



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

**COMMITTEE SUMMONS**

C Hanagan  
Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council  
The Pavilions  
Cambrian Park  
Clydach Vale CF40 2XX

Meeting Contact: Sarah Daniel – 07385 086 169

**YOU ARE SUMMONED** to a meeting of **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY 2022-2027 COMMITTEE** to be held Hybrid at the **Council Chambers, Clydach Vale** on **MONDAY, 4TH JULY, 2022** at **5.00 PM**.

Non Committee Members and Members of the public may request the facility to address the Committee at their meetings on the business listed although facilitation of this request is at the discretion of the Chair. It is kindly asked that such notification is made to Democratic Services by 5pm on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 on the contact details listed above, including stipulating whether the address will be in Welsh or English.

**AGENDA**

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**1. DECLARATIONS 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 for information the minutes of the last meeting for the following Scrutiny Committees

- Overview and Scrutiny
- Children and Young People

- Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity
- Health and Wellbeing
- Finance and Performance

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## **REPORTS OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

### **3. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

To agree the Terms of Reference for the newly created Scrutiny Committees:

- Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Education and Inclusion Scrutiny Committee
- Community Services Scrutiny Committee
- Climate Change, Frontline Services and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

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### **4. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23**

To consider and agree the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2022-23

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### **5. URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any urgent business as the Chairman feels appropriate

## **Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication**

### **Circulation:-**

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny 2022-2027 Committee (County Borough Councillor J Edwards and County Borough Councillor M Rees-Jones respectively)

**County Borough Councillors:** Councillor J Bonetto, Councillor J Brencher, Councillor S Evans, Councillor S Evans, Councillor G Hughes, Councillor C Middle, Councillor K Morgan, Councillor S Morgans, Councillor M Powell, Councillor G L Warren, Councillor K Webb and Councillor G E Williams

### **Non Committee Member -**

Chair of the Governance & Audit Committee, Mr C B Jones



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Monday, 28 February 2022 at 5.00 pm.

### **County Borough Councillors - Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-**

Councillor M Adams (Chair)

Councillor W Lewis	Councillor J Brencher
Councillor A Cox	Councillor M Griffiths
Councillor G Hughes	Councillor P Jarman
Councillor D Owen-Jones	Councillor W Jones
Councillor S Rees	

### **Officers in attendance:-**

Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Roger Waters, Director of Frontline Services  
Andrew Stone, Head of Flood Risk Management and Strategic Projects,  
Melanie Warburton, Diversity & Inclusion Manager,  
Richard Evans, Director of HR

### **Also in attendance:**

Mr Michael Evans, Head of Operations South Wales Central NRW  
Mr Steve Wilson, Managing Director- Wastewater Service, Business Customers & Energy, Welsh Water

### **26 Apologies**

An apology of absence was received from County Borough Councillors J James MS, S Morgans, E Stephens and W Treeby.

### **27 Declaration of Interest**

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

### **28 Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

### **29 Consultation Links**

Members **RESOLVED** to acknowledge the information provided through the consultation links in respect of open consultations, Welsh Government consultations and those matters being consulted upon by the local authority.

## 30 ANNUAL EQUALITY REPORT 2020-21

Members were presented with the Annual Equality Report 2020/2021 by the Diversity and Inclusion Manager for the purpose of undertaking pre-scrutiny and providing feedback and comments in advance of Cabinet's consideration of the report.

Members were advised that the Annual Equality Report has been developed to fulfil the Council's legal duties and obligations to report on its progress in delivering the General and Specific Equality Duties. Members were asked to consider whether the report has captured the relevant information required to fulfil the Council's legal duties and obligations to report on how it has met the General Equality Duty set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Members welcomed the Annual Equality Report and commented that it had successfully captured a wide range of issues and actions that had and were currently being undertaken, despite the high level of demands on the service area, which demonstrated the Council's commitment to the principles of equality and diversity.

Members were pleased to see that their comments from last year had been incorporated into the report to include the emerging issues as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter movement as part of the future work.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** that the following comments and observations be reported to Cabinet, at its meeting to be held on the 21st March 2022:

Referring to section 7 of the report, Equality Impact Assessments, it was proposed that in future policy be updated to include a 'Children & Young People's Rights Scheme' which would ensure that all children are consulted on all aspects of the Council's services and reflect the 5 key principles of policy development for local authorities by the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

Members considered that the following areas within the report required strengthening to improve equality and diversity:

- Special Education needs provided through the medium of the Welsh Language;
- The barriers of closing the gender gap (specifically to remove the word "**whether** barriers exist") and;
- Equal access to Services.

Members were pleased that "the Council continues to be recognised as an inclusive employer by ranking in [Stonewall's Top 100](#) employers in 2020" , demonstrating its commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusivity and applauded the "Women in Leadership Programme" which they considered to be critical in developing positive role models across the local authority.

The Committee spoke of the difficulties faced by some residents with disabilities manoeuvring around the county borough and was pleased to hear that the Disability Forum (which is looking to be regionalised) does consider highways issues such as dropped kerbs and is encouraging residents to voice their concerns with regards to these issues.

In conclusion, Committee requested that future work also includes reference to the Ukraine crisis and the potential impact the threat of war is having on children and the level of support they are receiving in schools. Committee also sought to include a table of compliments to balance the 'complaints and service improvements' table which would also support future service improvements.

## 31 SECTION 19 FLOOD INVESTIGATION REPORTS

The Service Director Democratic Services & Communication advised Members that the purpose of the report was to provide members with the opportunity to scrutinise the group of recently published Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Section 19 Flood Investigation Reports (Flood Investigation Area RCT 12-Treforest, RCT 14-Glyntaff & Hawthorn, RCT 17-Taffs Well, RCT 01-Hirwaun, RCT 11-Pontypridd, RCT 16 Upper Boat & Nantgarw, RCT10 Cilfynydd and RCT 27 Treherbert. The Service Director also commented that Members had the opportunity to comment on quarterly performance information relating to the actions contained in the review of the Council's response to Storm Dennis [Cabinet Report 18 December 2020](#).

The Council's Director of Frontline Services, and Head of Flood Risk Management and Strategic Projects presented the reports through a Power Point presentation with contributions from the Head of Operations South Wales Central Natural Resources Wales and the Managing Director, Wastewater Service, Business Customers & Energy, Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water.

Members also considered previously requested additional information namely, legal advice on the role of scrutiny in holding Natural Resources Wales liable for the flooding to properties in Pentre caused by Storm Dennis and correspondence associated with the WLGA Leaders' Meeting on the 28th May 2021 and any associated responses from the Local Authority, both of which were produced. The legal advice being consistent with that provided by the Service Director Democratic Services & Communication at the meeting.

In conclusion and following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to:

1. Acknowledge the Section 19 Flood Investigation reports collectively and the quarterly performance information relating to the actions contained in the review of the Council's response to Storm Dennis [Cabinet Report 18 December 2020](#);
2. Acknowledge the additional information as previously requested by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee; and
3. Propose that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the next Council, determine its focus upon this matter, as part of its work programming for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

## **32 Chair's Review and Close**

The Chair announced that this would be the last meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee before the Local Government Elections 2022. He acknowledged those Members who may not be standing and extended his best wishes to all Members in the forthcoming election

The Chair thanked Members and Officers for attending and summarised the actions to be taken forward. The pre scrutiny comments and observations regarding the Equality Annual Report 2020/21 would be reported to Cabinet at its meeting in March 2022 and he highlighted the recommendations to have arisen from the Action Plans and Scrutiny's consideration of the remaining Section 19 reports at Agenda item 5.

**This meeting closed at 7.15 pm**

**CLLR M. ADAMS  
CHAIR.**



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 16 March 2022 at 5.00 pm

### **County Borough Councillors - Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-**

Councillor J Edwards	Councillor J Brencher
Councillor A Calvert	Councillor S Morgans
Councillor M Powell	Councillor G Stacey
Councillor S Trask	Councillor D Williams

### **Co-Opted Members in attendance:-**

Mr M Veale  
Ms R Lydon  
Mr L Patterson

### **Officers in attendance:-**

Paul Mee – Group Director Children’s and Community Services  
Gaynor Davies – Director Education and Inclusion Services  
Zoe Lancelot - Head Of Community Wellbeing and Resilience  
Mr Paul Nicholls – Director Legal Services  
Catrin Edwards - Head Of Service Transformation and Data Systems  
Daniel Williams - Head Of Attendance and Wellbeing Service  
Christian Hanagan – Service Director Democratic Services and Communication  
Sarah Daniel – Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

## **22 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair took the opportunity to welcome Members into the Committee Meeting, with a particular welcome to Co-opted Members, Mr M Veale and Ms R Lydon.

Apologies of absence were received from County Borough Councillor and Chairperson, S Rees-Owen. Vice Chair, County Borough Councillor J Edwards took the Chair for the meeting.

## **23 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Councils Code of Conduct the following declaration of personal interest was made:

Co-Opted Member Mr M Veale – Personal interest as he sits on the Audit

Committee for Hafod Housing Association.

## **24 Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

## **25 Consultation Links**

The Scrutiny Officer advised Members of the consultations open should they wish to make a contribution individually or as a committee.

## **26 Resilient Families Service**

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience presented the report to Members on the performance of the Resilient Families Service during the financial years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date.

Members were directed to section 4 of the report; It was advised that the Resilient Families Programme was established in Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018; the programme was aimed to deliver timely and effective services to vulnerable families across RCT, and demonstrate the Councils commitments to the wider early intervention and prevention agenda embedded in the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, and the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The Resilient Families Service (RFS) adopts a collaborative and integrated approach in co-ordinating the contribution of a wide range of partners in delivering the right support at the right time to the right families and ensuring that families remain central to delivering any services. The service delivery model employs a strength based, relational approach to working with families that offers practical support to remove barriers to positive change. The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that the Service adopts a proactive approach in assessing and improving the level of resilience families and how to deal with challenging matters. The Service sits within the Children's Services structure and is Social Worker led, comprising of seven core teams which contribute to the delivery model. As part of RFS family assessment process, families within the programme go through a 7-step process until a case is closed once families have established resilience.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience directed Members to section 5 of the report, which details the effects of Covid-19 towards the Service. Members were informed that the Pandemic resulted in increased pressure for family support, demand for services and the need for innovative delivery of these services.

Members were advised that during the Pandemic RFS continued undertaking face to face contact with families on safeguarding grounds, however, the vast majority of services delivered had to be amended quickly into hybrid working in order to provide families with support despite national restrictions. Due the increased demand during the Pandemic, the Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience informed Members that 12 new staff members were employed in



order to cope with demand. The additional posts were significant in RFS to ensure support was provided directly to families and ensuring that despite increases in demand there are no waiting lists for families in accessing RFS support.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience guided Members through section 6 of the report which highlighted the performance of RFS since operating in 2018. Members were informed that since the establishment of the Service, RFS has had contact with over 7000 families in RCT. The table within the report provided a breakdown on the performance of the Service from 2018-2022 to date.

As part of section 7 of the report, this provided an overview of the service development priorities for 2022-23; It was advised that as part of the Early Years Transformation process, the delivery of the Early Years system for 0–7-year-olds will begin to be piloted in RCT and will be subject to rigorous external evaluation. This will include evaluation from RFS model as a means of providing universally accessible early year intervention and prevention services.

Members were advised of the MAGU Project which has been approved by Cabinet and construction of the service is underway. The MAGU Project will include the creation of new integrated delivery pathway between Community Midwifery, RFS and Children’s Services to embed an early intervention approach and facilitate smooth and effective transitions between services for the benefit of children and families.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience presented a presentation which provided Members with context in terms of the work undertaken by RFS towards families.

Based on table 6.1, a Member inquired on how the Service has managed based on the increase in RFS referrals in March 2022 and how that has impacted on the outcomes for families. Additional information was also requested on the financial appraisals received from Citizens Advice RCT.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that it was challenging to see the increase in referrals however staff have been delivering services through a hybrid model. Careful planning has been implemented towards the RFS assessment process to ensure all facilities and services provided to families are within a 6–12-week intervention. It was advised that RFS focus on providing intense support to families over a shorter period of time due to numerous complex cases coming in. Members were reassured of the extensive experience across the whole RFS team which ensures families are provided with the best support channels possible. Additional training and support are also provided to staff to enable caseload management.

In relation the second half of the question, The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that the financial appraisal commissioned Citizen’s Advice across the board for families needing debt management support, benefit screening; the financial appraisal was a proactive approach in removing barriers and ensuring household finances are in the best position.

A Member inquired how long RFS worked with Family P and if they are still monitored. The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised that the

family was under the Service for a 6-week period and if further support was required it would have been extended to 12 weeks. It was advised that families can come back through the Service for further support and that cases are not closed until there is no risk present.

