In the 2020/21 Municipal Year, the Corporate Parenting Board will ensure that a full and varied work programme is set, which will focus on the above-mentioned reports, as well as any other topical or urgent business which may arise.

We will continue to seek the best possible outcomes for the children and young people in our care. Despite uncertain times and the national rise in the number of children who are becoming looked after, the Corporate Parenting Board and the Council as a whole are committed to its safeguarding duties.



**Councillor Christina Leyshon**  
**Chair, Corporate Parenting Board;**  
**Cabinet Member for Children & Young People**

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**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**REVIEW OF REGULATION, AWARENESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF  
FLOOD AND WATER LEGISLATION.**

**REPORT OF GROUP DIRECTOR PROSPERITY DEVELOPMENT AND  
FRONTLINE SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT  
PORTFOLIO HOLDER CLLR MORGAN, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.**

**AUTHOR(s): Andrew Stone, Strategic Projects Manager**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members in regard to the review of the regulation, awareness and enforcement of flood and water legislation within the Council following Storm Dennis.
- 1.2 The Report will further advise members in regard to the implementation an enhanced Flood Awareness and Enforcement team and increased regulation via the enactment of Land Drainage Byelaws under S66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:
  - 2.1.1 Agree to the creation of an enforcement team and post as indicated in Section 4.3 and Section 7.
  - 2.1.2 Agree to the creation of a flooding awareness and support officer post as indicated in Section 4.4
  - 2.1.3 Agree that officers commence the process for the adoption of the drainage byelaws and refer the matter to Council for consideration.
  - 2.1.4 Note the proposal to review the practical operational implications within 12 months of establishing the new byelaws and enforcement team to consider resourcing implications based on actual workload.

- 2.1.5 Agree that the financial implications for the current year are met from existing resources and to update the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2022/23 onwards with the additional ongoing revenue costs.

### 3 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Flooding remains a key threat to communities across Wales and managing this risk is important to minimise the risk to communities. The consequences of flooding can include loss of life, damage to the economy, social implications and environmental damage. Climate change is predicted to increase the frequency and the intensity of flooding, increasing the risk in RCT and across the UK. Though flooding is an inevitable natural process, through careful management the probability of flooding along with its impact can be reduced.

- 3.2 From an RCT perspective, the following summaries the current situation

- 10,071 properties in RCT were considered to be at 'high-risk' of surface water (8,611) or main river flooding (1,460), with a further 4,221 properties in the 'medium-risk' category. [Source: Communities at Risk Register \(CaRR\)](#) published as at 2019.
- RCT has 25 of the top 5% (111 communities) of Wales' highest flood risk communities meaning that RCT has 22.5% of the highest ranked communities considered to be at a high risk of flooding in Wales. RCT is ranked as number 1 in Wales for properties at risk of flooding from Surface water flooding (Pluvial). [Source: Communities at Risk Register \(CaRR\)](#) published as at 2019.
- RCT has 3 out of 33 communities defined as nationally significant high flood risk areas in Wales [Source: Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment](#).
- It is also currently predicted that by the year 2039 the peak water flows within rivers and watercourses will increase from 2015 levels by between 10% – 25% , by 2069 20%–40% and by 2115 25%-75% [Source: Adapting to Climate Change: Guidance for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Authorities in Wales](#)

- 3.3 The recommendations made in this report strongly link to the following:-

1. The Corporate Plan
  2. The National Flood Risk Management Strategy
  3. The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015

#### 4. **BACKGROUND**

- 4.1.1 After the Unprecedented Storms in February 2020. The Council published a Cabinet paper on 18 December 2020 on “Review of Council’s Response to Storm Dennis”. Which the Cabinet agreed the following actions

**RECOMMENDATION 3 – The Council will create a Flood Support Team alongside the Housing Grants Service that supports landowners, residents and businesses in high risk flood areas to procure local flood prevention measures, provides advice and guidance**

**RECOMMENDATION 4 – Individual landowners and property owners, particularly in high flood risk areas, will be requested to consider and evidence how best they can protect their land, homes, and businesses through local measures.**

Extract – “It is proposed that we will appoint a small team of Flood Enforcement Officers including legal support to ensure landowners take their flood responsibilities seriously and are fully compliant with the relevant legislation.”

## Current Enforcement and Regulation for Flood Risk Management Activities.

4.1.2 The following table briefly sets out the current legislative situation :-

Legislation	Enforcement/Regulation Activity
Land Drainage Act 1991	S14– Power to carry out drainage works
	S14A – Power to carry out flood risk management works
	S23 – Prohibition of structures in ordinary watercourses.
	S24 – Enforcement powers in respect of unconsented structures in ordinary watercourse.
	S25 – Powers to require works for maintaining flow of a watercourse.
	S64 – Powers of enter onto land.
	S66 – Powers to make Byelaws (currently none in force in RCT) (See section 4.2)
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	S14 – Power to request information
	S15 – Civil Sanctions (not providing information under S14).
	Schedule 1 – Designation of Features - Ability to designate “private” structures as a significant asset and protect it from alteration. (cannot enforce maintenance)
	Schedule 3 – Sustainable Drainage Systems. The Sustainable Drainage (Enforcement) (Wales) Regs (2018)

4.1.3 The aftermath of Storm Dennis and the inspection and survey of over 50km of watercourse highlighted a significant number of instances where some form of enforcement was required. The amount of enforcement activity since Storm Callum in 2018 has slowly increased and after Storm Dennis in February 2020 a large increase with currently 15 items of enforcement activity ongoing.

4.1.4 This suggests that as regulation, asset surveys and inspections continue there will be a steady increase in the requirement for enforcement, whether by warning, notice or prosecution.

4.1.5 However, it should be noted that the current Land Drainage Act 1991 does not give full regulatory control or “protect” existing watercourses

from alteration. Additional regulation of watercourses through the adoption and making of byelaws will be required.

4.1.6 Taken into consideration the review and recommendation made in the Cabinet Report dated 18 December 2021; the following actions are proposed

1. Regulation – The regulation of Flood Assets is increased by Adoption of Land Drainage Byelaws – Section 4.2
2. Enforcement – A Team of enforcement officers with legal support is created. (Section 4.3)
3. Awareness and Support – The bridge between Regulation and Enforcement is built with the introduction of a Flood Risk Support Officer. (Section 4.4)

## **4.2 Increased Regulation - Adoption of Land Drainage Byelaws**

### **Background**

Under the Flood & Water Management Act 2010, councils in Wales were given additional powers and responsibilities for managing flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourse. As part of these new powers, the responsibility for issuing ordinary watercourse consent under Section 23 Land Drainage Act 1991 passed from Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to Lead Local Flood Authorities in April 2012.

Since taking on this consenting duty and wider flood risk management function, practitioners have noted that powers under current legislation are limited and certain activities which are not currently consented could potentially increase the risk of flooding especially in more built-up areas. It was therefore decided in 2013 to set-up a Task & Finish Group to oversee a review of current byelaws with the aim of creating a new set to help LLFAs in Wales manage more effectively and consistently activities along ordinary watercourse. For example, building over culverts, diversion of watercourses, restrictions to access for maintenance.

DEFRA model byelaws have for a number of years been widely used across the UK by the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales to manage activities along main rivers, and several English LLFAs and Internal Drainage Boards also enforce the same byelaws. However, these byelaws have remained unchanged, not suitable for ordinary watercourse and the majority are rarely enforceable due to their inappropriateness.

A new set of byelaws have been drafted by key strategic partners in response to concerns about measures available to manage risk arising from potential

flooding. As such they draw on the experience of a wide range of practitioners thus offering sensible and balanced powers consistent with other agencies across the region.

These standard set of byelaws have been ratified by the appropriate Welsh Minister and provides for a standard and consistent approach by the Welsh Lead Local Flood Authorities. These are included at Appendix 1.

The primary function of the new Land Drainage Byelaws is to assist Lead Local Flood Authorities manage the risk of flooding through better regulation. However, through careful revised wording and a wide range of activities being covered these byelaws can also benefit the wider environment. By doing so, they will benefit other functions within local government and help with the delivery of other legislation including the Water Framework Directive and the Habitat Directive.

Ultimately, this holistic approach to flood risk management through the use of Land Drainage Byelaws will be in line with the principles of the Well-Being and Future Generations Act and assist the LLFA its goals.

Welsh Government and the WLGA are encouraging local authorities to adopt the model byelaws without any modification to ensure consistency across Wales and avoid potential legal hurdles and lengthy approval process.

### **How can byelaws benefit flood risk management and the wider environment**

The primary function of the new Land Drainage byelaws is to help LLFAs manage the risk of flooding where it is the highest through better control. However, through careful revised wording and a wide range of activities covered these byelaws can also benefit the wider environment. By doing so, they will benefit other functions within local government and help with the delivery of other legislations including the Water Framework Directive and Habitat Directive.

Ultimately, this holistic approach to flood risk management through the use of Land Drainage byelaws will be in line with the principles of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act and help LLFAs deliver its goals.

### **Legal Framework and extent of powers**

Under Section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, local authorities in Wales have the powers and authority to make byelaws. These byelaws however can only be made for 4 specific purposes:

- a- To secure the efficient working of a drainage system in the land drainage authorities' district or area;

- b- To regulate the effects on the environment in the land drainage authorities' area of a drainage system;
- c- To secure the effectiveness of flood risk management work<sup>1</sup>; or
- d- To secure the effectiveness of incidental flooding or coastal erosion works<sup>2</sup>

Byelaws cannot repeat, contradict or overrule any other legislation but are nevertheless a statutory tool at the disposition of local authorities and other public bodies. Byelaws are local laws designed to complement rather than replace existing laws. As such, they should be used in conjunction with relevant legislation.

These byelaws are intended to prevent third parties undertaking unconsented activities which may increase the risk of flooding. They cannot however stop anyone who has already a right or a duty under any other legislation such as an Act or Regulation or permit to act accordingly.

*For example, if a riparian owner has obtained planning permission to build a structure within the byelaws distance, the planning permission would override the byelaw. Having the byelaws in place would however ensure early discussion with the developer and planning colleagues and the inclusion of conditions is necessary.*

There are 3 main legal limitations to these byelaws:

1. they cannot relate to main rivers, the banks of main rivers or any drainage work in connection with a main river<sup>3</sup>;
2. they cannot prevent reasonable facilities being afforded to allow stock to access drinking water<sup>4</sup> and
3. they cannot conflict with or interfere with the operation of any byelaws made by a navigation authority, harbour authority or conservancy authority

## Local Authority's Adoption Process

The ordinary watercourse byelaws confirmed by the Welsh Minister for Environment and Rural Affairs have been designed as model for local authorities to either use in their current format **as a whole** or to help develop their individual byelaws if they wish to depart from the model.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in section 14A of the Land Drainage Act 1991

<sup>2</sup> As defined in sections 38 and 39 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Section 66(3)

<sup>4</sup> Section 66(4)

These byelaws have been designed by experienced FRM practitioners following extensive consultation with various local authority's departments and Natural Resources Wales. Welsh Local Government Association is encouraging local Authorities to adopt the model byelaws as they are, without any modifications, to ensure consistency across Wales and avoid potential legal hurdles and a lengthy approval process.

If for any reason the authority wishes to depart from the model confirmed by the Welsh Ministers, it can do so. However, the decision would need to be justified and the Welsh Ministers would need to be satisfied with such departure before approving these byelaws.

Although already confirmed by the Welsh Ministers, to be in a position of implementing the byelaws locally, the authority must be adopted under the provisions set out in sections 7-8 of Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012.

Section 7 deals with the formalities regarding the confirmation of byelaws. This involves the Council:-

- publishing on its web site an initial written statement which describes the issue which the Council thinks may be addressed by making the byelaws;
- consult any person (including, where applicable, a community council) who the Council thinks is likely to be interested in, or affected by, the issue;
- following the consultation, considering the responses and deciding whether making the byelaws is the most appropriate way of addressing the issues;
- publishing on its web site a second statement which contains the original written statement, a summary of the consultation and the responses and its decision as to whether to make the byelaws;
- if the decision is to proceed with the adoption of the byelaws they must be submitted to Welsh Ministers for confirmation but at least 6 weeks prior to their submission notice of the Council's intention to adopt the byelaws must be published in one or more local newspapers circulating in the areas to which the byelaws are to apply and on the Council's website; and
- in addition to the notice referred to above the Council must publish the byelaws on their web site, deposit copies of the byelaws in each of the areas to which they apply, send a copy of the byelaws to all community councils affected and ensure that a copy of the byelaws are open to

public inspection at all reasonable hours without payment. In addition any person is entitled to a copy of the byelaws without charge.

As mentioned above the byelaws must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers for confirmation. They come into effect on the date fixed by the Welsh Ministers as confirming authority but if no date is fixed they come into force at the end of one month from the date they are confirmed.

Once confirmed the Council must publish the date of confirmation and copies of the byelaws on their web site, deposit copies of the byelaws in each of the areas to which they apply, send a copy of the byelaws to all community councils affected and ensure that a copy of the byelaws are open to public inspection at all reasonable hours without payment. In addition, any person is entitled to a copy of the byelaws without charge.

The power to make byelaws is a function of the Council and not the Executive and so Cabinet is asked it endorse officers commencing the process for the reasons detailed above.

## **Enforcement and penalty**

Non-compliance with the byelaws can lead to two proceedings: first the offender will be fined and the land drainage authority can remedy the breach and recover the costs incurred.

Under section 66(6) of the LDA every person who acts in contravention of or fails to comply with any of the foregoing Byelaws is liable on summary conviction in respect of each offence to a fine not exceeding the amount prescribed for level 5 (currently £5,000) on the standard and a further fine not exceeding £40 for every day on which the contravention or failure is continued after conviction.

By section 66(7) of the Act if any person acts in contravention of or fails to comply with any of these Byelaws the LLFA may without prejudice to any proceedings under section 66(6) of the Act take such action as may be necessary to remedy the effect, of the contravention or failure and may recover the expenses reasonably incurred by it in doing so from the person in default.

## **Purpose and Layout of byelaws**

The “model” set, See Appendix 1, comprises of 16 individual byelaws designed to work in parallel and complement the Land Drainage Act 1991(especially sections 23, 24 and 25), Flood & Water Management Act 2010, and Natural

Resource Wales' *guide to your rights and responsibilities of riverside ownership in Wales*<sup>5</sup> which sets out riparian owner's rights and responsibilities.

The complete set comprises of 7 sections but byelaws themselves are only grouped under 4 distinct chapters:

- I. Control the introduction of water and increase in flow or volume, or water
- II. Control any potential to cause impediment or obstruction to flow
- III. To ensure the condition of the banks of a watercourse are maintained
- IV. To cover incidental provisions

**Chapter II** which focusses on controlling the introduction of water and increase in flow or volume, or water comprises of 4 individual byelaws aimed at controlling activities that may alter the natural level or direction of the flow of water in, into or out of any watercourse. Additional wording has also been added to ensure better control over the creation or extension of watercourses which had been highlighted as an issue by practitioners. This chapter also covers unconsented interference with assets controlling flow or level of water.

**Chapter III** which focusses on controlling the potential to cause impediment or obstruction to flow comprises of 3 byelaws. These byelaws cover activities on land liable to flooding and watercourse banks as well the building and repairs of structures. Additional wording has been added to provide better control related to building over culverts which was raised as a concern period by practitioners.

**Chapter IV** comprises of 3 byelaws which have been drafted to ensure the condition of ordinary watercourse banks and avoid damages to the banks. Byelaws included in this section will also benefit WFD by protecting river banks and water quality. Please note that byelaw 14 may be challenged for the purpose of enabling animals to drink.

