



CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL
RHONDDA CYNON TAF
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**A meeting of the
EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE**

**will be held Virtually on
MONDAY, 10TH JUNE, 2024 at 10.00 AM**

Contact: Emma Wilkins - Council Business Unit (Tel No. 07385406118)

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 by 5pm on the 6th June 2024 on the contact details listed above, including stipulating whether the address will be in Welsh or English.

LIST OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

Note:

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

2. MINUTES

To receive as an accurate record the minutes of the Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub Committee on the 29th April 2024.

(Pages 3 - 6)

3. UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024

To receive the report of the Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services, which provides Members with an update on the work currently being undertaken in collaboration with National Eisteddfod officers in preparation for the 2024 Eisteddfod in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

(Pages 7 - 14)

4. NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES 2024 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SPATIAL PLANNING

To receive the report of the Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services, which updates Members on the infrastructure and spatial planning for The National Eisteddfod of Wales 2024.

(Pages 15 - 20)

5. URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any urgent business as the Chairman feels appropriate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. S. Jones', is written over a faint, light-colored signature line.

Director of Democratic Services & Communication

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee meeting held on Monday, 29 April 2024 at 2.00 pm.

County Borough Councillors - Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee Members in attendance:-

Councillor R Lewis (Chair)
Councillor M Norris Councillor M Webber
Councillor B Harris Councillor A Morgan

Non Committee Members in attendance:

Councillor H Gronow

Officers in attendance

Ms L Davies, Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services
Mr S Gale, Director of Prosperity & Development
Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication
Mr S Thomas, Eisteddfod Project Officer
Ms N Lewis, Head of Community and Welsh Language Services
Mr J Whitehurst, Graduate Officer - Cabinet & PR
Mr S Treeby, Events Manager

Others in Attendance

Ms B Moses, Chief Executive of the National Eisteddfod of Wales.

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Members Code of Conduct there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

5 APOLOGY

An apology for absence was received by County Borough Councillor A Crimmings.

6 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the 11th March 2024 as an accurate record of the meeting.

7 UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024

The Head of Community and Welsh Language Services provided Members with an overview of the report before them, which provided an update on the work currently being undertaken in collaboration with National Eisteddfod officers in preparation for the 2024 Eisteddfod in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Members were provided with details of recent meetings taken forward to launch and promote the Eisteddfod coming to Rhondda Cynon Taf in 2024, which

included local drop in sessions and business drop in sessions and Members were advised of the positive responses received to both events.

Details of the planned programme for the Eisteddfod to attend all secondary schools was also advised upon as well as the launch of a schools art project and resulting show case event.

The Sub Committee welcomed the update in relation to the considerations for accessibility for residents of the County Borough to attend the Eisteddfod, including the subsidised access, work with veterans and the receipt of Welsh Government funding to support access to the event.

The Head of Service continued to advise upon the fundraising elements associated with the Eisteddfod and reminded Members of the funding model in place which requires a contribution towards the operating costs of the festival to be raised by community fundraising activities in the host local authority area. It was recognised that there was already lots of effort being made by the National Eisteddfod, local communities supported by local members, voluntary groups, to fundraise across the County Borough and the officer advised that there had been a noticeable increase in the funds raised over the past couple of months, now totalling in excess of £185,000.

The Head of Community and Welsh Language Services concluded the report by providing details on the legacy aims of the Eisteddfod and Members were advised that interest in learning to speak Welsh from residents, businesses, Council staff and Members continues to increase and specific activities, sessions and resources will be developed and made available in the run up to the event, which will continue to be maintained and built upon as part of RCT's legacy aims.

The Chair thanked the Head of Service for the report and referenced the notable excitement building across the County Borough with less than 100 days until the event and also referenced the detailed work taking place across communities to make the Eisteddfod a success.

The Chair referenced the support from local businesses and welcomed the announcement in respect of the funding support from Welsh Government which would assist in the accessibility aims for local residents and recognised groups.