A Member requested further information on how families can access Flying Start since being made universally available and how since the introduction of the Section 1 Children Act (Wales), how this has aided RFS in identifying those families and not criminalising parents. Lastly, the Members asked if RFS had sufficient confidence in the long-term funding sustainability based on the work being undertaken by the Service.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members of the impact on RFS's delivery model. It was advised that full Flying Start offers infrastructures that provide complete security and ensure monitoring is undertaken to match resources with need.

As part of the Children Act (Wales), it was advised that RFS have had numerous conversations and been collaborative to ensure processes do not criminalise parents. RFS have also been utilising the RFS Parenting Team to support and provide interventions. In relation to additional funding, it was advised that Welsh Government have agreed for a further year for early year health services. The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that there is always an appetite for addition funding however Members were reassured of the better position of RCT in providing early intervention due to increments made by the Council prior to the Pandemic; this has created a level of confidence in the support for the next year or two.

In relation to Family P, a query was raised on the interventions used in tackling mum's Dyslexia. It was advised that partnership arrangements were in place with adult learning and communication services.

A Member inquired if RFS had a housing appraisal in place to help people looking for housing. The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised that RFS do have housing appraisal units which looks at resolving housing problems; It was advised that RFS have a good relationship with the housing support teams.

A query was raised from a Co-Opted Member Mr Veale, he inquired if the RFS had exceeded its targets set since establishment in 2018. The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised that in 2018 RFS expected to support 1,200 families a year however, they have exceeded expectation. Since establishment engagement in the Service has increased by 49% from referrals through to assessments, however that has now increased to 68% engagement which has been a positive indicator that the Services provided are what families require.

To add, the Group Director – Community and Children Services commented on the effectiveness of the Service and the community hubs before the pandemic as its aided in responding to these matters in a timely and effective manner. It was advised that RFS has been a positive investment in early intervention and prevention. The Group Director – Community and Children Services advised Members that demand for the Service will increase and passed on credit to the Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience for the extensive work and effort undertaken.

The Chair thanked the Officer for the comprehensive report as it highlighted the support in place for Children and Young People across RCT. The Chair queried the interventions on how many professionals this will include and what it will look like. A query was also raised on RFS timescales of 6-12weeks and whether this is enough time. Lastly a query was raised on hard-to-reach parents and how RFS aim to maintain contact.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that RFS comprises of 7 teams which work with families to ensure they work their way through a wider service approach. It was advised that there are no waiting lists due to highly trained assessors that can go in and enable progress to be made. Members were informed of the 5-day assessment process and once that's completed, the families will progress through the programme based on an arranged plan. An Intervention worker will work for the full 6 weeks with the family and act as their central point; They will manage their plans and other professionals around that too. Extension of the timescale can be extended if needed and exit strategies will be set in order to provide on-going support. In relation to the hard-to-reach parents, the Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that as parents work full-time changes have been made in order to make services available remotely to allow greater flexibility for parents.

Lastly a query was raised in regard to the face-to-face contact; the Member inquired if RFS are confident in the service in ensuring that children and young people are not falling through the gap as a consequence of a reduction of face-to-face contact.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience advised Members that throughout the Pandemic, RFS has worked alongside AWS to ensure robust pathways are in place for children by working closely with schools, and youth services to ensure all children are identified.

All Members in the Committee thanked the Service for its extensive work towards supporting families across RCT.

**RESOLVED: Members noted the contents of the report**

## **27 School Admissions**

The Head of Service Transformation presented the report to Members which provided a summary of the annual school admissions process. Members were reminded that a report was provided for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2020, which detailed the Council's school admissions process. This report provides an update on developments within school admissions in the last 12 months and application date for the forthcoming 2022/2023 admissions year.

Following the report, a Member raised a query based on table 4.2, it was asked, for children who do not take up their offer, how the school admissions team monitor children to make sure they are in the system.

The Head of Service Transformation advised Members that the team utilise robust systems to ensure children are not missing education. It was advised that when children are born, checks are undertaken during the Autumn term on how many children should be applying to ensure all children take up a place. Overall, the team track over 40,000 children attendance.

A Member queried from the 159 children who were awarded an offer but did not take up, where did they go. It was advised that parents apply for different places in different areas in case their children are not accepted within their first choice in RCT. It was advised that some schools process their own application as a result the team work closely with faith schools in order to track children attendance.

A Member asked whether there is a school in RCT which is constantly oversubscribed and whether since the advert of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has the school admissions team noticed a decline in patterns of admissions. The Head of Service Transformation reassured Members that no child is refused a place in their catchment school. It was also advised that there has not been an increase since the 21<sup>st</sup> Century advertisement.

The Chair thanked the Officer for the extensive report which provided informative data.

**RESOLVED: Members noted the contents of the report**

## **28 Period Dignity**

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service presented the report to Members with provided an update on the Council's progress of tackling period poverty within schools across Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) and to look at the way forward.

Members were reminded of a notice of motion which was brought to the Council in July 2017 seeking that the Council research the availability of free sanitary products, such as tampons, and towels, in all secondary schools in the County as an acknowledgement that they are as essential as toilet paper for personal hygiene of female pupils. The Council supported the move in 2018, which required all schools in RCT with pupils aged 9 and above to provide free sanitary products for female learners to access independently.

In the current financial year, the grant funding for Period Dignity in Schools has been combined with the Period Dignity in Communities for the first time with Local Authorities (LA) being able to determine themselves how much spend is allocated to each area. Of the total £203,701, £42,000 was allocated to the community element of the grant which is controlled by Community Services and the remaining £161,701 was allocated to schools.

The current grant conditions stipulate that a 'minimum of 50% of the total amount spent on period products must be used to purchase eco-friendly period products.

Since the last review, the Welsh Government Programme for Government 2021-2026 priorities embedding period dignity in schools as well as expanding free period product provision in communities and the private sector. It was advised

that the team have formed part of the Welsh Government Roundtable Discussions and the Information and Good Practice Sharing Sessions to highlight the work that RCT has undertaken, and continue to undertake, within this area.

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service advised Members that RCT are involved in the mapping of period products availability across Wales via NHS Wales Mislif/Bloody Brilliant resource tool. This has been updated with the 113 schools who distribute free period products as well as the 34 community groups/third sector/ LA buildings which those on low income including young people can also access for products. The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service confirmed to Members that the service should launch in the new financial year and will be enhanced with education resources.

A Member commended the Officers for their commitment and work towards the project in ensuring dignity of girls across RCT is upheld. The Member advised that upon a visit to a school it was suggested that the project was a great initiative however posed concerns such as the lack of flexibility and storage spaces for bulk period products. The Members advised of the importance of empowering schools to utilise the products in the best way through educational training. The Member reinforced the importance of listening to pupil voices in order to widen the scope of all schools. The Member asked, based on the new curriculum how it's been engaged into the new national curriculum.

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Services advised that they have been working with the WG on educational resources for schools such as through the Hubs, schools can access those materials and use them for PHSE lessons or any other. The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service agreed with the Councillor, advising that to date the grant has been very specific to be spent on products and therefore concerns have been raised on children's utilisation of the products and awareness of what eco-friendly products are. As a result, a meeting with the WG was requested last summer in order to progress the educational element by seconding someone to provide regular training sessions directly with children, young people (Male and Female) and staff to educate them of what re-usable products are.

A Member was pleased with the discussions occurring with Welsh Government in order to provide resolutions. However, the Member raised a query surrounding the locations of the dispensers and how the introduction of mix gender toilets may cause embarrassment for young girls.

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service advised Members that the dispensers are located within toilet cubicles and schools have been provided with stickers to be placed on doors to indicate the location the dispensers.

To add, the Member required further information regarding conversations that have been had surrounding mix gender toilets and the maintenance of dignity for girls.

The Service Director – Education and Inclusion Services advised Members that for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, gender neutral toilets will be integrated with sinks which will permit children and young people to be able to clean and re-use the products.

A Member asked whether the programme is also running in RCT special school

and if so, what extra support is provided for those schools in terms of how to use the products.

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service advised that the programme is located in all RCT schools except 2 infant schools. Members were advised that there are materials within the Hub on the utilisation of the products and additional training can be provided to the Special Schools.

A Member was pleased with the conversation being held around maintaining dignity and creating safe spaces for girls in schools. The Member reinforced the importance of pupil voices as the project moves through the next stages. The Service Director – Education and Inclusion Services advised that the whole process on designing schools is undertaken with the collaboration of staff, stakeholders, and young people to ensure its fit for purpose. It was advised that the effective design process of school's results to better spaces fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The Chair noted the importance of eco-friendly products as reinforced by the Welsh Government thus indicating a culture shift with young people and wider communities. The Chair inquired if more could be done to progress the project further and if the programme is an ageless opportunity which sees a widespread of products across RCT communities.

The Head of Attendance and Wellbeing Service advised that the Community Services department have rolled out the programme in Food Banks, Community Centres and to those with low incomes. It was advised that WG are focused on progressing the programme further in order for products to be accessed in public spaces with high foot fall such as Theatres, Stadiums, and Communities.

**RESOLVED: Members noted the content of the report**

**29 Urgent Business**

None

**This meeting closed at Time Not Specified**

**CLLR S REES-OWEN  
CHAIR.**



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, COMMUNITIES AND PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee meeting held on Thursday, 17 February 2022 at 5.00 pm.

**County Borough Councillors - Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance in the Chamber:-**

Councillor S Bradwick (Chair)  
Councillor E George

**County Borough Councillors - Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance virtually:-**

Councillor J Barton	Councillor A Chapman
Councillor A Fox	Councillor D Grehan
Councillor G Holmes	Councillor W Jones
Councillor G Stacey	Councillor W Treeby
Councillor M Weaver	Councillor T Williams

**Officers in attendance:-**

Mr S Humphreys, Head of Legal Services  
Mr D Batten, Head of Leisure  
Ms W Edwards, Service Director – Community Services  
Ms N Jones, Waste Services Strategic & Ops Officer  
Mr S Owen, Service Director – Streetcare  
Mr R Wistow - Ecologist  
Mr N Kelland – Principal Officer Libraries  
Mr G Henson - Countryside Manager  
Mr D Brown – Invasive Species Officer  
Mrs T Watson - Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

**Other County Borough Councillors in attendance:-**

Councillor A Crimmings – Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Heritage Services

**8 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors J James (MS) and S Pickering.

**9 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, the following declarations of

personal interest were made:

#### Agenda item 5 - Green Waste Collections

- County Borough Councillor J Barton 'I am Chair of Litter-Free Beddau and Tynant and I am a Llantrisant Community Councillor.
- County Borough Councillor S Bradwick 'I am with an Allotment society who have purchased green bags from the Council.

#### Agenda item 6 – Library Strategy and Action Plan for 2022/25

- County Borough Councillor J Barton 'I am Chair of the Trustees of Beddau and Tynant Community Library'

#### Agenda item 7 – Current Biodiversity work in RCT

- County Borough Councillor J Barton 'I am one of the people who looks after Tynant Woods'

Agenda item 8 – Update on the control of Japanese Knotweed in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

County Borough Councillor S Bradwick 'My postcode is in the report'

## 10 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as an accurate reflection of the meeting subject to noting the apologies of Councillor Weaver, which had been given, for the meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### Matters Arising:

Councillor J Barton confirmed that she had received a response from Officers but felt going forward that there needed to be a Council wide Litter Strategy, not just about picking, but about prevention and enforcement.

The Chair sought clarification in relation to the former blue plaque at the Old Cinema, Pontypridd, in respect of a previous request. Democratic Officers to forward the response to Councillor J James.

## 11 Scrutiny Research

Members were informed of the Scrutiny Research facility that was available to utilise within the Council Business Unit and members could request to use the facility by emailing the Scrutiny mailbox.

## 12 Consultation Links

Members were informed of the Consultations that may be of interest to them.

## 13 Green Waste Collections

The Strategic Waste Officer presented the report to Members providing



an update on green waste collections following the implementation of sack collections and the 'RCT's Got a Brand New Bag' communications campaign. She acknowledged that RCT had some very strict recycling targets with a target of 70% set by Welsh Government (WG) and an internal target of 80%, both by 2024. The service was also assisting the Council to become a carbon neutral Council which included reducing the amount of single use plastic and by looking at the Council's carbon footprint. The changes involved switching to reusable green waste sacks, which were free of charge to residents on registering their address against the collections which also allowed the Council to monitor who and how often customers were participating. There was also the opportunity for residents to buy extra sacks.