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<sup>5</sup> The document can be downloaded on:  
<https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/managing-flood-risk/riverside-property-owners-know-your-rights-and-responsibilities/?lang=en>

### **4.3 New Enforcement Team.**

Previous enforcement actions have been carried out by non-dedicated and non-specialist officers within the Flood Risk Management Team (FRM). This has been partially successful but has been very much a reactive rather than proactive service.

The enforcement activities after Storm Callum in 2018 and recently Storm Dennis in 2020 has shown a step-by-step increase in enforcement actions required. There has also been an increase in complexity of the type of enforcement required. With also the introduction of the Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) in 2019 and potentially the adoption of Byelaws there is a need for a dedicated specialist team of officers. This was also found in the Storm Dennis review in December 2020.

With 2 pieces of new legislation, The Sustainable Drainage (Enforcement) (Wales) Order 2018, and the potential byelaws it is very difficult to predict the enforcement effort that will be required. There is a risk that enforcement activities will vary greatly. However, by positioning the enforcement team within the FRM team and introducing a specialist technical element into the role the team will be flexible enough to also assist with investigations, consents and approvals.

A review of the Resource required to undertake the regulation and enforcement function of the LLFA has been undertaken taking into consideration the effects of an increased proactive approach and the adoption of byelaws on the existing FRM team and legal services team:

Additional Posts within the Flood Risk Management Team:-

No. Enforcement Officer (GR10) 1 No. Enforcement Assistant (GR7/8)

Legal support will be required to assist the new enforcement team consisting of providing legal advice and support to the officers and undertaking prosecutions.

However, due to the unknown nature of the new legislation and the work required prior to implementation and the drafting of procedures it is recommended that the Enforcement Officer be implemented immediately.

A review of the implications on workload and resources will be undertaken around 12 months after the full establishment of the service to inform future resource requirements based on actual rather than perceived workload for both the FRM and Legal Services teams.

#### **4.4 Flood Risk Awareness and Support**

Flood Risk Management is very data heavy and is very complex for communicating risk to the public. Advice and guidance on what to do if your property is within a high-risk area is not always easily accessible once the risk is communicated and access to insurance before or after an event is sometimes difficult.

It is felt that to bridge the gap between the “data” and regulation and ultimately to improve awareness and community resilience and avoid enforcement action wherever possible is a specialist role. The role will cover, but not be limited to:-

- Enhance and maintain RCTs website.
- To develop guidance on property resilience measures and insurance for residential and business.
- Develop a communications strategy to include Risk data, interventions (projects), riparian responsibilities, regulation requirements, Insurance and property and/or community resilience.
- Develop community and/or individual flood plans. Liaison with community groups.
- Help with wider consultations, for example, Local Flood Risk Strategy.
- Liaise with colleagues in Housing Grants, public health and Emergency planning to develop a support plan for communities affected by flooding.

A review of the Resource required to undertake the above role has been undertaken taking into consideration the effects of an increased proactive approach and increased awareness and regulation.:

Additional Post within the Flood Risk Management Team:-

1 no. Flood Risk Awareness and Support Officer (GR10GR8)

## **5 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full EIA is not required. There are no negative or adverse equality or diversity implications associated with this report.

## **6 CONSULTATIONS**

1. Finance
2. Legal

## **7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

The following analysis assumes all recommendations are agreed.

### **Implementation of Byelaws.**

Although there will be an increase in consenting and regulation, it is felt that this additional burden can be absorbed into the current Flood Risk Management Team Resources as some current duties such as awareness and communications and enforcement will be carried out by additional posts.

There is therefore a **NIL** financial implication on the existing Team.

### **Creation of Enforcement Team. (Section 4.3)**

Establishment of new post (Annual cost to service) = £42,265

ICT Establishment One off charge = £3k

A review of resources/workload will be undertaken around 12 months after the service has been established to inform long-term resource requirements.

### **Creation of Flood Awareness and Support officer. (Section 4.4)**

Establishment of new post = £35,460

Printed/Publicity Materials =£1k

Consultants = £2k

Total annual additional cost to service = £38,460

ICT Establishment One off charge = £3k

Subject to the recommendations being agreed there will be a part year impact on the budget for this financial year (2021/22) depending on when the appointments to the new posts are made. This can be met from existing one-off resources within the overall Frontline Services revenue budget.

The ongoing annual impact on the revenue budget will be included in the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2022/23 onwards.

## **8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

There are legal implications and the relevant legislation has been considered in Section 4.

## **9 LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP / FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

### **9.1 National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales**

9.1.1 Required by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the National Flood Risk Management Strategy (NFRMS)<sup>6</sup> for Wales, produced by Welsh Government, provides a policy framework for flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales. The second iteration of the National Strategy was published In October 2020, within which sets out the following Aim of the strategy:

***‘Reduce the risk to People and Communities from Flooding and Coastal Erosion’.***

To facilitate the overarching aim, the strategy sets out 5 core Objectives which require the following:

1. Improve our understanding and communication of risk
2. Preparedness and Building Resilience
3. Prioritising investment to the most at risk Communities
4. Preventing more people becoming exposed to risk
5. Providing an effective and sustained response to events

In delivering the regulation and awareness raising as described within section 4.3 and 4.4 the authority will directly support the delivery of Objective 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the NFRMS.

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<sup>6</sup> National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales: <https://gov.wales/national-strategy-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-management-wales>

## 9.2 Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

9.2.1 Rhondda Cynon Taf has published a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)<sup>7</sup> in January 2013 in accordance with Section 10 of the FWMA 2010. The LFRMS defines who the 'Risk Management Authorities (RMA) are, what their function is and what their responsibilities are. The strategy further identifies the Local Objective and Measures being implemented for the short, medium and Long term to manage flood risk within the authority.

9.2.2 Within the LFRMS RCT is identified as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) which is identified as the RMA responsible for managing the risk of flooding from local sources, which includes regulation and enforcement. This function is set out within five specific measures aimed at delivering 9 Local objectives, Table 2 provides a summary of the LFRMS local objectives and measures.

Table 2: LFRMS Objectives and Measures

<b>LFRMS Measure Number</b>	<b>LFRMS Measures</b>	<b>LFRMS Strategy Objective</b>
16	<b>Power to request information and civil sanctions</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 11
18	<b>Designation of Structures</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 10
20	<b>Consenting of Structures to Ordinary Watercourses</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
21	<b>Enforcement to maintain flow in watercourses</b>	1, 2, 3, 4
22	<b>Enactment of Land Drainage Byelaws</b>	1, 2, 3, 4

Table 2: Provides a summary of the LFRMS Measures and how they Link to the LFRMS Objectives; related to regulation and enforcement.

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<sup>7</sup> RCT Local Flood Risk Management Strategy:  
<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/ParkingRoadsandTravel/Roadspavementsandpaths/FloodAlleviation/LocalFloodRiskManagementStrategy.aspx>

9.2.3 Whilst Table 2 provides a range of measures aimed at regulation and Enforcement, the LFRMS further includes for a wider range of measures aimed at managing the risk before, during and after the event with a particular focus on flooding awareness; which aims to ensure communities are prepared for flooding events, ensuring they are resilient and capable of recovering. Table 3 summarises the LFRMS local objectives and measures related to flooding awareness.

<b>LFRMS Measure Number</b>	<b>LFRMS Measures</b>	<b>LFRMS Strategy Objective</b>
5	<b>Flood Awareness</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12
6	<b>Flood Warning</b>	1, 2, 3
8	<b>Community Flood Plans</b>	10, 11, 12, 13, 14
26	<b>Local Flood Resilience</b> <b>Property-Level Mitigation –</b>	12
27	<b>Local Flood Resistance</b> <b>Property-Level Mitigation –</b>	12
35	<b>Community/Public Engagement/Consultation</b>	10, 11

Table 3: Provides a summary of the LFRMS Measures and how they link to LFRMS Objectives; related to flooding awareness.

### **9.3 Corporate Plan**

9.3.1 The Highway Maintenance and Management Delivery Plan for the 2020/21 financial year identifies areas for improvement. Specifically Service Priority 5 which specifies:

*‘To provide services related to flood risk management as required of the Lead Local Flooding Authority under Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and as the Land Drainage Authority under the Land Drainage Act 1991.’*

9.3.2 The service priority aligns with two corporate plan priorities specifically;

- 1 Place – Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and work
- 2 Economy – Building a strong economy

## 9.4 Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015

### 9.4.1 **A resilient Wales** - focuses on the development of a *'Biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change'*.

To support the delivery of this goal, the development of an enforcement team and adoption of the bylaws will contribute to the enhancement of the local aquatic and semi aquatic environments, specifically through the regulation of ordinary watercourse environments to reduce the loss of habitat and enforce upon those individuals that would seek to damage it.

Furthermore, the creation of a flooding awareness and support officer will enhance the authority's communication of flood risk to our communities. Whilst encouraging the interconnectivity between the natural environment and urban communities. This approach will focus on the integration of green infrastructure to manage the risk of flooding, which will promote the development of new habitats and outline the adaptability of the natural environment to manage the impacts of climate change which in turns ensures a more resilient environment that benefits the community.

### 9.4.2 **A Wales of Vibrant Culture & Thriving Welsh Language** provides a 'Society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh Language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

In delivering this role, the flood awareness and enforcement officers will enable the communication of flood risk management in a bilingual manor to ensure the community understand their risk and the responsibility of the community to manage the risk of flooding.

In enhancing the engagement with the wider communities' opportunities to encourage community groups and organisations to engage with flood risk management activities will develop and provide a more resilient community network which will support a vibrant culture.

### 9.4.3 **A Healthier Wales** is a society in which peoples physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

In delivering this goal, the flooding awareness officer will provide a mechanism for communicating the cycle of risk management i.e. preparation, response, recovery, prevention, and mitigation to ensure the mental wellbeing of communities impacted as a result of flooding are healthier and more resilient.

The regulation of ordinary watercourse's and expansion of the bylaws will further contribute to ensuring the local communities' natural environments are not detrimentally impacted. This enables the maintaining and enhancement of these environments, through consenting activities. Such activities could provide amenity value which in turn enables the communities to enhance their physical well-being.

- 9.4.4 **A more equal Wales** is a society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.

To deliver this goal the flooding awareness officer will provide a platform of flood risk management advice, to those communities identified to be at highest risk of flooding, regardless of their background or circumstances that surround those communities. This will enable communities to participate in community engagement and will assist with the decision making around future flood risk management activities.

- 9.4.5 **A Wales of cohesive communities** promotes an 'Attractive, Safe, Viable and Well-Connected Community'.

In delivering this goal both the enforcement team and flood awareness officer will support community engagement and will focus upon the education of riparian land owners to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities to manage ordinary watercourse infrastructure and ensure they are safe, attractive and viable to minimise the potential for community disruption.

- 9.4.6 **A globally responsible Wales** is a 'Nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being'.

In delivering this goal the enforcement team and flood awareness team will support the education and encourage the behavioural change related to our natural environment. This communication will focus upon the importance of the earths resources and the need to enhance the natural environment in a sustainable manor that takes into account the affects of climate change.

## 10 **CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 The Storms of Feb 2020 showed how vulnerable the communities of RCT are to intense rainfall. Climate change projections suggest a 25% to 75% increase in flows within large watercourses and rivers in the next 93 years. This is exacerbated by the way RCT's urban areas have been developed over the last 150 years, which is typical of valleys communities and not unique to RCT, with natural routes for water from the hillsides towards rivers "buried" in culverts with no space for water to travel overland once the capacity those culverts are exceeded, with urbanised areas providing very little natural attenuation or infiltration.

It is clear that RCT has challenges ahead in managing the current and future risk from flooding.

The Welsh Government's National Flood Risk Strategy being published in October 2020 triggers the requirement under S10 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 for the Council as Lead Local Flood Authority to review the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. There is therefore a huge opportunity within this review to set a sustainable strategy to manage flood risk and build resilience and facilitate adaption for future generations. This will be progressed over the next 12-18 months.

The adoption of the byelaws and creation of the enforcement team and flooding awareness and support officer will help protect the assets we have, prevent new risks from being created, build resilience within our community and ultimately help communities adapt to this particular consequence of climate change, whilst providing valuable information to feed into the Local Flood Risk Strategy Review to provide a robust strategy to manage the increasing risk of flooding through climate change.

Whilst the recommendations propose the immediate recruitment of additional resources, it is unclear on the extent of workload that will be generated and the impact upon resources over the medium to long term. As such a 12-month review will enable the assessment of the future resource requirements based on actual rather than perceived workload for both the FRM and Legal Services teams.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Model Byelaws.**

# ***Land drainage (Wales) Byelaws***

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## ***Land Drainage (Wales) Byelaws***

**[Name of Local Authority]** under and by virtue of the powers and authority vested in them by section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, do hereby make the following Byelaws which are considered necessary for [one or more of] the following purposes:

- a) securing the efficient working of a drainage system in the Council's area,
- b) regulating the effects on the environment in the Council's area of a drainage system,
- c) securing the effectiveness of flood risk management work within the meaning of section 14A of that Act, or
- d) securing the effectiveness of works done in reliance on section 38 or 39 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (incidental flooding or coastal erosion),

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## **Chapter I - Administrative**

### **1. Citation and commencement**

These Byelaws have been approved by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs Lesley Griffiths and may be cited as **[Name of Local Authority]** Land Drainage Byelaws [2017] and they shall commence on [date].

### **2. Application of Byelaws**

These Byelaws apply to ordinary watercourses situated within the area in Wales of the local authority [or: under the control of the Internal Drainage Board] making these byelaws.

### **3. Definition and Interpretation**

In these byelaws, unless defined below or the context otherwise requires, the terms and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Water Resources Act 1991, the Land Drainage Act 1991, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Interpretation Act 1978 shall have the same meanings in these byelaws.

In these byelaws:

The expressions “bank”, “drainage”, “drainage body”, “Internal Drainage Board”, “land”, “local authority”, “ordinary watercourse” have the same meaning as defined in the Land Drainage Act 1991.

**“the Act”** means the Land Drainage Act 1991

**"Animal"** means any animal including birds, any horse, cattle, sheep, deer, goat, swine, goose or poultry; but excluding fish and human beings;

**"Byelaws distance"** means any land lying landward within the following distances measuring horizontally from any watercourse bank:

- (i) if it includes a wall or embankment 8 metres from its landward extent; or
- (ii) in other cases 8 metres from the top of the watercourse bank; or
- (iii) any land lying 8 metres horizontally from the outer perimeter of a culvert measured from the widest part of the culvert.

**“Building or structure”** means any structure or erection, and any part of a building so defined, but does not include plant or machinery comprised in a building; It also includes a fence, post, pylon, wall, wharf, bridge, loading stage, piling, groyne, pontoon, revetment, and an engine or any mechanical contrivance; any formwork, falsework, scaffold or other structure designed or used to provide support or means of access during construction work, and any reference to a structure includes part of a structure.

**“Consent of the authority”** means the prior written agreement, either by email or formal documentation, of any person authorised on behalf of the Authority, and which may include any conditions/restrictions as deemed necessary by the Authority.

**"Culvert"** means an enclosed channel pipe or conduit for the carrying of a watercourse and any other structure forming part of a culvert including headwall, outlet and trash screen.

**"Embankment"** means a natural or artificial mound or other raised defence.

**"Flood Defence works "** means tidal, fluvial or pluvial flood defence structures and works including walls, gates, embankments or bypasses constructed or used for these purposes as well as man-made or natural sand dunes and earth retaining structures or structures constructed or used as a defence against inundation of any land by raising water levels.

**“Flood warning system”** means any apparatus used by the Authority for obtaining or providing information in relation to and warnings of flood.

**"Land liable to flooding"** means all land over which watercourse water flows in times of flood, including areas where that water is stored in times of flood.