The Deputy Leader commented on the positive momentum gathering for the event and the work taking place with schools across the County Borough. Reference was made to the funding and the Deputy Leader thanked the local communities for their ongoing efforts and Welsh Government for their welcomed funding support.

The Chief Executive of the National Eisteddfod of Wales thanked Members for their comments and also spoke of the encouraging work taking place with the fundraising for the event.

Following discussions it was **RESOLVED**:

- i. To note the content of the report.

The Director of Public Health, Protections and Community Services provided a further update to the Sub-Committee in relation to the infrastructure, transport and traffic, and spatial planning for the RCT National Eisteddfod of Wales 2024.

Members were advised of a number of changes to the spatial plan previously reported to Committee in March 2024 and the Director advised that such changes mainly reflected the evolving needs of the National Eisteddfod (NE) customers with the aim of providing them with a greater overall experience.

The Committee heard updates in respect of a

- new plan for the Maes in YWMP,
- main site for the caravan park off Berw Road, Pontypridd,
- the current review of the proposed location for Maes B,
- Hawthorn High School Park and Ride,
- update to the use of the University of South Wales Treforest Campus
- controlled access to Taff Street and Gas Road Car Park.

The Director advised of the ongoing engagement in respect of these issues with relevant stakeholders and community groups to ensure the smooth running of the event.

The Director continued the update by providing detail on traffic and transport work to help ensure the smooth running of the event. Members were informed that a traffic management consultant had been appointed to work with all partners to devise a traffic management plan.

The Chair thanked the Director for the comprehensive report and spoke of the moving picture of the spatial plan and the need for fluidity due to the sheer logistics of the event. The Chair referenced the unique setting of the Eisteddfod in a Town centre environment and the challenges associated with such a setting compared to a usual rural settings for the event. The Chair commented on the importance of ensuring that the Eisteddfod was a safe environment and experience for all and thanked the Director and the Chair of the National Eisteddfod for the amount of work that was taking place behind the scenes to ensure a successful and safe Eisteddfod for RCT.

The Leader commented on the update and reference the loss of the parking arrangements with the University but noted the University hosting the Fringe as an alternative which was a positive update. The Leader spoke of the detailed and comprehensive work being undertaken.

Discussions ensued in respect of parking arrangements in Hawthorn High School and the Director spoke of the traffic management plans in place and the contingency plans being explored.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- i. To note the content of the update report

This meeting closed at 2.30 pm

**Cllr R Lewis
Chairman.**

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

10th June 2024

UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024 – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

REPORT OF DIRECTOR - PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CLLR. RHYS LEWIS, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, INCLUSION & WELSH LANGUAGE

Author(s):

Nicola Lewis, Head of Community and Welsh Language Services

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Members with an update on the work currently being undertaken in collaboration with National Eisteddfod officers in preparation for the 2024 Eisteddfod in Rhondda Cynon Taf, specifically in relation to community engagement and fundraising.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet Sub-Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the content of the report.
- 2.2 Considers whether further information is required.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The report is to update the Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee Members of the ongoing progress being made in engaging with communities to ensure that the National Eisteddfod 2024 in Rhondda Cynon Taf is a success, in both the lead up to and during the Eisteddfod week and that a significant positive legacy remains for the longer term.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The previous Eisteddfod Cabinet report, dated 29th April 2024, outlined the progress made during that month with regards to the work carried out in preparation for the Eisteddfod event in relation to community engagement, events and fundraising activities.

- 4.2 The report also gave a brief update on the work of the community workstream group with regards to planning and developing an Eisteddfod Legacy plan.
- 4.3 Updates will continue to be given as part of this report on the ongoing work of both the Council and Eisteddfod under the three themed areas: Community Engagement and events, Fundraising and Legacy.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