The Strategic Waste Officer updated Members on the communications campaign. Bringing Members up to date she confirmed there were nearly 36k registered customers with 76.5k sacks, with 97% of these registrations having been online. There was a very small take up of trade with 59, including for example florists, churches, etc. To date, 96% of registered customers had only ordered the 2 free sacks. The Strategic Waste Officer updated Members on both the positive and negative feedback and concerns, following the switchover and as a result, the spring communication had been amended in line with concerns raised. A number of issues that had occurred as a result of the change including some difficult to access properties, properties coming up as trade, allotment collections and missed collections, and the Strategic Waste Officer highlighted the solutions put in place.

The Strategic Waste Officer highlighted that staff were coping well, even though they had not completed a full season, and highlighted the intelligence which could be used going forward to ensure collections were as efficient as possible. She provided Members with some numbers, in terms of resources and highlighted that the Taf area was very top heavy and so a close eye would be kept on resources to ensure that collections did not run behind. In addition, the tonnage and participation would be monitored carefully, and it was hoped that the mass delivery of green sacks had already been done, although again, this would be monitored closely.

The Strategic Waste Officer finished by explaining that communications would be stepped up over the next couple of weeks with a press release going out on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March which would highlight the return to weekly green waste collections, an increase in social media for the first 2 weeks of Easter in addition to using the information sticker.

The Chair thanked Officers for the report and, following the update, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

A Member stated that the report was very comprehensive and stated it would be interesting, with regard to demand, to see what happened after Easter, when a lot more people would be gardening. In respect of Allotments, the Member asked

that when Officers communicated with Allotments could they also communicate with Community Councils, so they are kept in the loop.

A Member asked the Officers for clarification in relation to the complaints about the bags containing loose items.

The Strategic Waste Officer confirmed that examples of this were dry leaves and hutch waste, which could be quite light.

The Member also asked for clarifications on properties being removed if no green waste was presented, this being collections and not weeks?

The Strategic Waste Officer confirmed that it was collections.

The Member picked up that some people weren't happy with the number of bags e.g., someone with a small lawn compared with someone with a large area, however the Member felt the report was generally positive.

The Chair noted that rabbit hutch waste was still being collected and asked if this was the same for wood pelleted cat litter?

The Strategic Waste Officer confirmed that it was only hutch animals e.g., Rabbits/Guinea pigs. She explained that they had checked with the processors, and they had been quite clear that it was only hutch waste that they would accept.

The Chair asked for further clarification for the Committee, as a lot of people used the recyclable cat litter pellets?

The Service Director – Streetcare noted that historically the wood pellet type wasn't widely used, but he would seek further clarification.

A Member noted that he had received several complaints where residents hadn't received their sacks and asked if this could be looked into. The Member also noted that one person had complained their sack had accidentally gone into a back of a lorry and was now in dispute with the Council with trying to get a replacement. Regarding Allotments, the Member also asked that communication was needed with Tonyrefail Community Council, who looked after the ones in Tonyrefail. The Member recognised there were hard to reach areas with narrow lanes, and asked if residents would receive green sacks or would they still be using the plastic sacks?

The Service Director - Streetcare noted that they had received a relatively small number of complaints but were aware some were saying they had not received their green bags so the Service would be re-delivering to those people. He explained that when it came to collections, the record would show they had 2 sacks, so if people were trying to use it to get an additional 2 sacks and they presented 4 sacks, only 2 sacks would be collected. It was not open to abuse, in that respect. In terms of narrow lanes, there were some hard-to-reach areas, which the green collection vehicle couldn't access readily, so if those properties were not able to be accessed, they would remain as a plastic sack collection. In terms of the individual green sack in the lorry, if it was the crew's fault, this would be honoured, and the sack replaced. The Strategic Waste Officer explained that she was aware of the case mentioned and would investigate. In terms of Allotments there were some allotments that had to carry on with clear bags,

because of where they were but they would be told that.

The Chair asked if the Council was contacting Council Allotments, or private Allotments?

The Service Director - Streetcare confirmed that initially contact would be with allotments run by societies in order to keep a tight control, but would see how it went.

A Member stated that this was a good report, with few complaints. He explained with regard to loose waste that in the north there were high winds, even in the summer. He understood the issue of tying the bags, but wouldn't that mean crews having to undo a knot? The Member asked if Officers were looking flaps for future bags?

The Service Director - Streetcare explained that a full review would be undertaken after a full season and any future purchases could consider bags with flaps on, if that was a recommendation. In terms of loose waste, he confirmed people were not expected to tie knots, but just put the handles together. In terms of winds, it was a common-sense approach, and he didn't see the green waste posing any greater risk. The Service Director -Streetcare confirmed that all waste collections were suspended for the 18/2 due to the high winds and the knock-on effect for the following week, meant everything moved on a day.

A Member referred to the table on page 12 and noted that the Taf area was taking the lead with green waste collections. He noticed at the top of the league was Beddau, and asked for clarification that this included Beddau and Ty Nant?

The Strategic Waste Officer confirmed that Ty Nant did come under Beddau.

A Member felt that the report should say it covered Beddau and Ty Nant. In respect of extra money for flaps, the Member did not feel if it would be worthwhile, as from a family Members experience, they were not effective.

The Chair noted the saving of about 3m recycling bags, and asked what the saving was on that?

The Service Director - Streetcare confirmed that it was not so much the monetary value, but reduction in single use plastic, but he would find this out.

The Chair noted his disappointment that only 59 businesses had signed up but was glad this was now on the website, and glad the service was looking at allotments. The Chair also felt that the tables for the tonnage, on 4.11, could have been printed better. Regarding the unsuitable vehicles and getting new vehicles in, the Chair asked when this would be looked at and would these vehicles be electric, hydrogen or diesel?

The Service Director - Streetcare stated that vehicles were on a rolling programme over a number of years and was dependent on their current age and condition. The Service was always looking to rationalise and review, what was the appropriate vehicle but there were some areas that could not be accessed with a refuse size vehicle, due to difficulty in accessing those properties, although this was a small percentage. Technology was developing all the time and the Service was well on board under climate change strategy to develop low emission vehicles be it electric or hydrogen going forward. Experiencing of

trailing vehicles had been ok on the flat, but challenging on steep sided valleys, so they needed to be fit for purpose. Technology was constantly changing, and the Service was part of various working groups to look at fleet replacement.

The Chair noted that himself, the Vice chair and other Members of the Committee were happy to be involved in a campaign/video to promote the green waste collections.

The Service Director - Streetcare noted this.

The Chair asked for clarification on the re-bagging of compost and selling it to local allotments.

The Service Director – Streetcare explained that for the processors to make a reasonable quality compost, they needed to extract the plastic fragments. The Service was not responsible for the processing part or the onward potential of reusing and recycling and selling back compost – it was the processors, but he explained that the Service were trying to provide a product that the processors could work with better to be able for it to become a product, that could be considered going forward.

The Cabinet Member Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services thanked the Officers, noting it was not an easy job to bring this in, but it was about climate change and the Council's duty. There was a need to tweak and listen to the residents and she thanked residents for embracing this. There would be a Challenge coming into the spring, but the local authority had been proactive in communication. The Cabinet Member Environment, Leisure and Heritage Services concluded by thanking Scrutiny and Councillors for sharing the information in such a positive way.

The Chair thanked Officers for the report and confirmed they had the backing of the committee.

**Members RESOLVED to note the content of the report and agreed that they should further scrutinise, and should be an ongoing item for this committee.**

#### **14 Library Strategy and Action Plan for 2022/25**

The Service Director – Community Services began by stating this was an opportunity for Members to review the draft strategy and associated Action Plan. This was the third strategy, and it was proposed it covered the next 3 years. It was particularly notable that it had come at the end of the pandemic, which had a major impact on residents and on the library service and section 4 of the report outlined some of the impact covid had on the library service and the adaptations that were made to continue to deliver support to residents during the national and local lockdowns and through the period of restrictions. She noted that Library staff were transferred during the national lockdown to support residents in other ways and whilst all of that was positive, it was a huge challenge for the service itself and it had an impact on what was delivered under the last strategy.

The Service Director – Community Services explained that Appendix 1 showed what was achieved against the key priorities, with a lot being very positive. The positive impact was 110% increase in digital downloads, and a huge increase in those who used that service. Also, a key development, at this time was the

merging of the One4All service with the Library Service which provided opportunities to enhance the provision of advice and information available to residents. In terms of the draft library strategy, at Appendix 2, the Service Director - Community Services explained they had tried to keep it as accessible as possible, to enable people to get a feel for what the service was trying to do. Three key priorities had been identified to inform and shape future provision which would include the ability to deliver more blended approaches. The Service Director - Community Services stated that Members' opinions were valued, and she asked for their opinion in terms of anything they would like to see amended or added. In terms of the Outcomes and Impacts, the Library Service is guided by the universal library outcomes that were identified in the sixth quality framework.

Appendix 3 detailed the action plan which identified how the Service hoped to meet the priorities and achieve the outcomes and impacts. In terms of finance, the Service was core funded but external funding had been drawn down, particularly for new projects which had enabled the Service to enhance the offer to Customers. The Service Director – Community Services concluded by saying there had been significant developments during the period and there had been progress against some key aspects of the previous action plan for 2019 - 2021, but the reduction in footfall because of the pandemic, had been significant and it was recognised it would be a challenge to draw people back in. The other challenge going forward during the transitional period, was meeting the needs of all customers, whether they were looking for more digital services or face to face services.

The Chair thanked the Officer for the report and, following the update, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

A Member thanked the Officer and noted that she always listened to things from RCT libraries with pride but also sadness explaining that 7 years ago volunteers took over Beddau and Ty Nant library because RCT were going to close it and was very much a community hub which had been hugely successful. The Member asked if Beddau and Ty Nant library could be included in future plans that involved RCT libraries.

The Service Director – Community Services acknowledged that the Service could certainly work and support Beddau and Ty Nant library, noting that when it had been possible e.g. during the Summer Reading Challenge, that those resources had been provided. However, she noted that in terms of the public library service, funding was provided to support 13 libraries and meet the requirements of the customers, but the service would be very happy to work in partnership and provide support to Beddau and Ty Nant library to access other funds that were available and continue to support with initiatives. The Principal Officer - Libraries, commended the volunteers at Beddau and Ty Nant library and reiterated what the Service Director – Community Services had said, in terms of support. He noted that whilst there had been a lot of communication via email, the regular meetings had stopped, and he felt it would be a good idea to start up a quarterly meeting to work together.

A Member commended the service and noted that feedback from residents was that they could not fault the library service in Llantrisant.

A Member acknowledged that with the opening of the Mountain Ash library,

there were doubts by residents over the success it would make, and what would be lost, taking over from the Day centre however she noted what a massive success it had been and how great the staff were.

The Chair referred to Porth Plaza and Llys Cadwyn, which were the newest libraries and asked if the Service Director – Community Services could update Members on what the footfall was for these two new libraries. In terms of the footfall for other libraries the Chair asked for a more detailed breakdown of how the footfall had gone down. The merging of the One4All service with the library service had enhanced the library service and was a way forward and a great initiative.

The Chair asked what facilities were there for those that were deaf?

The Service Director – Community Services explained that a lot of training had been done with library staff on a range of issues where it was felt a better understanding would be helpful. The Wales Council for the Deaf had been successful in gaining funding from the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund, to deliver in RCT, a range of British sign language opportunities for businesses and organisations so that people who were deaf were able to go to places and have somebody there, with some knowledge of British sign language. The Service Director – Community Services confirmed that this would be looked at being put in the delivery plan, and all frontline library staff would have access to some British sign language training, which would provide a bit more accessibility, recognising that it was nice for people to be greeted in their own language, whatever that was.

The Service Director – Community Services confirmed in relation to the previous question on overall numbers of visitors, in the last full year which was 2018 – 2019, there were 727,922 visits to the library. From 1 April 2021 to January 2022 with various alert levels in place, it was down to 284,145, which provided an idea of the impact. The Service Director – Community Services noted the wider impact, with a large number of partners who would normally deliver face to face provision, not able to offer it during that period.

The Chair finished by thanking the Service Director - Community Services for all her hard work all the best for the future, on her impending retirement. The Service Director – Community Services thanked the Chair and Members of the Committee for all their help and kind words.

**Members RESOLVED to note the content of the report and agreed that the library report should come back to the Committee on a regular basis.**

## **15 Current Biodiversity work in RCT**

The Ecologist explained that the purpose of the report was to give a bit more structure to some of the biodiversity work being done, that was presented to the previous meeting. He hoped that the message from the report was that a lot of the work was cross departmental. The Ecologist acknowledged that RCT was a place of outstanding biodiversity, with the four main priorities being trying to protect what was there, to manage the habitats, raise awareness, and recording what was there. He noted that RCT was a place rich in biodiversity, where people can find rare and interesting species and habitats, even including species new to science.