**“Nets”** includes

- (a) a stake net, bag net or keep net;

(b) any net secured by anchors and any net, or other implement for taking fish, fixed to the soil or made stationary in any other way;

(c) any net placed or suspended in any inland or tidal waters unattended by the owner or a person duly authorised by the owner to use it for fish, and any engine, device, machine or contrivance, whether floating or otherwise, for placing or suspending such a net or maintaining it in working order or making it stationary.

**"Occupier"** means any tenant, licensee or other person either in occupation of any land or entitled to its occupation.

**"Objects or matters"** means natural or man-made liquid or solid matters or objects or materials including trees, roots of trees, branches, timber, tins, bottles, boxes, tyres, bricks, stones, soil, wire, rubbish.

**"Owner"** means the owner of a legal estate, and when the owner is not in immediate occupation shall include an occupier.

**"Person"** includes where appropriate, reference to more than one person, including a body of persons corporate or non-corporate.

**"Sea defence"** means any artificial or natural defence against sea water or tidal water including natural or artificial high ground (including sand dunes and cliffs) and any works constructed or used as a defence against inundation of any land by sea or tidal waters, or for securing adequate watercourse outfalls provided it shall not include any sea defence works which are vested in or under the control of a Coast Protection Authority, a local authority or any Navigation Harbour or Conservancy Authority.

**"Tidal control works"** means any floodgate, lock, sluice or other structure or appliance provided or constructed for the purpose of defence against sea or tidal water.

**"Vegetation"** means trees, willows, shrubs, weeds, grasses, reeds, rushes or other vegetation growths;

**"Vessel"** means any ship, boat, or any other waterborne craft, including hovercraft and any remains of any vessel.

**"Watercourse"** means any river, stream, ditch, channel or other passage through which water flows including the channel of any watercourse that is for the time being dry but excluding public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991.

**"Watercourse bank"** means any bank, wall, revetment or embankment adjoining or confining any watercourse from the top to the bottom of the sloping or upright part.

**"Watercourse bed"** means land forming any part of a watercourse over which water normally flows.

**"Water control structure"** means a structure or appliance for introducing water into any watercourse and for controlling or regulating or affecting flow, and includes any sluice, slacker, floodgate, lock, weir, pump or pumping machinery;

#### **4. Causing or knowingly permitting**

Where by or under these byelaws the doing of any act is prohibited or restricted the same prohibition or restriction shall extend to causing or knowingly permitting the act or restriction to be done.

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## **Chapter II - Control of introduction of water and increase in flow or volume of water**

#### **5. Control of the introduction of water, altering flow and volume of water**

(1) Without prejudice to sections 23 and 25 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 no person shall without the consent of the authority take any action to:

- (a) stop up any watercourse; or
- (b) divert; or
- (c) impede; or
- (d) alter

the level of or direction of the flow of water in, into or out of any watercourse.

(2) In this byelaw 'alter' includes creating or extending a watercourse and introducing water which directly or indirectly increases the flow or volume of water in any watercourse within the local authority's area.

(3) In this byelaw impede includes blocking off or infilling of any watercourse channel, and obstruction of any arch of any bridge or causeway designed of, or which permits the passage of water in any watercourse or land liable to flooding.

#### **6. Interference with sluices, flood and tidal defences**

(1) No person shall without consent of the authority operate or interfere with any sluice, flood gate, flood or tidal defence or other water control structure or appliance or flood warning or monitoring system used for controlling, regulating or monitoring the flow of water in, into or out of an ordinary watercourse.

(2) In this byelaw "interfere" includes removing, damaging or disturbing materials forming part of a flood or tidal defence.

#### **7. Operation of watercourse or tidal control works**

Any person having control of

- (a) any sluice or flood gate; or

(b) any water control structure or appliance for controlling or regulating or affecting the flow of water in, into or out of a watercourse shall use and maintain such structure or appliance in a proper state of repair and efficiency with a view to:

- (a) the prevention of flooding or of any shortage in the flow or supply of water and
- (b) the efficient working of the drainage system in the area of the (local authority/ internal drainage board)

## **8. Tidal Outfalls**

No person shall place or abandon upon the foreshore any object or matter or vegetation which, whether immediately or as a result of subsequent tidal action, may

- (a) impede or be likely to impede the flow of water through the sluices, flood gate, or outfall pipes through the tidal banks or through the watercourses on such foreshore; or
  - (b) impede or be likely to impede the operation of such sluices, flood gate, or outfall pipes; or
  - (c) cause or be likely to cause damage to such sluices, flood gate, or outfall pipes.
- 

## **Chapter III - Potential to cause impediment or obstruction to flow**

### **9. Maintenance of land liable to flooding and watercourse banks**

(1) No person shall without the consent of the authority plant any tree, deposit or store objects or matters, light a fire or interfere with a watercourse bed or bank within the byelaw distance in such a manner as is likely to:

- (a) cause flooding,
- (b) impede the flow, or
- (c) cause or be likely to cause damage to, or
- (d) endanger the stability of, or
- (e) affect the efficiency of

a culvert, watercourse bank, watercourse control work, flood defence, tidal control work or sea defence.

(2) In this byelaw:

“interfere” includes to dredge, remove, damage or disturb materials forming part of a flood or tidal defence or of a watercourse bank or bed; and to make any excavation or do anything in, to or upon any land like to damage a watercourse bank or bed.

“light a fire” includes committing any action liable to cause any fire to be lit on any land adjoining any watercourse where such action is liable to set on fire any peat land forming the banks of the watercourse or any vegetation growing on land forming the banks of the watercourse.

“store objects or matters” includes depositing or stacking or keeping objects and solid or liquid matters including vegetation and vegetation cuttings.

“objects” include vessels.

## **10. Building of structures, pipes, etc. on land liable to flooding**

**(1)** No person shall without the consent of the authority:

(a) erect or construct any building or structure

(i) in, on, under or over any watercourse or in or on any bank of a watercourse;

(ii) within the byelaws distance;

(iii) on any watercourse control work, flood defence, tidal control work or sea defence; or

(iv) over any part of a culvert, or within the byelaws distance on either side of it; or

(b) make or cut any excavation or any tunnel or any drain, culvert or other passage for water in, into or out of any watercourse or in or through any bank of any watercourse;

in such a manner or for such length of time as to cause damage to the watercourse bed or banks; or obstruct the flow of water in, into or out of such watercourse.

**(2)** This byelaw does not apply to any temporary work executed in an emergency.

**(3)** In this byelaw:

“Emergency” means causing immediate danger to life or property.

## **11. Repairs to buildings and structures**

The person having control of any building, fence or structure in, on, under or over any watercourse, culvert, watercourse bank, flood defence works, tidal control works, tidal or sea defence shall maintain such building, fence or structure in a proper state of repair and efficiency with a view to preventing such building, fence or structure from:

(a) impeding the flow of water in into or out of any watercourse;

- (b) damaging any watercourse bank, flood protection works, tidal control works or sea defence; or
  - (c) creating danger or obstruction to the carrying out of flood defence works by the (local authority/internal drainage board)
- 

## **Chapter IV - Ensuring the condition of the banks of a watercourse**

### **12. Vegetation**

The owner or occupier of any land through which any watercourse flows or on which any sea defence is situated or any adjoining land over which the local authority [/internal drainage board] needs access to get to such land shall maintain all vegetation situated within the byelaws distance and shall remove such vegetation from the watercourse or bank immediately after such cutting so that it does not impede the flow of the watercourse.

### **13. Driving of animals and vehicles**

No person shall use or drive any cart or vehicle of any kind on, over or along any bank of a watercourse control work, flood protection work, tidal control work, or sea defence in such manner as to cause damage to such bank, control work, flood protection work, tidal control work, or sea defence.

### **14. Damage by grazing animals**

No person shall graze, keep or water any animal on any watercourse, watercourse bed or bank, flood protection work or sea defence without:

- (a) taking all such steps as are necessary to prevent the watercourse, the watercourse bed or bank, flood protection work or sea defence from being damaged by such use and
- (b) reporting to the local authority [/internal drainage board] any damage caused to the watercourse, the watercourse bed or bank, flood protection work or sea defence by the grazing, keeping or watering of animals, as soon as practicable following the occurrence of such damage.

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## **Chapter V – Incidental provisions**

### **15. Control of animals**

The owner or occupier of any land through which any watercourse flows or on which any sea defence is situated or any adjoining land over which the local authority [/internal drainage board] needs access to get to such land to carry out any work or inspection, shall ensure that, during the progress of any work or any inspection animals on such land are kept under proper control and supervision or, if such control and supervision is not possible, are not kept on such land.

### **16. Interference with local authority [/internal drainage board]'s functions**

No person shall interfere with:

- (a) access required to any land by the local authority [/internal drainage board] or of their agents to carry out their flood management functions; or
  - (b) the carrying out of their functions.
- 

## **Chapter VI – Exemptions**

### **17. Emergency works**

These Byelaws shall not apply to any work executed in an emergency but a person executing any work so excepted shall, as soon as practicable, inform the Council in writing of the execution and of the circumstances in which it was executed and comply with any reasonable directions the Council may give with regard thereto.

### **18. General Permitted Developments**

These byelaws shall not apply to any development by a drainage body in, on or under any watercourse or land drainage works and required in connection with the improvement, maintenance or repair of that watercourse or those works.

### **19. Ladders and scaffold towers**

- (1) These Byelaws shall not apply to any work requiring the temporary erection and use of ladders and scaffold towers ("equipment").
- (2) For the purposes of this paragraph, the specific conditions are—
  - (a) the suitability of river conditions is reviewed by the operator each working day;
  - (b) the equipment is erected on each working day on which it is required; and
  - (c) the equipment is removed at the end of each working day and is stored outside the river and its banks.

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## **Chapter VII – Miscellaneous**

### **20. Penalty**

By section 66(6) of the Act every person who acts in contravention of, or fails to comply with, any of the foregoing Byelaws, is liable on summary conviction in respect of each offence to a fine not exceeding the amount prescribed from time to time for level 5 (£5,000) on the standard scale referred to in section 37 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 and a further fine not exceeding forty pounds for every day on which the contravention or failure is continued after conviction.

By section 66(7) of the Act if any person acts in contravention of, or fails to comply with any of these Byelaws the Council may without prejudice to any proceedings under section 66(6) of the Act take such action as may be necessary to remedy the effect of the contravention or failure and may recover the expenses reasonably incurred by it in doing so from the person in default.

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**UNADOPTED ROADS**

**REPORT OF GROUP DIRECTOR PROSPERITY DEVELOPMENT AND FRONTLINE SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER CLLR MORGAN, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.**

**Author: Roger Waters, Service Director Frontline Services.  
Tel 01443 494702**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report proposes a pilot programme of works to private streets which the Council considers are not, to the Council's satisfaction, sewered, levelled, paved, metalled, flagged, channelled, made good and lighted.
- 1.2 The report also seeks the Council's approval to progress private streetworks at Belle Vue, Trecynon utilising Welsh Government grant funding.
- 1.3 It is proposed that following the implementation of the works, the streets be adopted as highways maintainable at public expense.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note and approve the streets listed in Appendix A which are proposed to make up the pilot project.
- 2.2 Determine that the streets listed in Appendix A are not, to the authority's satisfaction, sewered, levelled, paved, metalled, flagged, channelled, made good and lighted.
- 2.3 Instruct the Service Director Frontline Services to prepare schemes, estimates and provisional apportionments and to present these for approval in a future report to the Group Director Prosperity, Development and Frontline Services for consideration and approval in liaison with the portfolio holder.

- 2.4 Note and approve the proposed works and estimate for Belle Vue, Trecynon as shown in appendix B.
- 2.5 Determine that no costs will be apportioned to the property frontagers

### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Highways Act 1980 Sections 205 to 237 are known as the Private Streetworks Code (The Code). They give a streetworks authority powers in relation to making up to its satisfaction and adopting private streets as highways maintainable at public expense. The Code empowers the streetworks authority to apportion all or a proportion of the costs to the owners of properties fronting onto the street, or to determine to bear the costs of streetworks itself.
- 3.2 The Council is the streetworks authority for all streets in its area with the exception of the A470, A465 and M4 trunk roads for which Welsh Government are the streetworks authority.
- 3.3 There are approximately 190km of identified private streets across RCT along with an unknown quantity of unidentified private streets. It is estimated that more than 90% of the private streets have been identified.
- 3.4 Private streets range from footpaths and back lanes to roads serving as the primary access for substantial numbers of residential properties. They vary in condition from very poor to excellent.
- 3.5 Due to the unknown makeup of the existing road constructions, likely issues with shallow services and unknown condition of drainage systems a contingency allowance of £50k has been included.
- 3.6 Welsh Government have allocated funding to a pilot project to assist councils to carry out works to bring private streets up to a suitable standard and to adopt them as highways maintainable at public expense. The Council successfully bid for £157,000 of funding to carry out private streetworks at Belle Vue, Trecynon. A plan showing the proposed works can be found at Appendix B. Future phases of work at Belle Vue will be included in future grant applications should Welsh Government determine to continue their project.
- 3.7 In order to determine the types of issues which may arise a pilot project is proposed to be implemented during 2021/22 financial year.
- 3.8 A prioritisation process is under development for consideration when recommending future projects, however, in order to progress the pilot schemes this financial year, they have been chosen based on Engineer's knowledge and previous member requests.

### **4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 An Equality and Diversity impact assessment has been carried out and there have been no adverse implications identified.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 There are no consultation requirements relating directly to the report but the proposed schemes will (or have) involve varying degrees of consultation, some of which will relate to statutory processes (such as Traffic Regulation Orders).
- 5.2 Consultation on individual schemes will be carried out with ward members and residents of the streets.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 £250,000 of funding can be allocated from existing resources.
- 6.2 Belle Vue, Trecynon is funded by a grant from Welsh Government.
- 6.3 Following the adoption of the streets as highways maintainable at public expense, the council will be responsible for the future maintenance of the streets. The costs of this maintenance will be met from existing highway maintenance budgets.

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

- 7.1 The works and subsequent adoption of the streets will be carried out utilising the council's powers under sections 205 – 237 of the Highways Act 1980.

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

- 8.1 This investment programme supports the Council's Corporate Plan Priority 'Places – Where people are proud to live, work and play'.
- 8.2 The programme supports enhanced connectivity to link homes with employment opportunities, education and health facilities, and to act as a catalyst for development and regeneration.
- 8.4 The programme supports the Well-Being goals fostering prosperity and resilience with inclusive and sustainable transport options supporting more cohesive and vibrant communities.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

- 9.1 The above recommendations continue the enhanced levels of investment under the RCTInvest initiative, delivering sustained improvements to the resilience and durability of our highways and transportation infrastructure, promoting sustainable transport opportunities and network efficiency.

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## **Appendix A**

### **Schemes for Inclusion in the Unadopted Roads Pilot Project**

<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Miner's Row	Llwydcoed	£60,000
Brecon Place	Aberaman	£15,000
Heol Penrhiw	Mountain Ash	£45,000
Hillside Terrace	Llwynypia	£10,000
Trafalgar Terrace	Ystrad	£60,000
Poet's Close	Rhydyfelin	£10,000
Contingencies		£50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>£250,000</b>



Carriageway Detail



Footway Detail

### KEY

- Type 1 200mm unbound mixture sub-base
- HRA 55/10 laid 40mm thick As per TSCS
- AC 20 HDM Binder 60mm thick
- AC 32 H/D Base 100mm thick
- Colbond 50 bond coat

- Footway Type A1 comprising of granular material
- Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick, AC dense bin 100/150rec 40mm thick, AC 6 Surf 160/220 20mm thick

- 400x400x65mm paving slabs in footway on granular
- Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick and 30mm thick clean sharp sand bedding layer; joints brushed with kiln dried sand

**HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION**

SIGNIFICANT OR EXCEPTIONAL RISKS ARE IDENTIFIED BELOW

CONSTRUCTION PHASE

1. PLEASE REFER TO AND THE WORKS INFORMATION FOR DETAILS OF THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS WORK.

2. IN PREPARATION OF CONSTRUCTION METHOD STATEMENTS CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF ANY STRUCTURES THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY CONSTRUCTION.

3. RESIDUAL HAZARDS ARE LISTED HERE AND REFERENCED ON THE DRAWING.

- WORKING ON A ELEVATED LOCATION.

4. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REFER TO STATUTORY UNDERTAKERS LAYOUT DRAWINGS AND IDENTIFY LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UNDERGROUND SERVICES PRIOR TO CARRYING OUT EXCAVATION WORKS.

COVID-19

1. WORKERS SHOULD FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE ON SOCIAL DISTANCING THROUGHOUT THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS.

2. CORRECT PPE SHOULD BE WORN AND WORKERS SHOULD WASH THEIR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER USING EQUIPMENT.

3. WORKERS WHO ARE UNWELL WITH SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) SHOULD NOT TRAVEL OR ATTEND THE WORKPLACE.

Location Plan  
Easting: 299603  
Northing: 203567

Client

Rhondda Cynon Taf  
County Borough Council

Project

Belle Vue St, Aberdare

Dwg Title

General Arrangement - Phase1

File No. Rhif y ffeil	Dwg. No. Rhif y cynllun	Rev
CF01/00/85	002	-
Scales Graddfeydd	Date Dyddiad	Size Maint
NTS	17/05/2021	A3
Drawn Tynnu	Checked Swirio	Approved Cymeradwyo
BM	JB	SAP

Group Director  
Environmental Services,  
Rhondda Cynon Taff  
County Borough Council,  
Sardis House, Sardis Road,  
Pontypridd, CF37 1DU.

Cyfarwyddwr Cyfadran y  
Gwasanaethau Amgylchedd,  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
Rhondda Cynon Taf,  
Ty Sardis, Sardis Road,  
Pontypridd, CF37 1DU.

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**Belle Vue Tecynon Phase 1 Estimated Costs**

	Belle Vue to Be	1-8 Belle Vue	<b>Total</b>
Estimated Works Costs	£ 17,247.56	£ 81,206.18	£ 98,453.74
Estimated Utility Works	£ 10,000.00	£ 15,000.00	£ 25,000.00
Sub Total	£ 27,247.56	£ 96,206.18	£ 123,453.74
Contingency 10%	£ 2,724.76	£ 9,620.62	£ 12,345.37
Estimated Total Works Costs	£ 29,972.32	£ 105,826.80	£ 135,799.11
Design & Supervision (15%)	£ 4,495.85	£ 15,874.02	£ 20,369.87
<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>	<b>£ 34,468.16</b>	<b>£ 121,700.82</b>	<b>£ 156,168.98</b>

**Belle Vue to Bell Street**  
**Preliminaries**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 100</b>				
	<u>Preliminaries</u>				
	<u>Temporary Accommodation</u>				
S100/9	Erection of offices and messes for the Contractor	1	item	£ 350.00	£ 1,000.00
S100/10	Servicing of offices and messes for the Contractor	1	wk	£ 450.00	£ 450.00
S100/11	Dismantling of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
S100/12	Erection of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 350.00	£ 350.00
S100/13	Servicing of stores and workshops for the contractor	1	wk	£ 450.00	£ 450.00
S100/14	Dismantling of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
	<u>Traffic Safety and Management</u>				
S100/17	Traffic safety & management on a single carriageway, with speeds of 30mph or less during the day	7	day	£ 110.00	£ 770.00
Page:1				To Section Summary	£ 3,420.00

**Belle Vue to Bell Street**

**Site Clearance**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 200</b>				
	<u>Site Clearance</u>				
	<u>Take up or down and set aside for reuse or remove to store off site</u>				
S200/73	Take up or down & remove to tip off site paving/ slabs		m <sup>2</sup>	£ 7.00	£ -
S200/75	Take up or down and remove to tip off site precast concrete kerbs, granite kerbs, concrete channelling and edgings		m	£ 7.00	£ -
Page:2					To Section Summary
					£ -

**Belle Vue to Bell Street**  
**Drainage and Service Ducts**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 500 cont</b> <b>Drainage and Service Ducts</b>				
S500/224	Connection of 225mm dia pipe to existing 225mm dia pipe depth to invert exceeding 2 metres but not exceeding 4 metres		no	£ 180.00	£ -
S500/267	Connection of 150 mm internal diameter pipe to existing chamber depth to invert not exceeding 2 metres.		no	£ 100.00	£ -
S500/295	Precast concrete trapped SG gully with D400 cover and frame as SEWFSD/0503.02		no	£ 450.00	£ -
S500/31	150mm internal diameter 'thermoplastic structured wall pipe' drain specified as Type A of SEWFSD/0502.05 in trench, depth to invert not exceeding 2 metres		m	£ 52.00	£ -
S500/44	225mm internal diameter 'thermoplastic structured wall pipe' drain specified as Type A of SEWFSD/0502.05 in trench, depth to invert exceeding 2m but not exceeding 4 metres.		m	£ 94.00	£ -
S500/289	Precast concrete chamber Type B with D400 cover and frame depth to invert exceeding 2 metre but not exceeding 3 metres as SEWFSD/0502.01.		no	£ 1,800.00	£ -
S500/307	Renewal of up to 150 x 150mm Min class D400 stop valve cover and frame on brick or precast concrete chamber.	2	no	£ 80.00	£ 160.00
S500/310	Renewal of up to 600 x 600mm Min class D400 cover and frame on brick or precast concrete chamber.		no	£ 50.50	£ -
Page:3				To Section Summary	£ 160.00

**Belle Vue to Bell Street****Earthworks**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 600</b> <b><u>Earthworks</u></b>				
S600/3	Excavation of unacceptable material Class U1A in cutting and other excavation.	32	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 62.00	£ 1,984.00
S600/20	Extra over excavation for excavation in Hard Material	3	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 26.00	£ 78.00
S600/14	Disposal of unacceptable material Class U1A.	32	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 27.00	£ 864.00
Page:4 To Section Summary					£ 2,926.00

**Belle Vue to Bell Street**  
**Pavements.**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b><u>Series 700 Pavements</u></b>				
	<b><u>Pavements.</u></b>				
S700/1	Type 1 200mm unbound mixture sub-base	32	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 36.00	£ 1,152.00
Rouge	HRA 55/10 laid 40mm thick As per TSCS	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 13.00	£ 2,041.00
S700/12	AC 20 HDM Binder 60mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 14.00	£ 2,198.00
S700/2	AC 32 H/D Base 100mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 18.00	£ 2,826.00
S700/45	milling pavement 0 - 50mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 2.45	£ 384.65
S700/46	milling pavement 51 - 100mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 2.85	£ 447.45
S700/47	milling pavement 101 - 150mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 3.83	£ 601.31
S700/48	milling pavement 151 - 250mm thick	157	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 5.45	£ 855.65
S700/40	Colbond 50 bond coat	314	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 0.75	£ 235.50
Page:5			To Section Summary		£ 10,741.56

**Belle Vue to Bell Street**  
**Kerbs, Footways and Paved Areas**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 1100</b> <b>Kerbs, Footways and Paved Areas</b> <u>Kerbs, Channels, Edgings, Combined Drainage and Kerb</u> <u>Blocks and Linear Drainage Channel Systems</u>				
Rogue	400x400x65mm paving slabs in footway on granular Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick and 30mm thick clean sharp sand bedding layer; joints brushed with kiln dried sand		m <sup>2</sup>	£ 74.00	£ -
S1100/60	Footway Type A1 comprising of granular material Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick, AC 20 dense bin 100/150rec 40mm thick, AC 6 surf 160/220 20mm thick		m <sup>2</sup>	£ 27.00	£ -
S1100/21	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type DL1 (dropper) laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres.		m	£ 25.00	£ -
S1100/24	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type DR1 (dropper) laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres.		m	£ 33.00	£ -
S1100/07	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type BN laid to curves not exceeding 12 metres.		m	£ 30.00	£ -
S1100/32	Precast concrete channel(s) Type CF (fluted) laid straight or		m	£ 39.00	£ -
S1100/30	precast concrete channel(s) Type CD (dished), laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius.		m	£ 32.00	£ -
S1100/2	precast concrete kerb(s) Type HB2 laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius		m	£ 30.00	£ -
S1100/34	precast concrete edging(s) Type EF laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius		m	£ 17.00	£ -
Page:6			To Section Summary		£ -

**Belle Vue to Bell Street****Cost Summary**

	Description	Amount
	Page : 1 Series 100	£ 3,420.00
	Page : 2 Series 200	£ -
	Page : 3 Series 500	£ 160.00
	Page : 4 Series 600	£ 2,926.00
	Page : 5 Series 700	£ 10,741.56
	Page : 6 Series 1100	£ -
Page:7 To General Summary		£ 17,247.56

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon**  
**Preliminaries**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 100</b>				
	<u>Preliminaries</u>				
	<u>Temporary Accommodation</u>				
S100/9	Erection of offices and messes for the Contractor	1	item	£ 350.00	£ 1,000.00
S100/10	Servicing of offices and messes for the Contractor	9	wk	£ 450.00	£ 4,050.00
S100/11	Dismantling of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
S100/12	Erection of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 350.00	£ 350.00
S100/13	Servicing of stores and workshops for the contractor	9	wk	£ 450.00	£ 4,050.00
S100/14	Dismantling of stores and workshops for the Contractor	1	item	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
	<u>Traffic Safety and Management</u>				
S100/17	Traffic safety & management on a single carriageway, with speeds of 30mph or less during the day	63	day	£ 110.00	£ 6,930.00
Page:1				To Section Summary	£ 16,780.00

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon****Site Clearance**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 200</b> <u>Site Clearance</u>  <u>Take up or down and set aside for reuse or remove to store off site</u>				
S200/73	Take up or down & remove to tip off site paving/ slabs	111	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 7.00	£ 777.00
S200/75	Take up or down and remove to tip off site precast concrete kerbs, granite kerbs, concrete channelling and edgings	130	m	£ 7.00	£ 910.00
Page:2				To Section Summary	£ 1,687.00

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon**  
**Drainage and Service Ducts**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b><u>Series 500 cont</u></b> <b><u>Drainage and Service Ducts</u></b>				
S500/224	Connection of 225mm dia pipe to existing 225mm dia pipe depth to invert exceeding 2 metres but not exceeding 4 metres	1	no	£ 180.00	£ 180.00
S500/267	Connection of 150 mm internal diameter pipe to existing chamber depth to invert not exceeding 2 metres.	2	no	£ 100.00	£ 200.00
S500/295	Precast concrete trapped SG gully with D400 cover and frame as SEWFSD/0503.02	2	no	£ 450.00	£ 900.00
S500/31	150mm internal diameter 'thermoplastic structured wall pipe' drain specified as Type A of SEWFSD/0502.05 in trench, depth to invert not exceeding 2 metres	38	m	£ 52.00	£ 1,976.00
S500/44	225mm internal diameter 'thermoplastic structured wall pipe' drain specified as Type A of SEWFSD/0502.05 in trench, depth to invert exceeding 2m but not exceeding 4 metres.	41	m	£ 94.00	£ 3,854.00
S500/289	Precast concrete chamber Type B with D400 cover and frame depth to invert exceeding 2 metre but not exceeding 3 metres as SEWFSD/0502.01.	6	no	£ 1,800.00	£ 10,800.00
S500/307	Renewal of up to 150 x 150mm Min class D400 stop valve cover and frame on brick or precast concrete chamber.	14	no	£ 80.00	£ 1,120.00
S500/310	Renewal of up to 600 x 600mm Min class D400 cover and frame on brick or precast concrete chamber.	3	no	£ 50.50	£ 151.50
Page:3				To Section Summary	£ 19,181.50

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon**

**Earthworks**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 600</b> <b><u>Earthworks</u></b>				
S600/3	Excavation of unacceptable material Class U1A in cutting and other excavation.	69	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 62.00	£ 4,278.00
S600/20	Extra over excavation for excavation in Hard Material	7	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 26.00	£ 182.00
S600/14	Disposal of unacceptable material Class U1A.	69	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 27.00	£ 1,863.00
Page:4 To Section Summary					£ 6,323.00

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon**

**Pavements.**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b><u>Series 700 Pavements</u></b>				
	<b><u>Pavements.</u></b>				
S700/1	Type 1 200mm unbound mixture sub-base	69	m <sup>3</sup>	£ 36.00	£ 2,484.00
Rouge	HRA 55/10 laid 40mm thick As per TSCS	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 13.00	£ 4,498.00
S700/12	AC 20 HDM Binder 60mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 14.00	£ 4,844.00
S700/2	AC 32 H/D Base 100mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 18.00	£ 6,228.00
S700/45	milling pavement 0 - 50mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 2.45	£ 847.70
S700/46	milling pavement 51 - 100mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 2.85	£ 986.10
S700/47	milling pavement 101 - 150mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 3.83	£ 1,325.18
S700/48	milling pavement 151 - 250mm thick	346	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 5.45	£ 1,885.70
S700/40	Colbond 50 bond coat	692	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 0.75	£ 519.00
Page:5			To Section Summary		£ 23,617.68

**1 - 8 Belle Vue, Trecynon**  
**Kerbs, Footways and Paved Areas**

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Total
	<b>Series 1100</b> <b>Kerbs, Footways and Paved Areas</b> <u>Kerbs, Channels, Edgings, Combined Drainage and Kerb</u> <u>Blocks and Linear Drainage Channel Systems</u>				
Rogue	400x400x65mm paving slabs in footway on granular Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick and 30mm thick clean sharp sand bedding layer; joints brushed with kiln dried sand	110	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 74.00	£ 8,140.00
S1100/60	Footway Type A1 comprising of granular material Type 1 sub-base 150mm thick, AC 20 dense bin 100/150rec 40mm thick, AC 6 surf 160/220 20mm thick	0	m <sup>2</sup>	£ 27.00	£ -
S1100/21	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type DL1 (dropper) laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres.	4	m	£ 25.00	£ 100.00
S1100/24	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type DR1 (dropper) laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres.	4	m	£ 33.00	£ 132.00
S1100/07	Precast concrete kerb(s) Type BN laid to curves not exceeding 12 metres.	4	m	£ 30.00	£ 120.00
S1100/32	Precast concrete channel(s) Type CF (fluted) laid straight or	25	m	£ 39.00	£ 975.00
S1100/30	precast concrete channel(s) Type CD (dished), laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius.		m	£ 32.00	£ -
S1100/2	precast concrete kerb(s) Type HB2 laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius	110	m	£ 30.00	£ 3,300.00
S1100/34	precast concrete edging(s) Type EF laid straight or curved exceeding 12 metres radius	50	m	£ 17.00	£ 850.00
Page:6			To Section Summary		£ 13,617.00

### Cost Summary

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

### **CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME – PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE EDUCATION PROVISION FOR YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG LLYN-Y-FORWYN**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR MRS J ROSSER)**

**Author(s): Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services  
Andrea Richards, Service Director of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and  
Transformation**

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

1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise Members of the outcome of the recent publication of a Statutory Notice in respect of the proposal to:

- Carry out a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llyn-y-Forwyn ("YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn"), by way of transferring the school to a new building on a new site.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note that no objections or comments were received in response to the publication of the statutory notice to progress this proposal.
- 2.2 Agree to implement the proposal with no amendments.
- 2.3 Agree to receive further reports as the project develops and progresses through the Welsh Government's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges approval processes.

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

- 3.1 To implement the proposal in accordance with the process outlined in Welsh Government legislative guidance (the School Organisation Code).