The Ecologist then took Members through some of the key areas of work, giving a flavour of the direction of work including the planning process, and how ecology is considered in that very important function. This led on to the new Local Development Plan (LDP) which considered Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and working on the new LDP, including a new ecological policy. There was a big piece of work around planning which led to ecological mitigation needed for sites, working alongside the legal department on things such as S106 agreements. Another piece of work was the Local Nature Plan, which was a whole community plan trying to pull together what was known about RCT and the biodiversity, to provide evidence based and feedback from the community to build up what was important and why it was important.

The Ecologist continued that the fourth area the report talked about was council land management e.g., local nature reserves, large key countryside sites and living landscape sites and the fifth area was the living landscape project which was being piloted in the next couple of years, with 23 sites over 29 wards and was an attempt to have a network of managed sites, close to communities and have real biodiversity hot spots, linking communities. He noted that real progress had been made on the living landscape project over the last few months and more work would be done over the summer and going forward. This was a big area of work, and it was hoped it would become a demonstration project. The sixth area was the grass management e.g., conversation grazing, cut and collect and wild verges work and was a good example of cross departmental work. The Ecologist noted the 'Let's talk RCT – Wildflowers' website, with an appeal for people to put sites forward for wildflower management. The seventh piece of work, that had taken a lot of focus, was the climate change resilience work and looking at how natural solutions could deliver biodiversity and carbon storage and natural flood management e.g., manage habitats better, restoring peatbogs and having natural tree regeneration, identified as a way of increasing tree cover, as it didn't count currently.

The Ecologist ended his report by noting that the eighth area of work was community engagement, as there was a real thirst from the community to find out more about biodiversity and the concern people had. He noted that they hadn't been able to do walks and talks, over the last few years but the local nature plan had done some good web-based consultation. The final piece of work was that all this fed back into the biodiversity duty, which was a duty imposed on the local authority to show incremental improvements in biodiversity across the whole council. He noted that the Performance Management Service had taken this on. The paper then talked about the challenges and capacity and opportunity that was taken forward. The Ecologist concluded by saying that biodiversity was genuinely cross-departmental and great progress had been made in the last few years and there were great opportunities to be taken forward.

The Chair commended the Ecologist wholeheartedly for his enthusiasm and the report following the update, following which Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

A Member referred to work which was planned for Abercwmboi and parts of the top of Cwmaman and explained previous conversations with an Officer and asked for clarification of what was happening.

The Ecologist explained that the Officer had since left the authority. He knew

about the piece in Abercwmboi, and this would be revisited and taken forward.

A Member thanked Officers for the report and the work they did. The Member was pleased to hear about anything to do with ecology and he hoped a couple of things could be moved forward in Tonyrefail. The Member noted a question from a local group, Tonyrefail Environment Association, with regard to daffodils in verges, which had been cut early and asked if it was possible to make the teams aware about these verges.

The Ecologist explained that he would talk to Streetcare, as this was something that had been raised previously, and noted that daffodils did need that period of being left, after having flowered to be able to flower again.

The Chair noted there were 39 sites for wildflowers and asked if the Officer could provide a breakdown of the sites within each of the wards. He also asked if the Council was looking to buy in more wild plants, to plant in the area?

The Ecologist explained that the schedule that Streetcare were pulling together, for this year, would be mapped to produce maps to show where they are and the idea going forward would be to provide much more specific information e.g., where and what. In respect of wildflower planting, the Ecologist noted that in RCT wildflowers existed, in many cases, and one of things that had been found in RCT, compared to other parts of the UK, was that the biodiversity was still there and when the grass management was started, wildflowers in the local seedbanks would grow. He noted that in different parts of RCT there were different natural wildflowers occurring and so the Ecologist felt that it would be better, not to plant loads of wildflowers in the countryside because it made everything look generically the same, as opposed to maintaining that local distinctiveness.

A Member acknowledged that the report was a pleasure to read. The Member was very supportive of the wildflower initiative and as Mayor would be pleased to provide any help and support, to promote this.

A Member noted a recent site visit about another issue, where a resident took a keen interest in plants and said on a stretch of verge, in the past, there had been rare orchids. He asked, if they were there in a couple of month's time, would that be something that the biodiversity team would be interested in.

The Ecologist explained that in terms of verge management, there was a need to consider those verges where wildflowers could be left safely, but they would look into this to see if the Orchids could be left. The Member agreed to provide the Ecologist with the location.

**Members RESOLVED to note the content of the report and support the direction of biodiversity action and delivery identified in the report and the proposal that, in future, regular progress updates are reported to the Committee.**

## **16 Update on the control of Japanese Knotweed in Rhondda Cynon Taf**

The Countryside Manager provided Members with a presentation on the control of Japanese Knotweed in Rhondda Cynon Taf. The Countryside Manager noted that all Members would have heard of Japanese



Knotweed or had experience, probably a negative one and provided some background. He noted that Japanese Knotweed affecting properties was mostly quite rare, although he recognised it was a problem. It was important to understand why the plant was so prevalent in the UK and why it did so well, as in its natural environment it didn't pose the problem that was seen here, mainly because it didn't have any natural predators, pests or fungi, so there was nothing to keep it in check. It was very widespread in the UK, including Wales and RCT, in particular. In terms of legislation, this underpinned the responsibility of the Council, and the Countryside Manager took Members through the 3 pieces of relevant legislation that were important, which were the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The Countryside Manager then went on to explain about the history of treatment of Japanese Knotweed in RCT, noting that herbicide treatment was the most effective and timing of the treatment the most important thing. The problem was, this wasn't an exact science, and a number of things had a huge bearing on how successful the treatment was, which often meant sites needed to be treated a number of times. The Countryside Manager then talked about how things had changed, in terms of treatment as a result of Bank and Mortgage Company's becoming risk adverse because of the lack of information and scaremongering, related to Japanese Knotweed. As a result, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) had produced a guidance paper, which talked about the 7m rule, which had resulted in a huge number of complaints about Japanese Knotweed to the Council.

The Countryside Manager then went on to provide Members with information on how the council dealt with Knotweed complaints on Council land, noting that there were currently 408 sites on the annual treatment programme. In terms of future improvements, the Countryside Manager explained the worrying trend, which had been identified, in terms of legal claims and complaints regarding Knotweed and it had been identified that an Invasive Species Officer was needed, with that role recently being appointed to, which would give more time to dedicate and try and mitigate against legal claims. It was hoped with a dedicated Officer, that there would be a move to some proactive work, improvement to the web advice and reporting system whilst providing more training with staff from other departments. The Countryside Manager ended his presentation by providing Members with a list of useful statistics.

The Chair thanked the Officer for the presentation, following which Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

A Member thanked the Officer for the presentation and sought clarification of treatment, by the Council, on private land, and if that couldn't be done, was there something residents could buy to treat it themselves.

The Countryside Manager explained that the Council could not treat private land because of the huge scale of the problem and the priority was trying to mitigate

against legal claims and treatment of Council land. In terms of the advice, the Countryside Manager explained that they did offer advice on how to treat it, best time and best way to approach it, for those that were confident dealing with herbicides. They could also provide advice in terms of looking at an approved contractor to deal with it.

A Member sought clarification on page 91, of the second paragraph of the letter, in relation to land that was managed by the Council, as opposed to owned.

The Countryside Manager explained that it meant the same, effectively although some sites that were owed, but were not actively managed.

The Member also referred to previous media reporting in relation to the introduction of a bug to act as a predator to this species and asked was that something that had happened.

The Countryside Manager noted that this had happened and there was a trial that took place in the Swansea Valley's however he hadn't seen any evidence to suggest that this had been a success story.

The Member asked for clarification on what could be done with an absent landlord.

The Countryside Manager noted that the first point of contact was the Public Health Department and an outline of how the process worked, was included in the Appendix.

The Member noted that that there was a carriageway, where Knotweed was coming from the neighbouring gardening and asked if this was something that could be dealt with.

The Countryside Manager explained that if there was Knotweed on Council land and it was affecting a property, that would be a priority and would be looked to be treated.

A Member asked for clarification in relation to private land where knotweed had emanated from a railway embankment, which was now Council bridleway, and the landowner couldn't be found, and it was now affecting properties.

The Countryside Manager acknowledged it was difficult to comment without specifics and if it was unregistered land, it would be difficult. The Council did treat Knotweed on unregistered land, if it was considered a priority and the budget was available, and it was in the public interest however the Countryside Manager explained there were many examples like this so it would need to be looked at on its individual merits, although it was a difficult balance.

The Member referred to the 442 sites being treated by RCT and noted by his count that there were 78 in Rhondda, 164 in Cynon and 200 in Taf, and sought clarification in regard to this.

The Countryside Manager stated that he could not explain precisely, and perhaps it was either more people having Knotweed in these areas, or more people being affected by the Knotweed? He noted that Taf was a bigger area and there maybe more land holdings that were backing on to properties, so there were a number of factors providing those statistics.

A Member, referring to the Members question in relation to a known landowner, who was not responding and asked if action could be taken under section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which was land detrimental to the amenities of the neighbourhood.

The Legal Officer noted that section 215 was a potential option and it could be raised with the planning enforcement team

The Member asked if the Council could do the work and then charge the landowner?

The Legal Officer explained that under a 215 notice this was potentially an option.

The Chair noted that the report stated that £10k had been allocated and there was grant funding of £20k, and asked if this was enough.

The Countryside Manager stated, that if he was honest, it wasn't enough. He noted that £24k had been spent on the spraying programme alone, this year.

The Chair noted that in terms of the reserves, £873k had been allocated on 34 sites, because of possible legal action and felt it would be useful for Members to know if there was a Knotweed problem in their ward.

The Countryside Manager explained that this information could be provided.

**Members RESOLVED to note the information contained within the report and consider the development of a coordinated approach throughout the Council to Japanese Knotweed including the reporting and treatment as well as staff training. Members asked for update in 12 months time on the way forward.**

#### **17 Chair's Review and Close**

The Chair noted that he had been Chair of the Committee for the past 5 years, Vice-Chair for 5 years previously, and felt this was the best Committee. The Chair appreciated the work, efforts and contributions from every Member of the Committee and wished all Members the best for the future and hoped to see many back in the chamber in May.

#### **18 Urgent Business**

None

**This meeting closed at 7.23 pm**

**CLLR S. BRADWICK  
CHAIR.**

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**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday, 15  
February 2022 at 5.00 pm.

**County Borough Councillors - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Members in attendance:-**

Councillor R Yeo (Chair)

Councillor S Evans	Councillor L De Vet
Councillor M Forey	Councillor M Griffiths
Councillor P Howe	Councillor G Jones
Councillor L Jones	Councillor S Powderhill
Councillor A Roberts	Councillor G Stacey
Councillor S Trask	Councillor J Williams

**Officers in attendance:-**

Mr D Batten, Head of Leisure Parks & Countryside  
Ms S Kochalski, Leisure Strategy Manager  
Mr K Nicholls, Leisure Operations Manager  
Mrs S Handy, Members' Researcher & Scrutiny Officer

**Guests:-**

Councillor A. Crimmings  
Councillor G. Caple

**22 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed Members to the last meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee for the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

**23 Declaration of Interest**

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

**24 Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> November as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

**25 Consultation Links**

Members acknowledged the consultation links which were provided for their information and **RESOLVED** to note any consultations that are relevant to the remit of the Committee.

## 26 Leisure Medium Term Strategy

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside provided Members with an overview of the Leisure Medium Term Strategy. Members were asked to consider the draft Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2022-26 prior to a formal public and stakeholder consultation process.

The Leisure Operations Manager and Leisure Strategy Manager provided Members with a power point presentation, which outlined the aims of the strategy in further detail.

Following the overview, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

A Member referred to the virtual online classes and queried whether this was a service we were buying into from outside or whether it was being provided 'in house'. The Member also queried whether they were live classes or on demand and what kind of classes are being offered. The Member also sought clarification as to what the uptake figures were. The Leisure Strategy Manager advised Members that the scheme initially started through the GP referral scheme and was aimed at vulnerable patients who were unable to go out during the pandemic. Members were told that at the moment it's an in house provision but that there is an appetite for virtual classes and something they are looking to expand on. Members were advised that they have been able to deliver a virtual class across all of the schools in RCT at the same time, which meant that the Council were able to reach many more students much more effectively and efficiently. It was emphasised that this can be developed further in the future. The Leisure Operations Manager gave examples of classes that include Zumba and Pilates and that live streaming classes is something they would like to aim for. The Officer advised Members that they are looking to keep the cost of these classes as part of their Leisure for Life membership.

Discussions ensued and a Member informed Committee that she was in a meeting two years ago and there were plans to put an outdoor gym in Gelligaled park and sought clarification as to the progress of this project. The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside advised the Member that he would need to research this project and get back to her separately regarding progress.

Another Member queried whether figures were available as to the number of referrals from GP practices to the scheme and whether the number was higher from GP practices that are near leisure facilities. The Leisure Strategy Manager advised that the figures were not available to hand but that they can be emailed out to Committee Members separately. It was emphasised that all GP's across RCT are signed up to the scheme and that referral rates vary. Members were informed that the level of referrals very much depends on the personnel within the GP surgery. It was also emphasised that during the pandemic the number of referrals decreased considerably but that they are now starting to pick up again.

Discussion continued and a Member queried the transport facilities that are available to go to each leisure facility. The Member noted that transport can be a barrier to exercise for a lot of people. The Leisure Strategy Manager acknowledged that transport is an issue, particularly the cost of transport. Members were referred to the online services that are now available and it was

emphasised that this is being developed further. Members were advised that the GP referral scheme is a National scheme funded through Public Health Wales and that they are very prescriptive in terms of what they spend the grant on. Members were told that the grant has been static and that no uplift has been given in over 10 years, thus putting pressure on the finances of the scheme. The Leisure Strategy Manager acknowledged that this is an area that needs to be looked into more and to consult with people at the point of referral in terms of the barriers that they are facing.

Discussions ensued and a Member commented on the phenomenal improvement in the diverse range of facilities that the Council has to offer and praised the Cabinet Member's dedication to improve leisure facilities across the County Borough. The Member felt that in light of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we need to look at leisure for life in a wider context and to look at the opportunity to utilise the ability to exercise at home. The Member queried if Officers had any ideas how we can make the older age groups as active as possible in the future. The Leisure Strategy Manager thanked the Member for his comments and noted that there is an ongoing project that specifically looks at exercise for older people, which is a part of the Sports Wales funding, which was launched by Welsh Government during the pandemic. The Leisure Strategy Manager referenced the online classes but also acknowledged that there is more that can be developed to get the older age groups exercising. The Leisure Strategy Manager emphasised that this is the focus of the strategy in terms of supporting people of all age groups, particularly people who experience barriers.

Conversation continued and a Member recommended that instead of phrasing it as "150 minutes exercise per week" we break it down to minutes per day and that this may encourage people to do at least 20 minutes exercise every day. The Member also wished to commend the staff within the service and how they have adapted due to Covid.

The Cabinet Member, Councillor A. Crimmings, thanked the Committee for the comments and questions and thanked staff for providing a comprehensive strategy. The Cabinet Member thanked staff for being really proactive with projects such as online classes and online walks during the pandemic.

The Chair echoed these words and thanked staff for providing a comprehensive strategy. The Chair praised the online classes and noted that this will enable the Council to reach out to a lot more people. The Chair commented that we do not to develop the strategy more to reach out to the older age groups and commended the Cabinet Member and Officers for the engagement work done to date.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the draft Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2022-26 and that the views of Members as outlined above be fed into the consultation process.

## 27 **Urgent Items**

There was no urgent business to report.

## 28 **Chair's Review and Close**

The Chair thanked everyone for their constructive feedback during the meeting

and wished to place on record his thanks to all Members and Officers for all their hard work throughout the 2021-22 Municipal Year. The Chair reminded Members of the Autism Working Group on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 3pm and that it will be on Microsoft Teams to accommodate the Autistic individual. The Chair also thanked the two Cabinet Members, Councillors Crimmings and Councillor Caple, for attending the meeting this evening.

**This meeting closed at 6.03 pm**

**CLLR R. YEO  
CHAIR.**





## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee held virtually on  
Tuesday, 22 March 2022 at 5.00 pm.

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

Councillor M Powell (Chair)

Councillor G Thomas    Councillor H Boggis  
Councillor J Cullwick    Councillor J Edwards  
Councillor S Evans    Councillor J Williams  
Councillor R Yeo

### **Officers in attendance:-**

Mr P Griffiths, Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services  
Ms S Davies, Head of Finance  
Mr D James, Service Director – Prosperity & Development  
Mr A Wilkins – Director of Legal Services  
Mrs T Watson – Senior Democratic & Scrutiny Officer

### **Other County Borough Councillors in attendance:-**

Councillor M Norris – Cabinet Member for Corporate Services

### **Co-opted Members in attendance:-**

**Mrs R Lydon – Parent/Governor Representative**  
**Mr M Veale – Parent/Governor Representative**

#### **54 Apologies**

Apologies of absence were received from County Borough Councillors S Bradwick, E George, J James, and S Rees-Owen.

#### **55 Scrutiny Research Function**

The Senior Democratic & Scrutiny Officer referenced the research facilities that were available to Members within the Council Business Unit. Members were advised that if they had any specific queries to email them to [Scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:Scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk).

#### **56 Declaration of Interest**

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

**57 Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 2 February 2022 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

**58 Consultation Links**

The Senior Democratic & Scrutiny Officer referenced the consultation links, which were available through the 'RCT Scrutiny' website. Members were reminded that information was provided in respect of relevant consultations for consideration by the Committee, which were circulated monthly.

**59 Town Centre Regeneration Update**

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development took Members through the report on Town Centre Regeneration and Development which provided a summary update on the progress being made to deliver town centre regeneration in Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT). At paragraph 3.2 it was highlighted that the economy of town centres in RCT had been challenged, over the last two years as a result of the external economic influences of Brexit, the Covid-19 pandemic, storms and flooding and the changing patterns of the retail sector, which had seen national chain retailers leaving high street locations. Because of this, Town Centre Regeneration continued to be a key priority for the Council. At paragraph 4, the Service Director – Prosperity and Development noted that this was a detailed report and then provided Members with examples across town centres of what had been achieved under the various categories including Key Town Centre investments, Town Centre Business Engagement and Support, Financial Assistance for Town Centre businesses, Making Town Centres safer for visitors during the Pandemic and Key Town Centre Investments. At paragraph 4.55 it was highlighted that business engagement and support for town centres, was provided, which included facilitating a business community network. In addition, at paragraph 4.62, it was highlighted that the Regeneration Service offered a range of financial assistance to town centre businesses and paragraphs 4.63 to 4.68 set out some of the support available. Other support for town centres included a free public access wi-fi and a street café furniture permit scheme, which had been introduced in Aberdare and Pontypridd, to regulate safe outdoor trading whilst making town centres safe for visitors, during the pandemic. The Service Director – Prosperity and Development concluded by explaining that the report gave a flavour of some of the work going on across town centres.

Following the update, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

Councillor J Williams noted her attendance at Cabinet in January 2019, when the Porth regeneration strategy was approved, and had asked as the strategy was developing, if local members could be consulted on what was going on. She felt disappointed that this hadn't happened as she felt local Members had local knowledge of what people wanted. She felt that the One4All Centre needed more publicity for people to know what they could do there. In respect of 38 Hannah Street, she noted £160k had been spent on it but was concerned that it was not clear why the Council was doing up that particular building, when there were other empty sites. She also felt that a lot of the people who use Hannah Street would not have taken part in online consultations, so would have been left out of the loop. In relation to Oldway House, she asked if something could be

done to improve the outside condition / look of the building.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development apologised to the Member that she hadn't been kept up to date on the developments in Porth. He noted that there was a town centre team, whose role was to engage and update, but he was happy to pick this up and provide more detailed updates on the projects. In terms of the empty properties, he noted that the challenge was that the grants given out were to developers and it was trying to find developers who wanted to come into the towns and invest. He noted that 38 Hannah Street was a good example of a developer who wanted to the space as a co-working space and therefore able to work with the developer to obtain the £138k from Welsh Government (WG). He noted that the Council was currently going through the process of buying the derelict piece of land, next to that building, to look at what could be done, noting it was in a poor state. He noted that enforcement action was also being taken in the town, but it was challenging. In respect of Oldway House, the Service Director – Prosperity and Development, explained that staff were starting to go back into the building, but in terms of what the building looked like outside, this was something he could raise as an issue with Corporate Estates colleagues.

Councillor J Williams asked what could be done in respect of legislation, noting a couple of the properties that were an eye sore.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development noted that with any funding given to the developer, there was a charge on the property, but it was a long process, so it was challenging but acknowledged the Member wanted to be kept up to date.

Councillor Cullwick thanked the Officer for the report and asked around investment for Penygraig, noting that this was a big ward of 5700 people, which was bigger than Tonypandy.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development fed back that Welsh Government funding primarily focusses on principal town centres, there being 8 in Rhondda Cynon Taf including Tonypandy, with Penygraig being outside of this and in the next tier. The Service Director added that the Council continues to engage with Welsh Government to explore options to enable the funding to be spread across other areas, including Penygraig.

Councillor Evans fed back that the report was positive, noting there were so many projects and asked in respect of paragraph 4.4.3, the Repair/Reuse shop, whether this was now open.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services confirmed that works are underway and the completion date is estimated to be early in the new financial year.

Councillor Thomas referred to page 24, paragraph 4.54, the Treorchy Sewing Enterprise, and asked if this was an example of a Worker Co-operative?

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development explained that he would obtain further details on this enterprise and feedback to the Member.

Mr Veale, the Parent/Governor Representative acknowledged the important issue of car parking charges and whilst they had been frozen and noting the

benefit of free car parking during the festive period, he requested feedback on what thought had been given to the overall impact on the regeneration of town centres. Councillor J Williams also noted in respect of car parking charges, that many machines did not accept cards and there was a need, where paying, to look at how people could pay.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development explained that he has not been specifically involved in car parking charge considerations and noted it is an area raised in town centres business/forums. The Service Director indicated that further information would be obtained from the relevant service and fed back to Committee Members.

The Chairman requested for further details to be provided on the sources of funding where it was not indicated in the report. The Service Director indicated that this will be reviewed and where appropriate further information provided.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the update contained within the report.

## **60 SUPPORT FOR THE MANUFACTURING BUSINESS SECTOR IN RCT**

The Service Director - Prosperity and Development took Members through the report on the support for the Manufacturing Business Sector in RCT, which outlined the range of support that had been planned and established in order to provide opportunities for growth and sustainability. The Manufacturing Sector included a broad range of business types involved in the production of a range of items. The latest Office of National Statistics (ONS) figures showed that in 2020 there were 9,000 people employed in manufacturing companies in RCT, which accounted for 11.7% of all employees and was slightly above the Welsh figure of 11.2%. Because of this, a range of co-ordinated support measures were planned and put in place to support manufacturing in RCT.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development noted that section 4 of the report provided a summary of support measures for the manufacturing business sector and provided specific examples in respect of the former Coedely Colliery Site and Robertstown Business Park. He confirmed that the local authority also provided financial grant support to the Manufacturing Sector and paragraph 4.5.2 provided a good example of the support in place. The Service was also working with Welsh Government to roll out their Tech Valleys Productivity Enhancement Programme. In addition, the Council provided networking and signposting support by putting Companies in touch with the right people which meant it was important for the Council to have good relationships with support organisations such as Business in Focus, Business Wales, Welsh ICE, Welsh Government and the Cardiff Capital Region. This also included signposting to other relevant Council services such as Planning, Licensing and Employment Support. The Service also liaised with and supported Rhondda Cynon Taf Council Procurement colleagues in their work to help local SMEs to access Council and other contract and supply chain opportunities. In terms of Networking, the Treforest Growth Network was established in 2015, as a vehicle for business network opportunities, with companies based at Treforest Industrial Estate.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development concluded that the

manufacturing business sector continued to be a significant source of employment and income generation in Rhondda Cynon Taf, and provision of a co-ordinated range of support and finance provided by the Council and partner organisations, was important for businesses to take advantage of opportunities to grow, diversify and be more sustainable.

Following the update, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

Councillor Thomas welcomed the comprehensive report put forward and stated his particular focus was on how the Council would be able to act to incorporate where it would be in 10 years' time, looking at changing to a green economy, for example, wind and solar, which would help to regenerate the economy, with manufacturing being an important part as well as a need to ensure the appropriate skills, premises etc were in place. In addition, there was the High-Tech sector, for example, Microchips and Semi-Conductors and supply chain opportunities. This leads to the supply chain, and previous companies such as GC Hitachi, Hoover and Panasonic, but noted these would not return into the valley areas but in terms of supply chain, there was no reason why the units available were not able to attract businesses to prepare for the future and asked if the Council was just reactive in terms of whoever came forward to apply to go into those businesses, noting the sites such as the Hirwaun Industrial Estate and former Tower Site. In terms of mixing the economy, the Member had long put forward the desire to expand businesses on the model of worker ownership or co-operative and asked what could be done to encourage that sort of model in Rhondda Cynon Taf, referring to his previous question on the Treorchy Sewing Enterprise.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development agreed that the carbon agenda was significant, noting that one of the key things the Council was looking at, was existing industrial estate stock, although much was in a poor state and would need significant funding to bring up to legislation. Although this was a real challenge, it was something being worked on with Welsh Government. In terms of Robertstown Business Park and what the market was saying there was a significant amount of need for starter units e.g., young businesses doing well but having outgrown their current premises and there was a long list of people who had expressed interest in the Robertstown units, so the demand was there. In terms of bigger sites, the Service Director – Prosperity and Development explained a lot was being done through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD), including putting a prospectus together to show what RCT had to offer to potential developers, to attract inward investment, as well as direct enquiries to the Council. In terms of supply chain this was extremely important, and a lot of what was done, particularly around the example of Treforest Industrial Estate, was how businesses were linked together locally. The Service Director – Prosperity and Development noted the example of the social housing grant schemes with the housing associations, where the majority were local contractors, so that money was being reinvested back into the Community. In terms of the worker ownership point, the Service Director – Prosperity and Development explained that there hadn't been a huge amount done around ownership models, but he would look into this, going forward, particularly around the Treorchy Sewing Enterprise.