- 3.2 To increase capacity and improve the quality of the Welsh medium primary education provision available to learners in the Rhondda Fach area of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Members will recall that, at the meeting of the Cabinet held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021, approval was given to begin a process to formally consult on a proposal to carry out a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llyn-y-Forwyn ("YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn"), by way of transferring the school to a new building on a new site.
- 4.2 Following the conclusion of the consultation period, and at a subsequent meeting of the Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, a decision was taken to progress to the next phase of the statutory process and to publish the required Statutory Notice.
- 4.3 The Statutory Notice was published on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 which triggered the commencement of the Objection Period. This ran for a period of 28 days. No objections or comments were submitted during this period.

#### **5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS/SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 5.1 The Council has to satisfy its public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions, have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics.
- 5.2 Equality and Community Impact Assessments have been prepared in respect of this proposal and published on the Council's website together with a consultation document that outlines the proposal in further detail and in accordance with the requirements of Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) (011/2018) (the "Code").

#### **6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 A Welsh Impact Assessment has been prepared in respect of this proposal and published on the Council's website together with a consultation document that outlines the proposal in further detail and in accordance with the requirements of Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) (011/2018) (the "Code").

#### **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The consultation processes in respect of this proposal have been undertaken under the arrangements outlined within the Code and the 'Changes to the School Organisation Code in response to the coronavirus outbreak' which were updated on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

- 7.2 The consultation took place between 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and full details of this process were published in a Consultation Report, which was presented at the meeting of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and subsequently published on the Council website.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 Based on current estimates it is proposed that circa £9M is required to build the new school to ensure the pupils of YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn have a high quality, viable and sustainable 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment. Welsh Government has recently approved an increase to the funding envelope for the Council's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for Band B as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme, and in accordance with the approval process, business cases will be submitted to the Welsh Government to secure the investment required to deliver this project. If successful, a 65% Capital contribution from Welsh Government will be made. It is proposed that the Council's 35% share of the capital costs will be met through prudential borrowing.
- 8.2 Any revenue and capital costs that accrue in preparing financial business cases for Welsh Government approval will be met from within existing budgets.

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

- 9.1 Part 1 of the Education Act 1996 ("the 1996 Act") imposes a number of general duties on all local authorities in Wales. The general duty in section 13 of the 1996 Act is to contribute (so far as the Council's powers enable them to do so) towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.
- 9.2 Section 13A(3) of the 1996 Act states that a local authority in Wales must ensure that their relevant education functions and their relevant training functions are exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom the subsection applies, including those who are of compulsory school age or are below school age and are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority.
- 9.3 Section 14 of the 1996 Act then provides that the Council shall secure that sufficient schools for providing primary education and secondary education are available in the Council's area. Schools available for an area shall not be regarded as sufficient unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity for appropriate education.
- 9.4 Appropriate education means education which offers such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of (a) the pupils' different ages, abilities and aptitudes; and (b) the different periods for which they may be expected to remain at school, including practical instruction and training appropriate to their different needs.

- 9.5 Powers for Councils to develop school organisation proposals are governed by the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the Code. Local authorities must, when exercising functions under Part 3 of the 2013 Act, act in accordance with any relevant requirements contained in the Code and must have regard to any relevant guidelines contained in it. A copy of the Code is found here:  
<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/schoolorganisation-code-second-edition.pdf>

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

- 10.1 There are links to RCTCBC's Corporate Plan for the period between 2020 to 2024, specifically the priority:
- Prosperity – Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to be innovative, entrepreneurial and fulfil their potential and prosper
    - Ensuring we have good schools so all children have access to a great education.
- 10.2 Due regard has been made to all seven well-being goals and the Five Ways of Working, as contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 which requires the Council to think about the long-term impact of decisions, on communities to prevent consistent issues such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

This proposal would contribute to achieving the wellbeing goals by:

- Improving sustainability of school buildings in the Council portfolio through a commitment to achieving a zero carbon building and building to BREEAM excellent.
- Providing additional school places to meet Welsh Government targets and to promote the Welsh language in the community.
- Opening new community facilities that would create opportunities for local people to utilise.

This proposal would achieve the five ways of working by:

- Creating a new school environment that can deliver the New Curriculum for Wales as set out in the national mission statement.
- Provide first class learning facilities for pupils and the wider community and contribute towards a healthier Wales by providing additional outdoor sport facilities for pupils.
- Contributing towards a prosperous Wales by committing to opportunities for local tradespeople and to use local resources, wherever possible, to build the new school.
- Engaging with the community on a thorough consultation with opportunities for all stakeholders in the community to engage throughout the process.

- 10.3 An Equality Impact Assessment, including further detail on the contribution of the proposal to the Wellbeing of Future generations Act, formed an integral part of the consultation document. This was and is still available for all stakeholders to view. A Welsh Language Impact Assessment was also undertaken as part of the consultation and again, this is still available to view on the Council website.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

- 11.1 The proposal to construct a new school build upon the momentum gathered to improve Welsh medium education provision throughout the County Borough. This project will provide significantly improved facilities and increase the number of pupil places available.
- 11.2 This proposed investment for YGG Llyn-y-Forwyn provides the opportunity for more learners to benefit from improved educational facilities taught through the medium of Welsh. It is recommended therefore that Members formally approve the proposal as consulted upon with no amendments allowing the project to progress.

### **Other Information:-**

#### ***Relevant Scrutiny Committee-***

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

#### ***Background Papers-***

None

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**  
**AS AMENDED BY**  
**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**CABINET**  
**21<sup>st</sup> of SEPTEMBER 2021**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES IN  
DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR  
MRS J ROSSER)**

**Item:**

**Background Papers**

None

**Officer to contact:**

Lisa Howell, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Business and Organisation  
01443 744062



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

### **CABINET**

#### **DESIGNATION AS A COUNTRY PARK OF LAND AT CLYDACH VALE, TONYPANDY CURRENTLY KNOWN AS CWM CLYDACH COUNTRYSIDE PARK**

**21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**A REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE ESTATES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES, COUNCILLOR MARK NORRIS AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, LEISURE AND HERITAGE SERVICES, COUNCILLOR ANN CRIMMINGS.**

**Authors: Kelly Daniel, Estates Surveyor: Acquisition and Disposals, Corporate Estates and Michelle Gibbs, Facility Development Manager, Leisure and Parks.**

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

- 1.1 To seek authority to designate land currently known as Cwm Clydach Countryside Park at Clydach Vale, Tonymandy (within the Rhondda Fawr Valley) as a Country Park in accordance with the provisions of the Countryside Act 1968.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Approve the designation of an area of land currently known as Cwm Clydach Countryside Park, measuring approximately 67.2 ha / 166 acres at Clydach Vale, Tonymandy as 'Cwm Clydach Country Park' in accordance with the provisions of the Countryside Act 1968.

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

- 3.1 The designation of the land will provide the County Borough with a new Country Park within the Rhondda Valley which will complement the existing Dare Valley Country Park in the Cynon Valley.

- 3.2 The Country Park designation will allow the Council to erect Tourist Destination signs, which are brown in colour, to identify the area's specific status and promote the area to visitors. The Tourism Service would promote the location as part of a wider offer to visitors of the park, which will contribute to the 'outdoor activity' theme specified within the Council's Tourism Strategy.
- 3.3 The designation of the land as a Country Park will allow the Council and partners to apply for external grant funding to enhance opportunities for residents and visitors and which will have a direct improvement on health and wellbeing of people using the Country Park.
- 3.4 The Council has developed a working partnership with both Friends of Cwm Clydach Country Park and Cambrian Village Trust (CVT) in relation to the future developments of the land both at the proposed county park site and the new 3G sports pitch in Clydach Vale. The designation will support both organisations that work in partnership with the Council to further enhance and develop the land for both residents and visitors.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The land currently known as Cwm Clydach Countryside Park is identified in Appendix 1 of this report and comprises the area outlined in red on the map.
- 4.2 The Park is located on the site of the old Cambrian colliery, an area of outstanding natural beauty. There are two lakes located on the site known locally as "top lake" and "bottom lake", along with a number of small waterfalls. Located to the East of the lakes is the Cambrian Lakeside Café Bar with recently resurfaced free public car parking area.
- 4.3 The land was reclaimed by the Welsh Development Agency, now Welsh Government in 1984 after the land was acquired by the Authority from the National Coal Board and Coal Industries Ltd. Part of that whole area has been redeveloped to provide commercial and industrial accommodation including the County Borough Council's civic centre and ancillary office accommodation. These areas of the land will be excluded from any country park designation and are shown outside the red line area on the map.
- 4.4 The land shaded green on the plan in Appendix 1 is part of the Healthy Hillside Project currently being managed by Countryside Section. The project is a multi-agency partnership focussed on providing land management solutions to reduce grass fires in South Wales delivering multiple environmental benefits. The land at Clydach Vale is one of the project sites identified for development of a long-term conservation grazing project to test the sustainability of using grazing to deliver grass fire prevention. Existing Project Staff will continue to take forward the co-ordination and delivery of the work.

- 4.5 A Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) has been designated on much of the undeveloped land which comprises well-established woodlands and vegetation consistent with the use of the land for leisure purposes.

## **5. CURRENT STATUS OF THE LAND**

- 5.1 The Council's property legal team completed an examination of the Council's title deeds for the land (report on title) shown edged red in Appendix 1, on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021, the findings of such are as follows:
- 5.2 The land comprises of several registered titles, most of which are registered at the HM Land Registry to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council under the class of absolute freehold title, with the exception of one parcel of land where the class of title is possessory title to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. Subject to the decision on the designation of the Country Park, it is proposed that the Council make an application to Land Registry to upgrade this parcel to title absolute. Absolute freehold title is the best class of title available.
- 5.3 The land is subject to various rights and covenants, including restrictions in respect of developments in certain areas where mine shafts are located. Any planned developments will need to satisfy any conditions and adhere to any restrictions contained in the deed for that parcel of land.
- 5.4 There are various agreements on the land including historic grazing licences and allotment agreements. The designation of the area as a Country Park would have no adverse impact on these licences and agreements.
- 5.5 The Lakeside café and adjacent car park are leased to the 'Trustees of Cambrian Village' Trust and 'the Cambrian Village Trust', a registered charity, respectively. The designation of the area as a Country Park would have no adverse impact on these leases.
- 5.6 There is nothing apparent within the deed wallet restricting the land being designated as a Country Park.
- 5.7 The Countryside Act 1968 under which the designation is being made, does not authorise any development or change of use for which planning is required. Planning permission would only be required if there is a material change of use of the land.
- 5.8 The majority of the land surrounding the Countryside park (outside of the site location plan outlined in red on the map) is registered under a HM Land Registry Title to the National Assembly for Wales. Any request to

further extend into land that is not within the ownership of the Council will need to be agreed by way of a Deed with the registered owner.

## **6. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

- 6.1 The Council has developed a partnership with Cambrian Village Trust over a number of years. The organisation links with a range of Council departments including Leisure, Parks and Countryside, the RCT Together Community Development Team and Adult Services.
- 6.2 Cambrian Village Trust has successfully delivered a number of key large capital projects in the Park and surrounding areas, such as the development of the lakeside café and office accommodation, the FIFA accredited 3G pitch and in partnership with the Cwmclydach Community Development Trust, the hydropower scheme. Talks to deliver a new hydropower scheme are ongoing with other partners.
- 6.3 Friends of Cwm Clydach Country Park are working alongside Cambrian Village Trust to assist in the general maintenance of the area undertaking litter picks and carrying out repair works to fencing and paths. Both groups are also a partner in the Groundwork Well-being Project (Conservation Workshops) being delivered weekly at this site.
- 6.4 Cambrian Village Trust has developed a Strategic Board with the Council and other key partners such as 'RHA Wales' (Rhondda Housing Association), the Friends of Group and other local groups and organisations. Council representatives include Leisure, Parks and Countryside, Adult Services, Tourism, Heritage and Visitor Attractions, Prosperity and Development and the RCT Together Community Development Team.
- 6.5 The focus of the Board is to develop a vision and strategic plan for the proposed Country Park focusing on tourism, heritage biodiversity and physical activity. It will also identify key large scale capital projects for development in the future. This strategic plan will contribute to the Council's commitment to the climate change.

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

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been completed for the proposal.
- 7.2 The proposed designation has no impact on the protected characteristics therefore a full assessment is not required at this time.

## **8. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 A Welsh Language Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal.
- 8.2 This phase is for the designation of Country Park status therefore the proposal has neutral impact on the welsh language.

## **9. CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 There is no legal requirement set out in the Countryside Act 1968 to undertake a public consultation as part of the process to designate an area as a Country Park.
- 9.2 Initial consultation has been carried out with the local Councillor and local community interest groups, notably Cambrian Village Trust and Friends of Cwm Clydach Country Park regarding the proposed designation. All stakeholders were in support of the proposal outlined in this report.
- 9.3 Although wider community consultation on the proposed designation is not required at this stage, consultation on any future developments and projects will take place as required.
- 9.4 The Councils Tourism and Planning Services have been consulted and commented that the provision of an improved open green space would be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of both visitors and residents in the area.

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

- 10.1 The designation of the land as a Country Park will enable the Council and recently established Strategic Board to apply for external funding to enhance and develop the site. This will be the primary mechanism to fund the development of the Country Park.
- 10.2 The initial designation of the Park will incur additional costs in respect of brown tourist signs, interpretation / directional signage and maintenance. An allocation of £50k has been set aside to support this work and will be managed from within existing resources.
- 10.3 Thereafter, as part of the on-going development of the Country Park, should proposals require additional resources, these will be subject to further reports for consideration / decision, as appropriate.

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

- 11.1 The Countryside Act 1968 provides that a local authority shall have power, on any site in the countryside appearing to them suitable or adaptable for

the powers set out in section 6(1), to provide a Country Park, that is to say a park or pleasure ground to be used for that purpose.

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

12.1 This proposal directly supports the Council's 2020-2024 Corporate Plan – 'Making a Difference' where there is a commitment to Investing in our town centres, bringing jobs and homes into our town centres to create vibrant, thriving places people wish to live, work and socialise.

12.2 Specifically, the designation of land at Clydach Vale as a Country Park will contribute to the Council's corporate priorities:

- Ensuring **People: *are independent, healthy and successful;***
- Creating **Places: *where people are proud to live, work and play;***
- Enabling **Prosperity: *creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper.***

12.3 Future works, led by Cambrian Village Trust, in partnership with the Council and Friends of Cwm Clydach Country Park, will help develop a vision document and future plan for the park, linked in with corporate and national priorities.

## **13. CONCLUSION**

13.1 The report sets out a proposal to designate an area of reclaimed land as a Country Park, further promoting the area as a place for residents and tourists to visit and enjoy the countryside.

13.2 An increase in visitors to the Country Park and wider region will assist to increase footfall in local towns boosting the local economy.

13.3 The increased footfall to the Country Park and continued delivery of outdoor activities and education opportunities, will help support the health and wellbeing of both local residents and park visitors.

**Other Information:-**

### **Relevant Scrutiny Committee**

Public Services Delivery, Communities and Prosperity

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

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

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**DESIGNATION AS A COUNTRY PARK OF LAND AT CLYDACH VALE,  
TONYPANDY, CURRENTLY KNOWN AS CWM CLYDACH COUNTRYSIDE  
PARK**

**A REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE ESTATES IN  
DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE  
SERVICES, COUNCILLOR MARK NORRIS AND THE DIRECTOR OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN  
DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT,  
LEISURE AND HERITAGE SERVICES, COUNCILLOR ANN CRIMMINGS.**

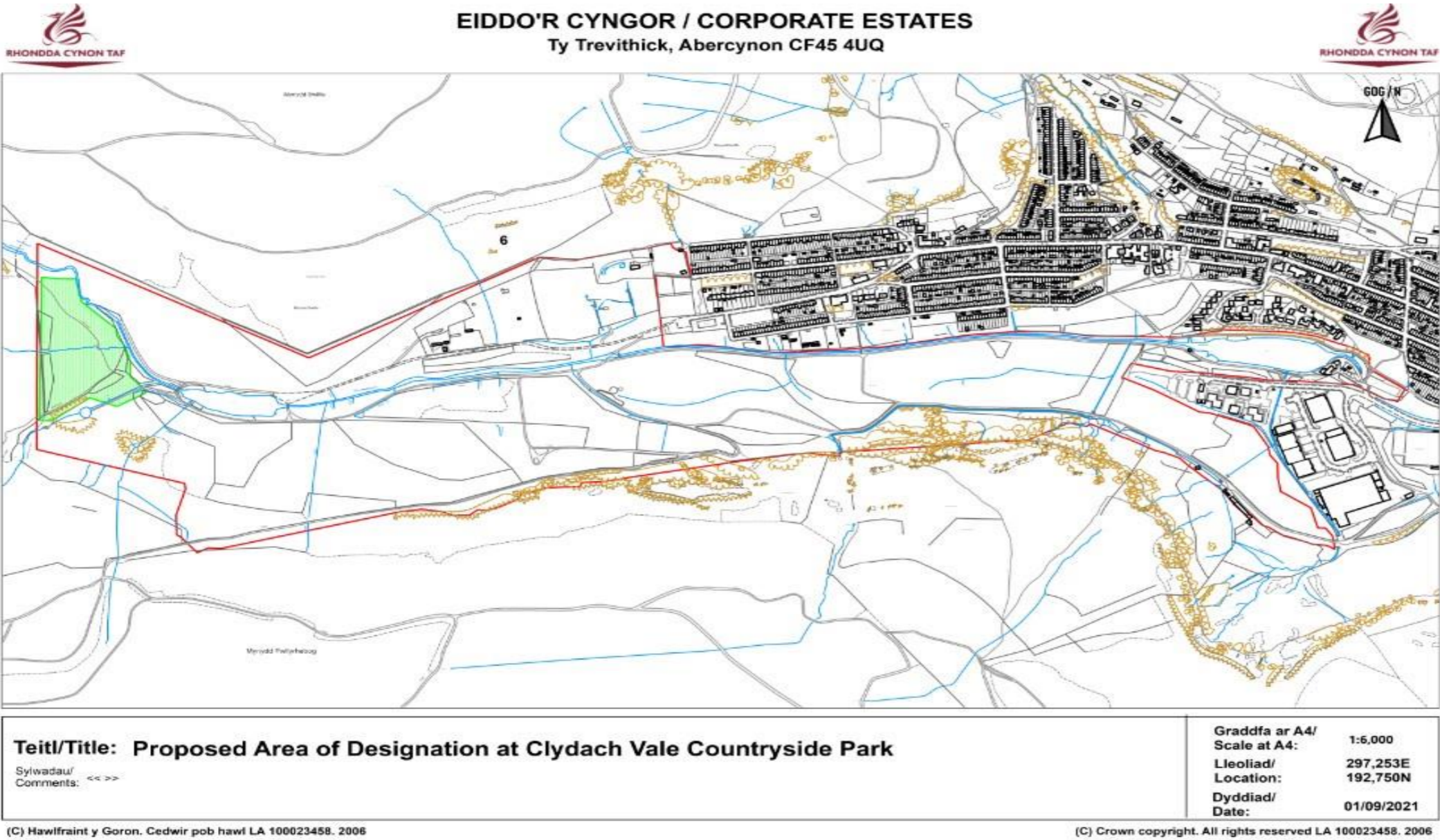
**Background Papers**

None

**Officers to contact:**

Kelly Daniel, Estates Surveyor: Acquisition and Disposals, Corporate Estates  
Michelle Gibbs, Facility Development Manager, Leisure and Park

Appendix 1 - Site location plan:



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

### **CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN – INVESTMENT PRIORITIES**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & DIGITAL SERVICES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CLLR A MORGAN**

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

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

- 1.1 This report sets out the position regarding the opportunity for Cabinet to propose to Council to further invest in the Council's priority areas, aligned to the Corporate Plan, "Making a Difference" 2020 – 2024.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet agree:

- 2.1 To review and if acceptable propose the additional investment and funding arrangements as set out in the report at Appendix A to Council at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The importance of investment in areas supporting key Corporate Plan priorities has already been recognised by the Council with £123M of additional resources, over and above normal Capital Programme allocations, invested since October 2015.
- 3.2 The attached report proposes to continue to invest a further £6.5M in key priorities which can be funded by existing resources already set aside for investment in infrastructure.

#### **4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

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

**5. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no welsh language implications because the contents of the report relate solely to the proposed report to Council at Appendix A

**6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 There are no consultation requirements as a result of the recommendations in this report.

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

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

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

- 9.1 The proposed investment areas are in line with all the Corporate Plan priorities and the Council's five workstreams and contributes to all of the seven national wellbeing goals.

**10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 The draft report at Appendix A sets out the proposed investment areas and funding arrangements.

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**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021 – 2022**

**COUNCIL**

**29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

**COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN – INVESTMENT PRIORITIES**

**REPORT OF THE CABINET**

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

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report sets out the position regarding the opportunity for the Council to further invest in its priority areas, aligned to the Corporate Plan, “Making a Difference” 2020 – 2024.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Council:

2.1.1 Review and if acceptable agree the additional investment and funding arrangements as set out in paragraph 4 which, if agreed, will be incorporated into the Council’s Capital Programme.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The importance of investment in areas supporting key Corporate Plan priorities has already been recognised by the Council with £123M of additional resources, over and above normal Capital Programme allocations, invested since October 2015.
- 3.2 A further opportunity for investment is now available for consideration.

**4. ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT**

- 4.1 In line with the Council’s Corporate Plan priorities, additional investment is now proposed across the following areas.

<b>Investment Priority</b>	<b>£M</b>
Highways & Roads	1.500
Highways Structures	0.500
Parks Structures	0.500
A4119 Dualling	2.000
Llanharan Bypass	2.000
<b>Total Investment</b>	<b>6.500</b>

4.2 The Council's Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (presented elsewhere on this agenda) show the Council has revenue stream earmarked reserves at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 of £73.791M which are set aside for a variety of purposes. In addition, there are specific reserves relating to Capital Funding, Insurance and Treasury Management.

4.3 The Investment/Infrastructure reserve is a specific reserve to fund the cost of maintaining and enhancing infrastructure across the County Borough. The balance of this reserve at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 was £9.497M, therefore the proposed investment priorities shown at paragraph 4.1 can be fully funded from this reserve.

4.4 Further detail on the proposed additional investment is shown below.

a) Highways & Roads (£1.500M)

Funding will continue to support the enhanced investment in the Council's largest asset, building on sustained increases in annual funding for highways capital maintenance over recent years.

b) Highways Structures (£0.500M)

Funding will allow the continuation of the enhanced programme of capital repairs and maintenance of over 1,500 structures including, bridges, culverts, retaining walls, reinforced earth embankments and rock anchors. These structures are often critical to the continued safe operation of the highway network.

c) Parks Structures (£0.500M)

Funding will allow the continuation of the enhanced programme of capital repairs and maintenance of footbridges, retaining walls and other structures within our parks and countryside.

d) A4119 Dualling Coedely to Ynysmaerdy (£2.000M)

Additional funding will allow the continuation of the scheme through to the next stages. Detailed design is ongoing, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water sewer diversion works are progressing well and due for completion in September 2021, tender documents are at final review stage and due for issue in September 2021 and a public inquiry is scheduled for November 2021.

e) Llanharan Bypass (£2.000M)

Additional funding will allow the continuation of the scheme through to the next stages. Ecology surveys, ground investigations and preliminary designs are complete. Pre-planning application consultation is due to be launched late September 2021 with full planning application anticipated for early 2022.

The above investments support the Corporate Plan priority of **Places**: where people are proud to live, work and play.

## **5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

## **6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 There are no consultation requirements as a result of the recommendations set out in the report. Subject to the decision of Council, consultation will be undertaken on specific areas, as appropriate, as part of developing/implementing projects.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. The proposed investment priorities are fully funded from Council resources already set aside for this purpose.

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

- 9.1 The recommendations have been compiled ensuring continued compliance with the Council's legal requirement to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs as set out in Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. In addition, the proposed investment areas support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan priorities, in line with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

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

- 10.1 The proposed investment areas are in line with the priorities included within the Council's Corporate Plan and support the sustainable development principle of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in particular, planning for the

'long term', helping to 'prevent' problems occurring or getting worse in the future and delivering services in 'collaboration' with others.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

- 11.1 This report has identified the opportunity to invest a further £6.500M of additional resources in our local area including our own assets in order to improve our infrastructure and the services which are available to our residents.

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DRAFT

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

**COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Quarter 1)**

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

**AUTHOR: Paul Griffiths, Service Director – Finance and Improvement  
Services (01443) 680609**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective, based on the first three months of this financial year (to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021).

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note the on-going impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service delivery and, in parallel, the re-introduction of services as Covid-19 restrictions are gradually lifted.

**Revenue**

- 2.2 Note and agree the General Fund revenue outturn position of the Council as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Section 2 of the Executive Summary) and note the incorporation of Welsh Government Covid-19 funding into this position to support on-going service delivery.

**Capital**

- 2.3 Note the capital outturn position of the Council as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Sections 3a – e of the Executive Summary).
- 2.4 Note the details of the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Section 3f of the Executive Summary).

## **Corporate Plan Priorities**

- 2.5 Note the Quarter 1 progress updates for the Council's Corporate Plan priorities (Sections 5 a – c of the Executive Summary).
- 2.6 Note the progress update to enhance the Council's short term and long-term response to extreme weather events (Section 6 of the Executive Summary).

## **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To agree the Council's financial and operational performance position as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to enable elected Members and other stakeholders to scrutinise the performance of the Council.

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 This report provides Members with the first update of the Council's financial and operational performance position for the financial year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.
- 4.2 The aim of the report is to bring together the Council's performance into an Executive Summary and make available more detailed information to the reader through electronic links. Information contained in the Executive Summary includes financial data, progress against our Corporate Plan priorities (with exceptions highlighted within the detailed sections to ensure that elected Members and other readers are able to quickly identify the key issues) and progress made to enhance the Council's response to extreme weather events.
- 4.3 Members will note that this report is set in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic continuing to pose significant challenges in the delivery of Council Services alongside on-going significant additional costs and income losses that have, to date, been funded in the majority of cases by Welsh Government. Further information in this regard is included within the Executive Summary.

## **5.0 QUARTER 1 REPORT**

- 5.1 The Quarter 1 report is attached and comprises:
- **Executive Summary** – setting out, at a glance, the overall performance of the Council as at Quarter 1 (i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021).

- **Revenue Monitoring** – sections 2a – e setting out the detailed projected financial spend against budget across our Revenue Budget with exceptions highlighted.
- **Capital Monitoring** – sections 3a – e setting out capital spend across our Capital Programme with exceptions highlighted and section 3f covering Prudential Indicators.
- **Organisational Health** – includes information on turnover, sickness absence, organisational health related investment areas and Council strategic risks.
- **Corporate Plan Priorities** – three action plans (Sections 5a – c) setting out progress updates for the priorities of People, Places and Prosperity.
- **Enhancing the Council's response to extreme weather events** - Section 6 setting out progress made to implement the recommendations agreed by Cabinet on [18th December 2020](#).

## **6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS AND SOCI-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 6.1 The Council's Performance Report provides an update on financial and operational performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22; as a result, there are no equality and diversity or socio-economic duty implications to report.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 Following consideration by Cabinet, this Report will be presented to the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee for review, challenge and where deemed required, the scrutiny of specific areas in line with the Committee's Terms of Reference. With specific regard to progress made to implementation recommendations to enhance the Council's response to extreme weather events, this information will be scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

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

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

- 10.1 The Corporate Plan progress updates included within this report align with the priorities as set out within the Council's Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 "[Making a Difference](#)". With regard to the [Well-being of Future Generations Act \(Wales\) 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.

## **11.0 CONCLUSION**

- 11.1 This report sets out the financial and operational performance of the Council as at Quarter 1 2021/22, that is, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- 11.2 The Quarter 1 revenue budget position is projecting a £0.415M overspend. This is an early projection for the full year and reflects the impact of forecasted changes in demand through to year-end, with key pressures being primarily within Adult Social Care and Children's Services, and takes account of forecasted additional costs and income losses as a direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic (that are assumed to be fully funded by Welsh Government). Work will continue to closely monitor the Council's financial position, refresh financial forecasts as updated information becomes available and continue to engage with Welsh Government to highlight the importance of providing additional funding to support the financial implications of Covid-19 and also on-going permanent cost pressures.
- 11.3 Capital investment as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 is £10.624M, with a number of schemes being re-profiled during the quarter to reflect changes in costs and also new external grant funding approvals received. The expenditure to date represents the continuation of a long-term programme of investment that is supporting visible improvements to infrastructure and assets across the County Borough, taking account of Covid-19 safety requirements.
- 11.4 With regard to the Council's Corporate Plan priorities of People, Places and Prosperity, overall, good progress has been made during the first three months of the year.
- 11.5 The third progress update on the delivery of recommendations to enhance the Council's response to extreme weather events shows a positive position, with key actions being taken forward that provide a clear direction for the future.

### **Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee**

**Contact Officer: Paul Griffiths**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

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

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**21<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

**COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT – 30th June 2021 (Quarter 1)**

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

**Item: 10**

**Background Papers**

Officer to contact: Paul Griffiths

**COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT  
QUARTER 1 2021/22  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Contents**

**Section 1 – INTRODUCTION**

**Section 2 – REVENUE BUDGET**

**Revenue Budget Performance** – more detailed breakdowns are included in the following sections:

- 2a Education and Inclusion Services;
- 2b Community and Children’s Services;
- 2c Chief Executive;
- 2d Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services; and
- 2e Authority Wide Budgets.

**Earmark reserve update** – Section 2f provides a breakdown of expenditure against service areas.

**Section 3 – CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

**Capital programme budget** – more detailed breakdowns are included in the following sections:

- 3a Chief Executive;
- 3b Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services;
- 3c Education and Inclusion Services;
- 3d Community and Children’s Services; and
- 3e Capital Programme Funding.

**Prudential Indicators** – a detailed breakdown is included in Section 3f.

**Section 4 – ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH**

- Turnover;
- Sickness Absence;
- Organisation Health related investment areas; and
- Council Strategic Risks.

**Section 5 – CORPORATE PLAN**

**Corporate Plan priority progress updates** – Quarter 1 position statements are included within the following sections:

- 5a – People;
- 5b – Places; and
- 5c – Prosperity.

**Section 6 – ENHANCING THE COUNCIL’S RESPONSE TO EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS**

**Progress update on the implementation of recommendations agreed by Cabinet on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to enhance the Council’s response to extreme weather events.**

## **Section 1 – INTRODUCTION**

This Executive Summary, bringing together and summarising the Council's financial and operational performance position as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, is set within the context of Council service delivery operating within a very challenging environment as a result of the on-going impact of Covid-19, as was the case during 2020/21. This has required the Council, like all local authorities in Wales, to continue to adapt and change the way it provides services, many in partnership with others, to help meet the needs of residents and businesses. Where appropriate, service specific information has been included within this Executive Summary to provide the reader with a full as picture as possible in this regard.

In addition, throughout the Executive Summary electronic links have been included that enable the reader to access more detailed information, as required.