Councillor Thomas thanked the Officer but noted that when he referred to the supply chain aspect, he was not thinking of interlinking companies in close proximity but thinking of the semiconductor plant in Newport and how the

manufactured base product travelled around the world, to be finished. He asked why this couldn't be done in the UK or Wales or in the Valleys, therefore providing that supply chain. He felt there was a big gap here and could be manufactured locally given the rights skills, premises and equipment.

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development agreed with the Member and said that with the pandemic and Brexit, there were a lot of those discussions going on about what could be produced in Wales and how could companies in Rhondda Cynon Taf step up to that challenge. He noted that because of the pandemic and Brexit a number of businesses had diversified e.g., Gwalia, but he recognised there were more businesses that could be supported to take up that opportunity.

The Chair referred to pages 30 and 31 of the report, in relation to paragraph 4.2.1 the former Coedely Colliery Site and paragraph 4.3.1, the Robertstown Business Park and asked if either of those developments would have taken place without European funding money and what scope was there for attracting funding at a similar level for future projects in the County Borough?

The Service Director – Prosperity and Development referred to the former Coedely Colliery Site and explained that as Members would be aware, it was reclaimed over 20 years ago. Welsh Government owned the site and had been marketing plots on the site and the Council was the first to build, through a joint venture with WG where the Council didn't own the plot but had bid for European funding to be proactive and look at how that site could be developed. The idea being, that would be the impetus for further investment going into that site and that was starting to be seen. In terms of future funding for this, he noted the Shared Prosperity Fund, which was coming, although there wasn't a huge amount of detail in terms of what that money could be spent on, although it would be split into capital and revenue funding, but Wales was expecting to have the same as what it had through EU funding. He hoped this would be available in the Summer. He also noted there were other funds available through the CCRCDD that private developers could access, as well.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to note the update contained within the report.

**61 2022/23 CAPITAL STRATEGY REPORT AND 2022/23 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REPORT**

**62 Quarter 3 Performance Report**

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services presented Members with the Quarter 3 Performance Report which set out the Council's financial and operational performance position for April to December 2021. This was set in the context of Council services and communities continuing their recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The report was presented and approved by Cabinet on the 21st of March 2022. The Service Director then gave an overview of the report by providing Members with key information from the report with regards to, Section 2, Revenue Budget Performance; Section 3, Capital Programme Budget; Section 4, Organisational Health information including staff turnover, sickness absence, Organisational Health related investment areas and Council Strategic Risks; Section 5, the Corporate Plan priority action plan updates including investment updates; and Section 6, a progress update on the

implementation of recommendations agreed by Cabinet on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to enhance the Council's response to extreme weather events.

Following the update, Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions.

Councillor Evans referred to page 97 in relation to turnover and sought clarity around whether the Council had been successful in employing staff to fill vacancies in light of the high turnover rate.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services fed back that the Council's workforce strategy supports services to plan workforce requirements, that includes an on-going commitment and focus on apprentices and graduates, alongside targeted recruitment for specific posts, to address where there are recruitment and retention challenges such as social care. The Service Director went on to indicate that the Council's 2022/23 Budget Strategy provided additional funding to increase the minimum rate of pay to £10 per hour, this being above the Real Living Wage rate, and demonstrating the Council's on-going investment in its workforce and to support service delivery.

Councillor Cullwick referred to the table at the top of page 97 of the report, and to the Chief Executives Division staff numbers of 697 in 2019/20, 827 in 2020/21 and 878 in 2021/22 and asked if there were any reasons behind that growth.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services fed back that the change in numbers reflect service restructuring that have realigned responsibility to the Chief Executive's Division, for example, the consolidation of business and administrative support teams from across the Council and, in parallel, on-going work to secure external funding that enables the creation of posts to deliver specific projects.

Councillor Thomas thanked the Officer and commended the report. He noted the conclusion at paragraph 12.0 in respect of the small projected year-end revenue budget overspend and stated this was a good position to be in, given what had happened over the last 2 years. The Member asked how the local authority would address and mitigate the projected impact in terms of increases in prices in areas such as materials and energy.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services fed back that the Council's Capital Programme, agreed by full Council in March 2022, covers a 3-year period and as projects / contracts are tendered, the cost implications and scope of works would be considered alongside re-profiling of funding opportunities. The Service Director added that the Council will continue its proactive approach around the procurement of goods and services, to support both the sustainability of contractors and value for money for the taxpayer, and this being underpinned by robust planning and monitoring arrangements.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services went on to indicate that the Council's revenue budget had been based on inflationary forecasts at a point in time, for example, for fuel, food and energy, and consideration will be given as part of year-end arrangements to setting aside one-off funding to manage exceptional inflationary risk pressures, recognising the current volatility and uncertain operating environment. The Service Director added that inflationary forecasts will be kept under on-going review and updates incorporated into the

Council's next Medium Term Financial Plan that will form the starting point for the 2023/24 budget setting process.

Councillor J Williams noted a pilot scheme being run by Hywel Dda University Health Board in relation to training health care workers and social care workers jointly. She asked whether the Council had looked at this type of joint training for social care and health care staff. Councillor J Williams also enquired when information would be available in relation to the green waste scheme and its impact.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services explained that Health and Social Care staff currently work in partnership on many areas as part of the on-going development of integrated services and indicated that further clarity would be sought from the relevant service area on the specific point raised.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services went on to provide feedback in respect of the green waste scheme, indicating that the scheme started in autumn 2021 and intelligence is being gathered to gauge impact alongside education and awareness raising for residents. The Service Director added that a further update will be included as part of the year-end Performance Report.

Councillor Yeo noted the issue of retaining social care staff, acknowledging that the minimum rate had been raised to £10 per hour. The Councillor felt going forward this was something that the Council should continue to do, stressing the importance of this as a result of rising inflation in areas such as fuel and food.

The Chair referred to pages 97, 125 and 134 and noted that sickness levels in schools seemed to be high and asked if this was a result of the relaxation in the Covid-19 rules.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services fed back that Covid-19 absences have been excluded from the information reported, albeit, it is likely that there has been a knock-on impact on other absences as a result of the pandemic. The Service Director added that the most prevalent reasons for absence are musculoskeletal and mental health, and the Council has a range of support available to help staff and aid return to the workplace.

The Chair referred to page 120 of the report noting the projected revenue budget underspends for Highways Management and Street Cleansing, and sought clarity whether there had been any impact on service delivery as a result of temporary staffing vacancies.

The Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services fed back that frontline service levels for Highways Management and Street Cleansing are being delivered in line with agreed standards, and where temporary staffing vacancies arise, operational resources are prioritised to meet service requirements. The Service Director added that these services engage regularly with elected Members and also take account of feedback received via the Council's Corporate Feedback Scheme.

The Chair also sought clarity in respect of the projected revenue budget underspend for Strategic Projects, and whether this would be retained for the forthcoming financial year along with any funding for projects that would not be completed in 2021/22 and would need to be carried forward into 2022/23. The



Service Director fed back that the projected revenue budget underspend for Strategic Projects is feeding into the Council's overall projected revenue budget position for 2021/22 and that detailed work has been undertaken with the service area to match service requirements and resources for the forthcoming year.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to endorse the Council's financial and operational performance position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 (Quarter 3).

**63 Chair's Review and Close**

The Chair noted that this was the last Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting for the current municipal year and thanked all Members of the Committee for their contributions. He noted that several Councillors were not standing for re-election including Cllr Cullwick, Cllr George and Cllr Thomas, thanking them and wishing them well for the future. He also thanked those officers and translators who had contributed to meetings throughout the year. Cllrs Thomas, Yeo and J Williams thanked the Chair and those Members who were not standing for re-election.

**64 Urgent Business**

None

**This meeting closed at 6.44 pm**

**CLLR M. POWELL  
CHAIR.**

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## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

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

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose the Draft Terms of Reference for approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the newly established Scrutiny Committees.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Consider and approve the draft Terms of Reference as attached at **Appendix A** to the report
- 2.2 Request that the Service Director – Democratic Services & Communications reports the determined Terms of Reference to the respective revised scrutiny committees.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As agreed in a [report](#) to [Council's AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022](#) the Council's Scrutiny Structure has been revised to respond to areas of improvement identified since the previous scrutiny arrangements put in place in 2019.
- 3.2 The new arrangements will ensure the Council's scrutiny arrangements are well-placed to respond to the new requirements of the [Local Government & Elections \(Wales\) Act 2021](#). This includes responding to the revised responsibilities for the [Governance & Audit Committee](#).

#### 4. CURRENT SITUATION

4.1 To respond to the requirements and direction of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and to enhance the significant changes in approach and structure made in 2019, the following Scrutiny Structure arrangement is outlined for member's information below

- Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Education & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee
- Community Services Scrutiny Committee
- Climate Change, Frontline Services & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

4.2 The draft terms of reference attached at **Appendix A** are provided for members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider and approve

## **5. CONSULTATION**

5.1 A meeting was held with the Group Leaders prior to the proposed Scrutiny Structure being presented to the AGM for their comments and feedback.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

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

7.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report, although amendments to the Councils constitution will need to be taken forward as appropriate.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**COUNCIL AGM 2022 – [Review of Scrutiny Arrangements 2022- 2027](#)**

**4th JULY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATIONS**

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**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Chair & Vice Chair	Corporate Plan & Priorities	Remit	Cabinet Member(s)	Lead Officer(s)
<p><b>Chair:</b> Cllr J Edwards</p> <p><b>Vice Chair :</b>Cllr M Rees Jones</p> <p>To find out who sits on this Committee please click here</p>	<p>As the overarching Scrutiny Committee:-</p> <p>Holding the Executive to account in respect of all three priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan i.e:</p> <p>1. Ensuring People: <i>are independent, healthy and successful;</i></p> <p>2. Creating Places: <i>where people are proud to live, work and play;</i></p> <p>3. Enabling Prosperity: <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper</i></p> <p><a href="#">The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy review &amp; policy development for all Council areas including Corporate Plans and Strategies</li> <li>• Quarterly Performance Reports / Exception Reports (financial and operational performance)</li> <li>• Treasury Management</li> <li>• Revenue budget consultation process</li> <li>• Statutory performance reporting requirements</li> <li>• Target Setting of Performance Measures</li> <li>• Monitoring the implementation of medium term service planning decisions approved by the Executive</li> <li>• Consider the implementation of projects that impact upon the whole Council ie:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ City Deal</li> <li>➤ Wales Audit Office</li> <li>➤ Wellbeing of Future Generations Act</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To ensure that the work of each of the thematic Scrutiny Committees are `delivering effectively` and producing tangible outcomes i.e. `scrutinising the scrutineer`.</li> <li>• To challenge the work of the Scrutiny Committees.</li> <li>• To deal with all "Call-ins" (under the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules).</li> <li>• To co-ordinate the implementation of the recommendations as set out in the Wales Audit Office document - `Good Scrutiny? Good Question`.</li> <li>• Undertake regular monitoring of recommendations made by Scrutiny and ensure they have been implemented appropriately.</li> <li>• To progress the on-going Action Plan for the WAO Review 'Fit for the Future' and the 'Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leader of the Council</li> <li>• Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Council Business</li> <li>• Cabinet Member for Climate Change &amp; Corporate Services</li> <li>• (Any other Cabinet Member to be invited as and when appropriate).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Executive</li> <li>• Service Director Democratic Services and Communications</li> <li>• Director of HR</li> <li>• Director of Finance &amp; Digital Services (and Section 151 Officer)</li> <li>• Service Director, Finance &amp; Improvement Services</li> <li>• Head of Finance – Education &amp; Financial Reporting</li> <li>• Director of Prosperity and Development</li> <li>• (Any other lead officer as and when required)</li> </ul>

		<p>paper 'Six themes to help make Scrutiny 'Fit for the Future' <a href="#">Fit for the Future</a> <a href="#">Six Themes to help make Scrutiny 'Fit for the Future'</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To produce and publish an Annual Scrutiny Report.</li></ul>		
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Education and Inclusion Scrutiny Committee				
Chair & Vice Chair	Corporate Plan & Priorities	Remit	Cabinet Member(s)	Lead Officer(s)
<p><b>Chair:</b> Cllr Sera Evans</p> <p><b>Vice Chair:</b> Cllr K Webb</p> <p>To find out who sits on this Scrutiny Committee please click here:-</p>	<p>Holding the Executive to account for its performance across all the Council’s priority areas:-</p> <p>1. Ensuring People: <i>are independent, healthy and successful;</i></p> <p>2. Creating Places: <i>where people are proud to live, work and play;</i></p> <p>3. Enabling Prosperity: <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper.</i></p> <p><i>Improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do</i></p> <p><i>Ensuring we have good schools so all children have access to a great education</i></p> <p><a href="#">The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Schools achievement / effectiveness / Improvement</li> <li>• 21st Century Schools</li> <li>• School Catering Services</li> <li>• Schools Organisation</li> <li>• School Support Services</li> <li>• Education Welfare &amp; Inclusion</li> <li>• Early Years Education including Flying Start</li> <li>• Youth Engagement and Participation Service</li> <li>• Special Educational Needs</li> <li>• Central South Consortium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation, &amp; Welsh Language</li> <li>• (Any other Cabinet Member as and when required)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Education &amp; Inclusion Services</li> <li>• (Any other lead officer as and when required)</li> </ul>

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Community Services				
Chair & Vice Chair	Corporate Plan & Priorities	Remit	Cabinet Member(s)	Lead Officer(s)
<p><b>Chair:</b> Cllr J Bonetto</p> <p><b>Vice Chair:</b> Cllr G Williams</p> <p>To find out who sits on this Scrutiny Committee please click here:-</p>	<p>Holding the Executive to account for its performance across all the Council’s priority areas:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring People: are independent, healthy and successful;</li> <li>2. Creating Places: where people are proud to live, work and play;</li> <li>3. Enabling Prosperity: creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper.</li> </ol> <p><i>Supporting our residents who are older, vulnerable or who have disabilities, to remain independent and have a good quality of life</i></p> <p><i>Encouraging all residents to lead active and healthy lifestyles and maintain their mental wellbeing</i></p> <p>Integrating health and social care and providing support for those with mental health problems and complex needs</p> <p>The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Health &amp; Social Care                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Adult locality services &amp; short term intervention</li> <li>➤ Commissioned Services</li> <li>➤ Short term Intervention Services</li> <li>➤ Direct Care Services</li> <li>➤ Carers</li> <li>➤ Extra Care Housing</li> <li>➤ Stay well @ home service</li> <li>➤ Detoc</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Children’s Health and Social Care                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Children Looked After – including fostering and residential</li> <li>➤ Youth Offending Service</li> <li>➤ Assessment and care planning – including social worker teams</li> <li>➤ Safeguarding – including child protection reviewing officers</li> <li>➤ Early intervention and prevention services – including nurseries, Flying Start and Resilient Family Service</li> <li>➤ Disabled children – including Residential homes</li> <li>➤ Community and family support services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Adult learning</li> <li>• Leisure Services</li> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Private Housing</li> <li>• Community hubs</li> <li>• Public Health &amp; Protection</li> </ul>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health &amp; Social Care</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities</p> <p>Any other Cabinet Member as required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Director – Community &amp; Children’s Services</li> <li>• Director of Adult Services</li> <li>• Director, Public Health, Protection &amp; Community Services</li> <li>• (Any other lead officer as and when required)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Trading Standards</li><li>➤ Homelessness Strategy</li><li>➤ Licensing</li><li>➤ Pollution &amp; Public Health</li><li>➤ Environmental Health</li><li>➤ Animal &amp; Pest Control</li><li>➤ Bereavement Services</li><li>➤ Registration Services</li></ul>		
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Climate Change, Frontline Services and Prosperity				
Chair & Vice Chair	Corporate Plan & Priorities	Remit	Cabinet Member(s)	Lead Officer(s)
<p><b>Chair:</b> Cllr Craig Middle</p> <p><b>Vice Chair:</b> Cllr Gaynor Warren</p> <p>To find out who sits on this Scrutiny Committee please click here:-</p>	<p>Holding the Executive to account for its performance across all the Council’s priority areas:-</p> <p>1. Ensuring People: <i>are independent, healthy and successful;</i></p> <p>2. Creating Places: <i>where people are proud to live, work and play;</i></p> <p>3. Enabling Prosperity: <i>creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper.</i></p> <p><i>Keeping RCT clean through efficient street cleaning services, minimising the amount of waste we send to landfill, achieving our recycling targets through weekly recycling and regular refuse collections, and reducing our carbon footprint</i></p> <p><i>Keeping the County Borough moving, including improvements to roads and pavements and public transport, whilst also improving air quality</i></p> <p><i>Getting the best out of our parks by looking after and investing in our greenspaces</i></p> <p><a href="#">The Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime &amp; Disorder Committee (under Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act, 2006)</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Strategic Regeneration</li> <li>• Economic Development</li> <li>• Town Centres</li> <li>• Events &amp; Tourism</li> <li>• Jobs Growth &amp; Skills</li> <li>• Environment &amp; Sustainable Development</li> <li>• Waste Services</li> <li>• Streetcare</li> <li>• Highways improvements</li> <li>• Cultural Services</li> <li>• Heritage</li> <li>• Libraries</li> <li>• Parks &amp; Countryside</li> <li>• Play areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member for Prosperity &amp; Development</li> <li>• Cabinet Member for Environment &amp; Leisure</li> <li>• Any other Cabinet Member as and when required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Executive</li> <li>• Director Prosperity &amp; Development</li> <li>• Director of Frontline Services</li> <li>• Any other lead officer as and when required</li> </ul>



## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE 2022/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR

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

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' comment and approval on the draft Work Programme of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year and to receive a list of matters requiring consideration by the Cabinet over the 2022/23 Municipal Year and ascertain whether there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the 2022/23 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**) (with appropriate amendment as necessary); and
- 2.2 Determine which items already identified within the Cabinet Work Programme should be pre-scrutinised by this Committee from the Cabinet Work Programme for the 2022/23 Municipal Year (as set out at **Appendix 2**).
- 2.3 Request that the Service Director Democratic Services & Communications notifies the appropriate Cabinet Member and responsible Officer, of the matters identified for pre-scrutiny in advance of Cabinet consideration.

2.4 Agree for the work programmes of the subject scrutiny committees, to be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

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

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules). The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme. However, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee also has a co-ordinating role and will ensure that there is no duplication of work across the thematic scrutiny committees.
- 3.2 In consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee together with appropriate Council Officers and the relevant Cabinet Members, through the one-to-one engagement sessions, an initial list of work topics for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been produced and is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Opportunity is provided to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet during the 2022 /23 Municipal Year to ascertain whether there are any topics which can undergo pre-scrutiny by this committee. (A copy of the Cabinet Work Programme is attached for information at Appendix 2).

### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The work programme should reflect the committee's aims and objectives as well as add value to the work of the Council. It is up to the Committee to agree the items for inclusion in its work programme, but ideas are brought together from a number of sources to assist members in their choices. It is important that all Members have the opportunity to put forward items for consideration.
- 4.2 1-1 Engagement sessions will be undertaken to provide an opportunity for the respective Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs and Scrutiny lead Officers to discuss their respective work programmes, identify any key topics for inclusion and enhance dialogue and the flow of information between Cabinet and Scrutiny.
- 4.3 There are a number of areas which have been taken into account when developing the Draft Work Programme
- The work programme represents a mixed selection of topics;
  - It meets deadlines in relation to other Council meetings and those of external partners;



- Consideration as to whether the topic duplicates review activity which is taking place elsewhere; and
- Flexibility- to ensure that new topics can be factored in and changes accounted for.

## 5. **CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

- 5.1 Attached at Appendix 2 is the Cabinet Work Programme for 2022/23 and Committee is asked to consider if there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

## 6. **SCRUTINY AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 6.1 To support effective scrutiny, challenge and policy development members are advised to determine matters for consideration within the committees work programme from a range of perspectives. These should include:

- Pre scrutiny of the identified key decisions proposed for Cabinet consideration over the next municipal year
- The delivery of services against the proposed objectives of decisions
- Matters of strategic significance to the Council, partners and stakeholders
- The development of policy of recommendation for consideration by the Cabinet.

- 6.2 To promote public participation in scrutiny, members are advised to provide sufficient capacity within the work programme to accommodate matters identified for scrutiny by the public. A Public Participation Strategy, which will provide a mechanism for stronger participation by the public and residents, will shortly be presented for member consideration, in-line with the new requirements contained within the Local Government & Elections Act (Wales) (2021).

- 6.3 Members are also advised to focus their scrutiny activities in areas, where maximum value can be achieved and to ensure that sufficient capacity is made available to respond to business yet identified by Cabinet for consideration and the Council's response to national policy drivers.

- 6.4 Most importantly members are advised to maintain focus, when planning your committees work programme, to enable the approach level of questioning and challenge to take place.

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

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only and further analysis of each of the Work Programme will be needed if the recommendations are to be taken forward.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The draft Work Programme has been compiled in discussion with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees in consultation with Council Officers as well as the relevant Cabinet Member.

## **9 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 10.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules).

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATIONS**

**APPENDIX 1 & 2**

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23**

**CABINET WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23**

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## **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

### **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY**

#### ***'Holding the Executive & Council to account in respect of all three priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan'***

Each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees is responsible for setting and agreeing its own work programme by identifying a list of themes and topics which fall under the remit of each individual Scrutiny Committee. Following discussion with the Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny Members a practical, realistic and timetabled programme can then be developed.

The scrutiny forward work programmes should provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected; be outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Throughout the year, there are a number of ways in which additional issues can be considered for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme and ideas for inclusion may come from a number of sources such as:-

- Individual Councillors;
- Performance or budget monitoring information;
- Inspection reports;
- Referrals from Council (such as Notices of Motion), Cabinet/Audit or other scrutiny committees;
- Service users;
- Monitoring the implementation of recommendations previously made by the Committee; and
- Local Residents

The Cabinet is also required to produce forward work programmes and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee keeps abreast of forthcoming items or topics which may enable scrutiny to be involved in the development of Council policy prior to its formal consideration by Cabinet. It is important to bear in mind that an element of flexibility is applied to each individual work programme that provides Committees with the capacity to scrutinise new / urgent issues that arise during the year.

Date/Time	Overarching Item	Officer	Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
4 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Draft Overview &amp; Scrutiny Work 2022/2023</b></li>   <li>• <b>Overview and Scrutiny Committees New Terms of Reference</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Director Democratic Services &amp; Communications</li>   <li>• Service Director Democratic Services &amp; Communications</li> </ul>		<p><b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge –</b> For O&amp;S to agree its own work programme and Cabinet Work Programme for the 2021/2022 Municipal Year</p> <p>For Overview and Scrutiny Committee to set and agree the Terms of Reference for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview and Scrutiny Committee</li> <li>• Education and Inclusion Scrutiny</li> <li>• Community Services Scrutiny Committee</li> <li>• Climate Change, Frontline Services and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee</li> </ul>
20 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	<p><b>Overview and Scrutiny Finance Sub Committee</b></p> <p>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Finance and Digital Services</li> </ul>		To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	<p><b>Office Accommodation Pre-Scrutiny</b> (Cabinet 26<sup>th</sup> September)</p>	Chief Executive		<b>To pre-scrutinise the draft Office Accommodation Strategy</b>

	<p><b>Council Corporate Plan - Investment Priorities</b></p> <p><i>Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 26<sup>th</sup> September)</i></p> <p><b>Councils Corporate Performance Report</b></p> <p><i>(Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> October)</i></p> <p><b>Budget Consultation Report</b></p> <p><i>(Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> October)</i></p>	<p>Director of Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Director of Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services &amp; Communications</p>		
<b>12<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b>				
<b>16<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>	<p><b>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</b></p> <p><i>Pre Scrutiny (Cabinet 21<sup>st</sup> November)</i></p> <p><b>Eisteddfod Update</b></p> <p><i>Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> December)</i></p>	<p>Director Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Director Public Health and Protection and Community Services</p>		