## **Section 2 – REVENUE BUDGET**

### **Revenue Budget Performance**

Service Area	2021/22 – as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Quarter 1)		
	Full Year Budget £M	Projected Expenditure as at Quarter 1 £M	Variance Over / (Under) £M
<a href="#">Education &amp; Inclusion Services (2a)</a>	195.725	195.646	(0.079)
<a href="#">Community &amp; Children's Services (2b)</a>	168.293	168.798	0.505
<a href="#">Chief Executive (2c)</a>	30.857	30.601	(0.256)
<a href="#">Prosperity, Development &amp; Frontline Services (2d)</a>	60.235	60.400	0.165
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>455.110</b>	<b>455.445</b>	<b>0.335</b>
<a href="#">Authority Wide Budgets (2e)</a>	72.793	72.873	0.080
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>527.903</b>	<b>528.318</b>	<b>0.415</b>

## Welsh Government Covid-19 funding incorporated within the Quarter 1 position (30<sup>th</sup> June 2021)

The full year revenue budget variance, projected as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, is a £0.415M overspend. This forecasted position assumes that additional costs and income losses as a direct result of the pandemic will be offset by the continuation of additional funding being made available by Welsh Government to all local authorities in Wales. Notwithstanding the on-going uncertainties associated with the pandemic, for example, the impact of easing of restrictions, the effectiveness of the vaccination programme and the potential for a further 'wave' during the autumn / winter period, the current estimated full year additional cost / income loss to the Council, forecasted at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, is £29M. This position will be kept under on-going review alongside Welsh Government's intentions for the continuation of additional financial support (including with regard to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme) and updated information will be included within Performance Reports during the year.

For information, the specific financial assistance provided to local authorities includes: additional costs in respect of housing / homelessness, free school meal payments, Adult Social Services and staff cover due to absence; and income losses where there has been a need to temporarily suspend or reduce service provision (for example, Leisure Centres, Theatres and visitor attractions).

The Table below sets out the additional costs and income losses incurred and accounted for relating to Quarter 1 of 2021/22.

Service Area	Actual Additional Costs / Income Loss Recovered (Quarter 1)*
	£M
Education & Inclusion Services	-2.211
Community & Children's Services	-5.146
Chief Executive	-0.416
Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services	-0.848
Authority Wide	-0.040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-8.661</b>

*\* Excludes additional costs incurred / projected in respect of Test, Trace and Protect and supporting the delivery of the vaccination programme, the funding for which is being made available by Welsh Government and the Local Health Board respectively, in line with guidance. Also excludes spend incurred and funded on Welsh Government schemes where the Council is acting as an agent.*

## **Revenue budget variances projected at Quarter 1**

### **1. Community and Children's Services**

#### **ADULT SERVICES**

- Long Term Care & Support (£0.341M overspend);
- Commissioned Services (£0.463M overspend);
- Provider Services (£0.075M underspend); and
- Short Term Intervention Services (£0.302M underspend).

#### **CHILDREN SERVICES**

- Safeguarding & Support (including Children Looked After) (£0.108M overspend);
- Early Intervention (£0.088M overspend); and
- Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service (£0.088M underspend).

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND PROTECTION**

- Leisure, Parks & Countryside and Community Facilities (£0.076M overspend).

### **2. Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services**

#### **FRONTLINE SERVICES**

- Transportation (£0.062M overspend);
- Street Cleansing (£0.052M underspend); and
- Waste Services (£0.196M overspend).

### **3. Chief Executive**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

- Human Resources (£0.070M underspend); and
- Finance & Digital Services (£0.063M underspend).

### **4. Authority Wide Budgets**

- Miscellaneous (£0.080M overspend).

## **Earmark Reserve Update**

- A breakdown of full year expenditure against approved earmark reserves for Service Areas can be viewed at Section 2f by clicking [here](#).

### **Section 3 – CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The Council and its contractors / suppliers have continued to build on the work undertaken during 2020/21 to ensure safe working arrangements and, in doing so, enabled the on-going delivery of capital programme projects.

#### **Capital Programme Budget**

Service Area	2021/22 - as at 30th June 2021	
	Capital Budget £M	Actual Expenditure £M
<a href="#">Chief Executive (3a)</a>	3.447	0.227
<a href="#">Prosperity, Development &amp; Frontline Services (3b)</a>	74.410	7.877
<a href="#">Education &amp; Inclusion Services (3c)</a>	43.510	1.424
<a href="#">Community &amp; Children's Services (3d)</a>	10.283	1.096
<b>Total</b>	<b>131.650</b>	<b>10.624</b>

#### **Key Capital Variances at Quarter 1**

- Re-profiling of a number of projects to reflect changes in the total cost of schemes and revised delivery timescales.
- Grant approvals introduced into the Capital Programme: Welsh Government (WG) Targeted Regeneration Investment (TR) Programme (£0.594M); WG ENABLE (£0.349M); Heritage Lottery Fund (£1.144M); Integrated Care Fund (£0.160M); WG Local Transport Fund (£0.828M); WG Road Safety Grant (£0.157M); WG Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (£0.488M); and WG Local Places for Nature Grant (£0.135M).

For information on how the Capital Programme is funded see section 3e by clicking [here](#).

#### **Prudential Indicators**

For a detailed breakdown of Prudential Indicators, see section 3f by clicking [here](#).

## Section 4 – ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH

- **Turnover**

Service Area	2021/22		2020/21				2019/20
	As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021		As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020		As at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
	Staff Nos.	% Turnover	Staff Nos.	% Turnover	Staff Nos.	% Turnover	% Turnover
<b>Turnover – Council Wide</b>	<b>10,897</b>	<b>2.52</b>	<b>10,630</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>10,888</b>	<b>6.84</b>	<b>1.97</b>
Community & Children's Services	2,941	2.62	2,909	1.17	2,946	6.59	2.39
Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services	907	4.74	949	0.74	941	6.70	1.57
Education & Inclusion Services	1,247	2.25	1,277	0.47	1,258	6.52	1.98
<u>Schools</u>	<u>4,920</u>	<u>2.30</u>	<u>4,820</u>	<u>1.16</u>	<u>4,873</u>	<u>7.47</u>	<u>1.71</u>
Primary	3,077	2.37	3,040	1.09	3,043	7.49	1.79
Secondary	1,842	2.17	1,780	1.29	1,830	7.43	1.56
Chief Executive's Division	882	1.59	675	0.89	870	4.83	2.64

- **Sickness Absence**

With specific regard to Covid-19 and the recording of sickness absence, where staff have been unavailable for work due to, for example, self-isolating, having an underlying condition that places an individual at risk, these occurrences have not been categorised as 'sickness absence' and as such are excluded from the analysis below.

Service Area	2021/22	2020/21		2019/20	
	As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 %	As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 %	As at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021 %	As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2019 %	As at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020 %
<b>% days lost to sickness absence – Council Wide</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>4.16</b>
Community & Children's Services	6.13	5.59	6.14	5.25	5.59
Prosperity, Development & Frontline Services	5.26	4.06	4.99	3.76	4.74
Education & Inclusion Services	4.25	2.47	3.20	3.65	3.70
<u>Schools</u>	<u>3.28</u>	<u>2.21</u>	<u>2.88</u>	<u>3.89</u>	<u>3.56</u>
Primary	3.58	2.39	3.21	4.16	3.79
Secondary	2.78	1.90	2.33	3.42	3.16
Chief Executive's Division	3.02	1.47	2.62	2.73	2.39

For a more detailed breakdown of 2021/22 sickness absence information, click [here](#).

## **Organisation Health related investment areas**

There will be a continued focus on investing in organisational health related areas, for example, IT infrastructure and invest to save energy efficiency schemes, with projects being delivered operationally within services across the Council.

- **Council Strategic Risks**

The Council's Strategic Risk Register has been reviewed and updated to take account of the changing internal and external operating environment. This has informed revisions to the Strategic Risk Register as follows:

- Updating risk descriptions to ensure they continue to be focussed on the key areas of risk to be managed by the Council, for example, the on-going implications of Covid-19; workforce health and well-being and recruitment and retention; increasing pressures within demand led services; and imminent national reforms in respect of the education curriculum and additional learning needs;
- The removal of the specific Brexit related risk, with this area being incorporated within an existing risk associated with the Council's overall recovery arrangements from the Covid-19 pandemic; and
- A new risk in respect of the physical impacts of climate change as a result of the likelihood of increased frequency of extreme weather events.

The Council's updated Strategic Risk Register can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

## **Section 5 – CORPORATE PLAN**

Corporate Plan priority action plans for People, Places and Prosperity have been compiled and continue to be action orientated, rather than driven by performance indicators, and are focussed on: the Council's recovery arrangements from the Covid-19 pandemic and the support being provided to communities and businesses; the on-going transformation and improvement of services; and the delivery of key projects that will have significant positive impacts across the County Borough.

The priority action plans are in draft form, subject to consideration / approval by full Council in October, with a summary of progress made across each of the three priorities as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Quarter 1) set out in Sections 5a - c. For Members information, as part of the summaries of progress, electronic links have been included to each priority action plan, providing more detailed information on the progress during the first quarter of the year.

### **Corporate Plan Priority Progress Update**

#### ○ **PEOPLE** (Section 5a)

##### **PEOPLE – Are independent, healthy and successful**

##### **Summary of progress to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

We have continued our work to support our residents who are older, vulnerable or who have disabilities, to remain independent and have a good quality of life. Despite some delays earlier in the year, our extra care facility in Pontypridd, Cwrt yr Orsaf, is currently progressing well and is due to be completed by October 2021. We are also working on a business case and design options for a similar scheme in Treorchy. The extra care scheme in Porth has been delayed at the planning stage but it is anticipated that progress on construction will be made once planning has been granted.

We have also opened a supported accommodation scheme in Mountain Ash and all apartments have now been allocated. We had hoped to open a similar scheme in Llanhari following a refurbishment of Elm Road accommodation but this will now be completed by the end of March 2022. We are also developing a supported accommodation strategy and investment plan to continue to provide a range of modern fit for purpose supported housing options for vulnerable people that meets their needs and is supported, where appropriate, by access to community facilities.

We are taking forward the Council's review on the future shape of residential care for older people to ensure we create the right model of service delivery to respond to increasing demand and changing needs. This includes drafting for approval a modernisation programme and investment plan for the Council's 9 care homes in line with CIW standards.

We continue to deliver the Assistive Technology Project as part of Regional Stay Well in Community Transformation Programme and we are developing an Adult Services Digital Strategy and work plan to deliver a new approach that maximises the use of technology enabled care solutions. We will use our experiences of how technology was used during the pandemic to complete this.

We are also building on our engagement and learning from the pandemic to inform the transformation of day services going forward so that people with a learning disability have access to meaningful activity and opportunities in their own communities, including employment to achieve their personal goals and live ordinary lives.

## PEOPLE – Are independent, healthy and successful

We continue to encourage all residents to lead active and healthy lifestyles and maintain their mental wellbeing. Following the easing of Covid restrictions, we opened the brand new gym at Llys Cadwyn in Pontypridd and reopened Ponty Lido following the damage caused by Storm Dennis in February 2020. We also have a full programme of outdoor exercise opportunities throughout RCT leisure facilities and Parks (where applicable). One outdoor rig has been installed in Ynysangharad Park and others planned for Dare Valley Country Park and Abercynon Sports Centre. We are also developing a plan for wider community outdoor opportunities and promotion of increased participation to encourage residents to utilise our outdoor spaces.

Work has commenced on the Treorchy Cultural Hub and a Community Engagement Plan is being developed to ensure that our theatres are more inclusive and accessible to the whole community. We have continued to plan for online and blended delivery until Welsh Government guidance on theatres re-opening is clarified.

We are working with our partners to ensure adequate support to meet resident needs is available through partnership with third and voluntary sector. We have co-produced community booklets to build relationships amongst Community Organisations/Groups and Local neighbourhood networks have commenced in discussions with key Partners / organisations. Mapping of areas to support residents' needs is ongoing.

We are working with Health to explore options for the development of an integrated community health and social care locality model and have commenced a review of options for an integrated community model. We are also working together to improve patient experience and redesign the pathways for integrated primary and community based urgent care services and 'home first' discharge from hospital services. This includes a review and refresh of the hospital discharge protocol, including performance standards and measures to deliver effective transfers of care from Royal Glamorgan hospital. We also continue to deliver SW@H Phase 1 and 2 projects as part of Regional ICF and Transformation Programmes. An evaluation of the project continues in line with the Regional Transformation Programme and draft options appraisal work has commenced. We are also working with Health to review and improve end of life community care to ensure that any current issues are addressed, and care meets the person's needs and to complete a review and redesign of Community mental health services to provide responsive access and effective mental health support. The Taf Community Mental Health Team has relocated to a new joint facility at Dewi Sant Hospital and we are reviewing accommodation options for the Rhondda Community Mental Health Team. Work to review and redesign Community Mental Health Services has been delayed pending further discussions to review the current operating model.

Using the RCT Neighbourhood Network Groups, we will begin to co-produce/design with partners a social prescribing model. Following development of the social prescribing model, we will work with partners to review gaps in provision and identify ways to address unmet needs.

Our priority is to improve services for children and young people and ensure the needs of children are considered in everything we do. We will ensure that the emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of children and young people aged 0-25 and their families are central to the delivery of services. This work has included delivering a programme of Targeted Play provision for vulnerable 5-14 year olds with care and support needs, piloting a Wellbeing Support Programme for children aged 8-11 years requiring one to one support to improve their wellbeing and build their resilience and enhancing the provision of support to 16-25 year olds delivered by the Youth Engagement and Participation Service (YEPS). YEPS has undergone a restructure to bring together all support services for young people aged 16 - 25. The 16+ Support Team is assisting young people

## **PEOPLE – Are independent, healthy and successful**

transition out of statutory education, tackling youth homelessness and offering key life skills qualifications to support young people to transition into adulthood.

Work has begun on a 'Prevention of youth anti-social behaviour' strategy. Ensuring the positive engagement of young people in community life is a collective priority and will be central to the strategy.

We will continue to strengthen participation of children and young people to promote engagement specifically with Children Looked After and partner agencies to ensure coproduction and that the voice of children and young people are heard in service development and delivery. We are developing a Participation Strategy and incorporating different communication approaches when engaging with children and young people. We are seeking to provide effective Edge of Care services to ensure that children, young people and families receive the right support at the right time, supporting their physical and mental wellbeing. This includes development of the Regional MAPPS Service (Therapeutic Regional Service for CLA). The commissioning process has been delayed and timescales have been revised.

The Integrated Wellbeing Pathway which was established during the pandemic to help children return to school has been reviewed and is continuing to operate. Additional funding has been secured to continue the additional capacity for dedicated stress and anxiety courses that young people can access outside of school. We have also purchased Play therapy and devised a well being programme with Bluemind for families to help them address their emotional well being issues that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

We are delivering the Early Years Transformation agenda in RCT in order to ensure early years services are universally available and specialist services are targeted by need and not geographical location. Funding has been secured to undertake the technical development of the Early Years Vulnerability Profile. A pilot which is utilising health data alongside Council data to build a full profile is progressing well and all relevant health information for 0-1 year olds has been transferred to the Council's database. The first run of the data is due to take place in July 2021 and following this pilot a full test will begin. Work has commenced to produce a 3 year strategic plan for the region identifying key milestone and outcomes at each stage. Work is ongoing to widely communicate operational changes to families, community organisations and providers. An information leaflet has been produced to share information with families on the changes; meetings have taken place with other Local Authorities to share good practice from RCT's Early Years Transformation Project; and a workshop has taken place with all Health Visitors to reiterate the changes.