<p><b>14<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Digital Strategy - Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 23<sup>rd</sup> January)</b></p> <p><b>Corporate Asset Management Plan Interim Update - Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 23<sup>rd</sup> January)</b></p>	<p>Director Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Director of Corporate Estates</p>		
<p><b>25<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Annual Equalities Report 2022/23</b></p>	<p>Director of Human Resources</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services &amp; Communications</p>		
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Annual Equalities Report Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022)</b></p> <p><b>Coal Tips Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022)</b></p> <p><b>Councils Performance and Resources Report Pre-Scrutiny (Cabinet 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022)</b></p>	<p>Director of Human Resources</p> <p>Director of Frontline Services</p> <p>Director Finance and Digital Services</p>		





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## Cabinet Work Programme

Forward plan of proposed Cabinet Business for the 2022/23 Municipal Year

Specific Period: June 2022 – May 2023

(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: Sarah Daniel (Tel No. 07385 086169)

Date	Report	Officer	Cabinet Member	Open/ Exempt	Relevant Scrutiny Committee
June 2022	<b>Climate Change Strategy and its Commitments</b>	Chris Bradshaw, Chief Executive.	Cabinet Member Climate Change & Corporate Services	Open	Climate Change, Frontline Services and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Consultation Outcomes on Proposal to Create a New Community Primary School in Glyncoch</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language	Open	Education and Inclusion
	<b>Consultation outcomes on the proposal to enhance Welsh Medium Learning Support Class provision for pupils with significant additional learning needs</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language	Open	Education and Inclusion
	<b>Financial Update on school reorganisation in the Greater Pontypridd area (Band B)</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language	Open	Education and Inclusion
	<b>MIM Update</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language	<b>EXEMPT</b>	Education and Inclusion
	<b>Play Sufficiency Assessment</b>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care	Open	Community Services Scrutiny Committee
	<b>YEPS: Overview of Additional Funding</b>	Paul Mee, Group Director	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth	Open	Community Services

		Community and Children's Services	Participation and Welsh Language		
	<b>Community Wardens</b>	Roger Waters, Director Frontline Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment	Open	Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Cabinet Work Programme</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<b>Armed Forces and War Memorials Commitment</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business	Open	
	<b>Leader's Scheme of Delegation and associated matters arising from the AGM</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<b>The Pontypridd masterplan</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development	Open	Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Tree and Hedgerow Strategy</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services	Open	Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Proposed LUF Submission for the Cynon Valley</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development	Open	

<b>July 2022</b>	<b>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</b>  To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective	Barrie Davies, Director Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>EV Charging</b>	David Powell, Director of Corporate Estates		Open	Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Housing Support Grant Needs Assessment and Strategy</b>	Louise Davies, Director Public Health, Protection & Community Services	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development	Open	Community Services
	<b>Music Service Update</b>  To provide members with an update on a proposed National Music Service, and the implications for our services more locally	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion
	<b>Residential Care and Day Services Development - Bronllwyn</b>  This report will provide on development proposals for the former Care Home site as agreed by Cabinet back in December 2020 – <i>Paul</i>	Group Director – Community & Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care	Open	Community Services
	<b>Residential Care Services</b>  To provide an update position on the current in-house provision, including some proposed short term changes to current provision in	Group Director – Community & Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care	Open	Community Services

	order to meet current demand and staffing pressures.				
	<b>Child Sufficiency Assessment</b>	Group Director – Community & Children’s Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care	Open	Community Services
	<b>The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Market Stability Report</b>	Group Director – Community & Children’s Services	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development	Open	Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Shared Prosperity Fund</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development	Open	Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Family Engagement Officers</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language	Open	Education and Inclusion
	<b>RCT SACRE Annual Report</b> To receive the annual report of RCT SACRE	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language	Open	Education and Inclusion
	<b>Community Schools Developments Family Engagement</b> To provide Members with feedback on family engagement officer provision and potential areas of development in relation to community schools.	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion

	<b>Participation Strategy</b>	Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Review of Adapted Housing</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Local Housing Market Assessment (including Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment)</b>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Climate Change, Prosperity & Frontline Services
	<b>Draft Town Centre Strategy for Aberdare</b> To receive the draft Town Centre Strategy and initial delivery plan outlining funding sources such as the Levelling Up Fund	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
<b>September 2022</b>	<b>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</b> To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Medium Term Financial Plan Update</b>	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Leisure Strategy</b>	Louise Davies, Director Public Health, Protection	Cabinet Member for Environment & Leisure		Climate Change, Prosperity &



	To provide Cabinet with the proposed Leisure Strategy	and Community Services			Frontline Services
	<b>Office Accommodation</b>	Chris Bradshaw, Chief Executive	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Update on the Implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act in RCT</b>  To update Members on the Access & Inclusion Service's self-evaluation and future areas for further development.	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Director Social Services Annual Report (Draft)</b>  To provide Cabinet with the annual report on the delivery, performance, risks, and planned improvements to the Social Services function of the Council	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Cwm Taf Carer's Annual Report</b>  To approve for submission to WG the annual report.	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Annual Plan</b>  To receive the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Annual Plan	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		

	To consider the Annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board.	Services and Communication  Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<b>Cabinet Work Programme</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<b>Council Corporate Plan - Investment Priorities</b>  To consider the investment priorities	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Cynon Valley Waste Disposal Company Limited and Amgen Rhondda Limited – Annual General Meeting</b>  To provide Cabinet with details of the AGM in respect of the Cynon Valley Waste Disposal Company Ltd and Amgen Rhondda Ltd.	Andy Wilkins, Director of Legal Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment	Exempt	
	<b>Community infrastructure levy annual monitoring report</b> To update Cabinet on the performance of CIL during the last year and make any amendments deemed necessary.	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
	<b>Update on North West Cardiff – RCT Transport Corridor Study</b>	Director Frontline Services	Leader Cabinet Member for Infrastructure		Overview and Scrutiny Committee

			and Investment		
	<b>Update on Aberdare – Hirwaun Passenger Rail Services Study</b>	Director Frontline Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>October 2022</b>	<b>Council’s Corporate Performance Report</b>  To consider the Corporate Performance Report and recommend its endorsement by Council	Barrie Davies, Director Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Extra Care Developments</b>  The new Extra Care developments, and a proposal to build new large care homes across the 3 former districts, which offer a mix of care from residential through to high end nursing care, so that residents as they age, do not have to move between care homes	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children’s Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Day Services</b>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children’s Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Budget Consultation Report</b>  To inform Members of the proposed approach to resident engagement and consultation in respect of the 2023/24 budget.	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	<b>Proposal to improve education provision for a new WM school for Ysgol Cwm Rhondda</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion Scrutiny Committee

	<p><b>Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Annual Report</b></p> <p>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</p>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services Scrutiny
	<p><b>Social Services Annual Complaints Report</b></p> <p>To provide Cabinet with an overview of the operation &amp; effectiveness of the Council's Social Services complaints procedure</p>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services Scrutiny
	<p><b>LDP Annual Monitoring Report</b></p> <p>To approve the LDP annual monitoring report, prior to submission to Welsh Government</p>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Overview and Scrutiny
<b>November 2022</b>	<p><b>Proposal to improve the Education provision for a new special school in RCT</b></p> <p>To seek Cabinet approval to begin the relevant and required statutory consultation for a new special school provision for RCT</p>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion Scrutiny
	<p><b>Ombudsman Annual Report and Letter</b></p> <p>To consider the Annual Report and letter of the Ombudsman</p>	Andy Wilkins, Director of Legal Services	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<p><b>Budget Consultation Report</b></p>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		Overview and Scrutiny

		Services and Communication			
	<b>Council Tax Base 2022/23</b> To receive the report in respect of setting the Council Tax Base 2022/23	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Investment		
	<b>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</b> To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny
<b>December 2022</b>	<b>Cabinet Work Programme</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		
	<b>Eisteddfod Update</b> To receive an update in respect of the Eisteddfod.	Louise Davies, Director Public Health, Protection and Community Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Community Services
<b>January 2023</b>	<b>National Adoption Annual Report</b> To receive the National Adoption Annual Report	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care		Community Services
	<b>Budget Report</b> To agree a draft Revenue Budget Strategy for 2023/24 as a basis to consult with stakeholders	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny

	<p><b>Digital Strategy</b></p> <p>To receive an update in respect of the Council’s digital strategy</p>	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services		Overview and Scrutiny
	<p><b>Irrecoverable Debts</b></p> <p>To provide Cabinet with an update in respect of irrecoverable debts</p>	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services	Exempt	
	<p><b>Corporate Asset Management Plan Interim Update</b></p> <p>To provide Cabinet with a progress update in respect of the plan.</p>	David Powell, Director of Corporate Estates	Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Corporate Services	Exempt	Overview and Scrutiny
<b>February 2023</b>	<p><b>Community Infrastructure Levy “CIL” Consultation Responses</b></p> <p>To update Cabinet on the responses resulting from the Community Infrastructure Levy “CIL” consultation in respect of the Council’s Regulation 123 List</p>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		
	<p><b>Budget Report</b></p> <p>The need to adopt a budget strategy to recommend to Council as the basis of the budget strategy for the financial year ending March 2023, following consideration of the consultation feedback</p>	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny
	<p><b>Council Fees and Charges</b></p>	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance	Leader and Cabinet		Overview and Scrutiny

	The need to advise Cabinet of the proposed Council Fees and Charges for the financial year 2023/24	and Digital Services	Member for Infrastructure and Investment		
	<b>Capital Programme</b> To propose to Council the three year capital programme	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny
<b>March 2023</b>	<b>Regional Adoption Annual Report</b> To consider the Regional Adoption Annual Report	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Development		Community Services
	<b>Annual Equalities Report</b> To receive the report of the Director, Human Resources in respect of the Annual Equalities Report.	Richard Evans, Director of Human Resources	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Council's Performance &amp; Resources Report</b> To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective	Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Highways, Transportation and Strategic Projects – Supplementary Capital Programme</b>	Roger Waters, Director Frontline Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Coal Tips</b>	Roger Waters, Director Frontline Services	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure		Overview and Scrutiny

			and Investment		
	<b>Cabinet Work Programme</b>	Christian Hanagan, Service Director Democratic Services and Communication	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business		

### Ongoing Updates

<b>Date</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Open/ Exempt</b>	<b>Relevant Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Ongoing Updates</b>	<b>Processing Of Mixed Kerbside Recycling</b>  To provide Members with an update in respect of the opportunities of investment into processing of Mixed Kerbside Recycling	Roger	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services



	<p><b>Highways Investment Scheme</b></p> <p>To receive regular updates in respect of the Highways Investment Scheme</p>	Roger	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
	<p><b>Review of Mainstream School Transport Provision</b></p> <p>To provide Cabinet with the outcomes of the periodic review of the Council's mainstream School Transport Provision</p>	Roger Waters, Director Frontline Services	Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
	<p><b>Porth Town Centre Strategy</b></p> <p>To receive updates as and when applicable</p>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
	<p><b>Taff Vale Update and Business Plan</b></p> <p>To receive the Taff Vale Update Report</p>	Simon Gale, Director of Prosperity and Development	Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Development		Climate Change, Prosperity and Frontline Services
	<p><b>Modernisation of Residential Care and Day Care for Older People – Consultation feedback</b></p> <p>To receive the consultation feedback</p>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care		Community Services
	<p><b>SS&amp;WB Board Development</b></p> <p>To consider any updates as appropriate in respect of the SS&amp;WB Board</p>	Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care		Community Services

<p><b>Regional Transformation Agenda</b></p> <p>To receive an update on the regional transformation agenda</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Development of Community Hubs</b></p> <p>To consider the development of Community Hubs across the County Borough</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Extra Care Strategy</b></p> <p>To receive update reports on the Councils progress in respect of delivery of the Extra Care Strategy</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Advocacy</b></p> <p>To provide Cabinet with an update in respect of advocacy</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Cwm Taf MASH Annual Report</b></p> <p>To receive the Annual report of the Cwm Taf MASH</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Social Services &amp; Wellbeing Act</b></p> <p>To provide updates as and when necessary on the Council's duties in respect of the Act</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care</p>		<p>Community Services</p>
<p><b>Local Air Quality Management Reports</b></p> <p>To provide details of the Local Air Quality Management Reports</p>	<p>Paul Mee, Group Director Community and Children's Services</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities</p>		<p>Community Services</p>

	<b>Update on proposals to strengthen the continuum of school provision for pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD)</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion
	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century School Transformation Programme</b>	Gaynor Davies, Director of Education and Inclusion Services	Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation & Welsh Language		Education and Inclusion
	<b>Cardiff Capital Region - City Deal</b>  The need to advise of the progress being made in respect of the City Deal	Chief Executive	Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment		Overview and Scrutiny
	<b>Staff Panel Report</b>  To receive details of the proposals put forward by the Council's Staff Panel in respect of efficiency savings and smarter ways of working				
	<b>Scrutiny Recommendations</b>  To receive recommendations coming forward following a scrutiny review.	Service Director Democratic Services and Communications			Overview and Scrutiny

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