The full action plan can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

## Investment Priority Progress Update – Quarter 1

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PEOPLE		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>1</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
Extracare Housing	6.974	<p>This investment funding covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The former Maesyffynnon Home for the Elderly site (Aberaman) – completed and the first residents moved into the new facility in May 2020.</li> <li>• Pontypridd - works commenced in July 2019 and are progressing well with the project due to be completed in 2021.</li> <li>• Porth - agreed by the Council's Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. Progress to date includes: the vacation of the building; site surveys completed; contract for demolition has been awarded; and preparatory work underway to enable the main contract works to be tendered.</li> </ul> <p>Consideration of development proposals for Treorchy and Mountain Ash schemes are on-going.</p>
Tackling Poverty Fund	0.300	<p>This investment funding is to help address areas where there are high levels of poverty (including fuel poverty) to increase the disposable income of households, for example, by supporting households to reduce energy bills, helping to overcome barriers to find employment.</p>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.274</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Investment Value – relates to LIVE projects / works only that have been allocated additional investment funding.

o **PLACES** (Section 5b)

<b>PLACES - Where people are proud to live, work and play</b>
<b>Summary of progress to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b>
<p>The Council's Enforcement Team has continued to monitor and take action against fly-tippers with 999 recorded incidents this quarter (453 last year) and enforced off street parking restrictions and school keep clear zones to ensure the safe passage of both drivers and residents.</p> <p>Work is on-going with landlords, agents and residents to encourage good recycling practices that will reduce municipal waste and have a positive effect on the environment, for example, reducing plastic bottle use in schools and kitchens and progressing the development of re-use outlets. Recycling awareness raising events have been limited during the pandemic, in line with restrictions, and it is anticipated that some activity can start to resume later this year. The tonnage of recycled waste during quarter 1 is higher than the same period last year (23,110tonnes compared to 21,567tonnes in 2020/21); however, our overall recycling percentage is lower i.e. 62% compared to (66.34% at quarter 1 in 2020/21) - this is primarily due to the storage of wood until such time that it can be transported and recycled.</p> <p>We are progressing our climate change agenda through developments in alternative fuelled fleet vehicles, public transport and taxis; looking at ways where we can create renewable energy; reuse of hard plastic; development of the Eco Park at Bryn Pica; and implementing procurement policies to reduce the use of single use plastic items.</p> <p>Our highways investment programme activity continues across the County Borough, together with work on repairs and flood mitigation measures. The requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act are being progressed together with recommendations contained in the review of the Council's response to Storm Dennis <a href="#">Cabinet Report 18 December 2020</a> (see Section 6 of this Executive Summary). We are also progressing active travel initiatives across Rhondda Cynon Taf.</p> <p>Our community cohesion work is being progressed and we are reviewing the approach to community asset transfers and ensuring that elements of 'social value' are being considered as part of this process. We have also established a Sustainable Food Network to ensure access to good quality food, reducing food waste and food poverty.</p> <p>We continue to work with partners in Bridgend to recommission Tier 1 and 2 substance misuse services so that they align with provision at Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taf. Our substance misuse service, <a href="#">Barod</a>, has been strengthened with the recruitment of two outreach workers, and new initiatives including an out of hours needle exchange service and establishing links with housing services to provide harm reduction services to those individuals deemed homeless and 'hard to reach'. Our new specialist Housing Outreach Service has already supported fifteen people with complex needs, and numbers are expected to increase as the service develops. A Short Term Offender Project has also been progressed that will offer support to reduce homelessness and repeat reoffending. We are also improving our domestic violence and sexual violence provision through our work with Women's Aid and have started the recruitment for a Child and Young Person IDVA.</p> <p>To keep our communities safe, a three-month pilot scheme of Safe Street Ambassadors has commenced that will inform recommendations for safe spaces within our communities. A third-year evaluation of our PSPO on intoxicating substances, including alcohol in our town centres, has been completed which will inform a report to Cabinet later in 2021.</p>

## **PLACES - Where people are proud to live, work and play**

We continued to invest in our green spaces and increase biodiversity. Our Playground Investment Programme is progressing and includes the [Gravity Family Bike Park](#) at Dare Valley Country Park.

Work to establish natural carbon storage solutions has commenced, and we are actively promoting awareness of our wildflower grass management and initiatives like 'Grab a Rake' to get our communities involved in supporting our biodiversity campaigns. We continue to work with partners such as Natural Resources Wales to support projects like '[Healthy Hillside](#)s' and '[Living Landscapes](#)'.

We have also progressed projects that are grant funded through the [Valleys Regional Park](#) including Dare Valley Country Park and Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, and continue to look at ways to promote [Discovery Gateway](#) sites as part of the Valleys Regional Parks initiative.

The full action plan can be viewed by clicking [here](#)

## Investment Priority Progress Update – Quarter 1

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PLACES		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>2</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
Highways Infrastructure Repairs	6.428	The additional resources are being used in conjunction with existing resources to deliver a programme of highways infrastructure repairs between 2021/22 and 2023/24.
Play Areas	0.564	There are 22 schemes which form the planned programme of works for 2021/22. As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021, 4 had been completed, 1 was under construction, 7 had been designed, costed and scheduled and 10 are to be designed.
Skate Parks/Multi Use Games Areas	0.191	There are 4 schemes which form the planned programme of works for 2021/22. As at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021, 1 scheme is complete, 1 is under construction and 2 are to be designed, costed and scheduled.
Structures: Brook Street Footbridge	1.287	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brook St. Footbridge – the estimated start date for works is quarter 4 of 2021/22 and discussions are on-going with Transport for Wales in respect of the work to be undertaken.</li> </ul>
Structures	5.221	<p>The investment funding has been allocated to support structure projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nant Cwm Parc Cantilever and Institute Bridge Strengthening – works are underway on site.</li> <li>• Ynys Meurig Bridge Parapet Replacement – due for completion summer 2021.</li> <li>• Major retaining wall refurbishments – two wall refurbishments completed, others at design stage.</li> <li>• Bodringallt Bridge Infilling – estimated start date January 2022.</li> </ul>
Parks Structures	1.097	<p>The investment funding has been allocated to support various footbridge repairs and replacements within Parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge deck and parapet replacement of Maesyfelin Footbridge (Pontyclun) – currently in progress on site.</li> <li>• Replacement of Abercynon Recreation Ground Footbridge - due to commence in quarter 2.</li> <li>• Various inspections and surveys continue to be undertaken as advance preparation for future schemes.</li> </ul>
Parks and Green Spaces	1.226	This investment funding is supporting drainage, pavilion and infrastructure improvements to various parks sites. The

<sup>2</sup> Investment Value – relates to LIVE projects / works only that have been allocated additional investment funding.

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PLACES		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>2</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
		2021/22 programme currently comprises of 64 schemes at various stages of completion.
Llanharan Bypass	2.127	This investment funding is supporting various stages of development, preliminary design, ground investigations and ecology surveys. The next stage programmed is the pre-Planning Application Consultation that is scheduled to be undertaken during Autumn 2021 and thereafter the submission of a planning application.
A4119 Dualling (Stinkpot Hill)	6.099	This investment funding is supporting the dualling of the highway between the South Wales Fire Service Headquarters roundabout and Coed Ely roundabout. Detail design work has been completed; tender document preparation for the construction phase is progressing; and work is on-going to secure land required and the associated Compulsory Purchase Order has been submitted.
Community Hubs	0.458	This investment funding relates to supporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treorchy – procurement process underway for works to be undertaken to improve the proposed site of Treorchy Community Hub at Treorchy Library.</li> </ul>
Gelli/Treorchy Link Road	0.393	This investment funding relates to investigatory works for a solution which will help alleviate congestion at Stag Square. Feasibility and a WelTAG stage 1 has been completed. The next steps are to develop a preferred option through WelTAG stage 2.
Cynon Gateway (North), Aberdare Bypass	1.899	This investment funding relates to the preliminary design, planning application and tender preparation for a bypass continuation from A4059 Aberdare to join the A465 Heads Of the Valleys road.
Bryn Pica Eco Park	1.400	This investment funding is to support enabling works, planning and ecology for the development of an Eco Park at the Waste Management Facility.
Dinas Community Recycling Centre	0.250	This investment funding relates to the provision of a new office building and improvements on the site of Dinas Community Recycling Centre following the demolition of the previous site building. Works have been substantially completed subject to some rendering work being completed.
Land Drainage	0.511	This investment funding is supporting drainage and culvert network works. The ongoing programme includes works at:

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PLACES		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>2</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cwmbach – works commenced and scheduled for completion in the first half of 2021/22;</li> <li>• Property Flood Resistance Programme – on-going engagement with property owners and provision of flood prevention measures e.g. flood gates.</li> <li>• Supporting 9 Welsh Government grant funded schemes across Rhondda Cynon Taf which are scheduled to be completed by March 2022.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.151</b>	

○ **PROSPERITY** (Section 5c)

**PROSPERITY - Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper**

**Summary of progress to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Integrated support continues to be provided for town centre businesses, including support for 69 businesses to develop their outdoor spaces to improve trading opportunities. We continue to engage with businesses to inform developing packages of support.

The Council continues to lead on the £15M Transforming Towns grant across the Cardiff City Region and a strong pipeline of potential projects is in development, including review of currently disused sites. A range of property and site redevelopment projects are currently underway in our town centres. In Mountain Ash, the redevelopment of Rhos (Guto) square is currently onsite and the former Barclays bank building is being transformed into a multiuse facility for Cynon Valley Cancer Care. In Pontypridd, work continues to redevelop the YMCA building and a bid has been made to the UK Government Levelling Up Fund to redevelop the Muni building into a major cultural hub. A draft placemaking plan is currently being developed for Tonypany, with projects including the redevelopment of Llwynypia Courthouse and the demolition and redevelopment of properties in Dunraven street recently damaged by fire. The roll out of town centre wifi has been completed in Tonypany although in Pontypridd it has been delayed until September due to BT Openreach requirements.

Working with Cardiff Capital Region, we are progressing Housing viability gap funding to remediate contaminated land conditions across 3 brownfield sites at the former Cwm Coking works, former Aberdare hospital site and Heol y Wenallt, which could deliver over 1,400 new homes.

Work continues to develop the visitor economy, including finalising work at Dare Valley Country Park, with the gravity bike park opening in August. A Tourism Steering Group involving key stakeholders has been established and a new Tourism Strategy for Rhondda Cynon Taf is due to be presented to Cabinet for approval in September.

As schools returned to face-to-face delivery during the summer term, work continued in partnership with Central South Consortium to regularly review the progress of all schools, and ensure effective assessment and tracking systems are in place to identify and support those learners most adversely affected by Covid-19. The readiness of schools for the new curriculum is also being discussed by Local Authority and Central South Consortium Officers, and will continue to be monitored in the autumn term. Following the initial pilot of family engagement officers in six secondary/through schools, there have been encouraging initial results in supporting wellbeing and attendance. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has made it difficult to fully evaluate the impact and the pilot is being continued for another year in secondary schools and extended to 13 primary school settings so further information can be gathered before consideration of any wider roll out.

Investment in our school buildings continues, with contractors appointed for the Greater Pontypridd school projects on a design and build basis and works on site commenced to provide additional capacity at YG Rhydwaun and YGG Aberdar. Outline Business Cases have been submitted for pathfinder MIM schemes for Penygawsi, Llanilltud Faerdref and Pontyclun Primary schools. Consultation has also been completed on developing a new Welsh Medium School for YGG Llyn y Forwen, the results of this will be reported to Cabinet in September.

Support for people seeking work continued through our Employment Support programmes, with some face-to-face delivery recommencing for those individuals who find engaging through virtual methods challenging, for example, those without digital skills. Work is also being undertaken to

**PROSPERITY - Creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper**

engage local businesses in the support available to them both with recruitment and increasing skills in the existing workforce.

Work continued to develop opportunities for our school pupils to gain knowledge of careers and working life, including developing a pilot project to help pupils who are currently disengaged in school to link their current studies to potential future careers. Work is also currently underway to develop further opportunities for extended work placements and explore the potential for junior apprenticeships, as well as providing 'virtual work experience' through video interviews to assist young people who may have had limited opportunity for physical work placements due to the pandemic.

Work took place in partnership with Registered Social Landlords and developers to increase the supply of energy efficient housing and commercial developments. Work is underway with Rhondda Housing Association and other partners on a feasibility study to construct a zero-carbon home in the Treherbert area, and options for the Porth Infants school site are being explored with Cynon Taf Housing. The Council also continues to work with local manufacturers and installers to identify opportunities for retrofitting schemes to decarbonise the existing housing stock, including existing and new opportunities for external funding. 6 registered companies are now delivering ECO flex funding in RCT and the Council has attracted Arbed am Byth (Welsh Government Warm Homes) funding into Penrhiwceiber.

The full action plan can be viewed by clicking [here](#)

## Investment Priority Progress Update – Quarter 1

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PROSPERITY		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>3</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
Empty Property Grant	1.245	Following the use of Welsh Government Valleys Taskforce Grant funding during 2020/21 to support bringing empty properties back into use, the Council's funding has been re-introduced for 2021/22. The Council's funding allocation is now fully committed (and the on-line application process has closed) and it is anticipated that the expenditure will be incurred during 2021/22 and into 2022/23.
Schools	1.006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheme on-going: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cymmer Primary – demolition of the canteen and erection of fencing was completed in August 2020. Carpark works to be completed during summer 2021.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New schemes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ YGG Llyn Y Forwyn Primary (transferring the school to a new building on a new site) - site investigation surveys have been undertaken and land has been purchased.</li> <li>○ Covid-19 related capital works - to install canopies and undertake ventilation works in over 50 schools.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Transport Infrastructure	2.500	<p>This investment funding is supporting a wider programme of highways capital works including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress design work for pedestrian crossing enhancement projects at Tonyrefail, Groesfaen, Llanharan and Nantgarw (to improve road safety and promote active travel).</li> <li>• A4058 Asda Tonypanydy junction - extend entry lane lengths from the north and include cycle facilities. Design and tender documents have been completed during quarter 1, a contractor will be procured and construction works are programmed to commence during quarter 2. Works will improve junction capacity and traffic flow and promote active travel.</li> <li>• A4059 / Bowls Club junction - feasibility study ongoing to investigate improving the junction to improve traffic flow along the A4059.</li> <li>• A473 Upper Boat - WeITAGs are ongoing and improvements to Maesmawr Lane have been completed.</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> Investment Value – relates to LIVE projects / works only that have been allocated additional investment funding.

Progress in our Investment Priorities – PROSPERITY		
Investment Area	Investment Value <sup>3</sup> £M	Quarter 1 Update
Park and Ride Programme	0.586	<p>This investment funding is supporting the development work needed to create additional and formalised ‘park and ride’ car parking spaces with new and improved facilities such as Access for All, improved CCTV coverage and Electric Vehicle charging points at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pontyclun - feasibility design to improve an existing facility is ongoing in partnership with Network Rail and Transport for Wales.</li> <li>• Porth – phase 3 preliminary design has been completed in quarter 1 and planning permission has been granted. Detailed design will now commence and continue for the remainder of this year.</li> </ul>
Strategic Regeneration Investment	0.200	<p>This funding has been approved for the Guto Square development (Mountain Ash) which will provide a bigger and improved area for public use in the heart of the town centre for community events and business uses, and also additional car parking spaces for shoppers and visitors to the town. The demolition phase is now complete and the construction contract is underway. It is scheduled for the scheme to be completed by the end of 2021.</p>
Robertstown and Coed Ely ERDF Match Funding	4.200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robertstown – good progress made during quarter 1 including completion to a number of plots: main frames, internal foul drainage, fire protection works, liner sheets and insulation, lightening protection tails, installation of metal decking to mezzanine level and roofing.</li> <li>• Coed Ely – the building was handed over on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. During quarter 1, the majority of snagging items have been finalised prior to tenant occupation and works have continued to secure the tenant for the unit.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.737</b>	

## **Section 6 – ENHANCING THE COUNCIL’S RESPONSE TO EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS**

The 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 Cabinet meeting agreed a series of recommendations to enhance the Council’s short and long term response to extreme weather events and which limit the impact of flooding on those communities most at risk.

The progress made by Council Services to implement the recommendations can be viewed [here](#) and will be scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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