- 5.1 The National Eisteddfod continue to organise events and activities with support from Council Officers, Members and local community groups to promote engagement opportunities to residents and businesses in Rhondda Cynon Taf in 2024, which include:
- A business breakfast session organised for Thursday 13th June in the Lido, Pontypridd, with businesses able to book online to attend the event and where they will be able to meet officers in person to discuss engagement and sponsorship opportunities.
 - Business sponsorship opportunities have been launched and are being actively promoted.
 - Volunteering opportunities continue to be promoted through the Eisteddfod website with an online link for applications remaining open until 30th June. To date 330 applications have been received from people with a range of skills, including those wanting to learn Welsh through to fluent Welsh speakers.
 - An unveiling of the Eisteddfod Chair and Crown, 'Cadair a Coron', in the Llantrisant Guild Hall is still planned to take place on 13th June, after which time it will be moved to be on display to the public in the Library at Llys Cadwyn.
 - Eisteddfod presence at the Aberdare Festival on 25th April to promote the event in August and to engage people in an art project on the day.
 - The schools art project launched in March has received over one hundred applications and the showcase event being held on 14th June at Llys Cadwyn in Pontypridd, will announce and celebrate the selected winning entries.
 - In addition to the planned programme of themed performances going to all secondary schools during transition days in June, the Eisteddfod are touring their Maes B festival through Secondary schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf. They have already visited Cwm Rhondda, Garth Olwg and Coleg y Cymoedd and are due to visit Mountain Ash in July with Ponty High, Aberdare and Treorchy secondary pupils invited to attend.

- 5.2 As a result of the Welsh Government awarding funding towards subsidised entry to the Eisteddfod event in RCT, the Council and the National Eisteddfod worked on developing a process through schools and various organisations to target vulnerable families across the County Borough.
- 5.3 Communications promoting the opportunity to apply for a free Eisteddfod family ticket were sent out and to date over 1,300 applications have been received, which will mean that over 5,200 individuals in total will potentially benefit.
- 5.4 The initial deadline for applications was set as 24th May, however, the opportunity will remain open for the foreseeable future to ensure the event is as accessible to as many people as possible across RCT and until the funding is fully committed.
- 5.5 In addition to the above, the Council has agreed a proposal to enable Veterans, their partners and families living in the County Borough to access the event. Working with the Council's Veterans Officer and surveying RCT veterans' groups, 27 responses were received, which will result in 75 individuals in total being able to access support to attend the event.
- 5.6 The Eisteddfod have now launched the first opportunity to gain paid access to the event with its 'Early Bird' tickets going on sale online from 20 May until 14 June. After this period a full price ticket will be available to purchase online or on the doors during the week of the Eisteddfod.
- 5.7 The Eisteddfod Community Workstream group continues to meet on a monthly basis with key officers from across Council services, with the support of the Council's Eisteddfod Officers, developing a number of initiatives to support the wider participation in both Welsh and bilingual events. Updates on some of these initiatives include:
- 700 'Give Welsh a Go' business packs were handed out between 15th to 20th May by Council Officers to businesses in town centres across Rhondda Cynon Taf who wanted to participate in improving Welsh language conversational skills. Packs will be distributed wider over the coming months and further information is available on the Council's Welsh Services web page: [Welsh Services | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](http://Welsh_Services_|_Rhondda_Cynon_Taf_County_Borough_Council_(rctcbc.gov.uk).).
 - The annual Adult Community Learning festival to be held on 6th July in Garth Olwg Life Long Learning centre will help to promote Welsh Language Learning opportunities on offer and will be supported by the Eisteddfod's local fundraising committee to promote and fundraise for the event in August.
 - The Library service is drafting a final copy of a book 'O Aberdâr i Ystrad / From Aberdare to Ystrad' which will include history, heritage and places to

go in Rhondda Cynon Taf and will be published and go on sale prior to the Eisteddfod with proceeds going towards fundraising for the event.

- Staff continue to work in partnership with the Eisteddfod, schools and local artists to pull together a program of events that will be scheduled on the bandstand in Ynysangharad Parc throughout the week of the Eisteddfod.
- Officers continue to plan a programme of activities e.g. in town centres organised in the run up and following the event, which will be free to access.

6. FUNDRAISING

- 6.1 As outlined in previous Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee reports, the funding model of the Eisteddfod requires that a contribution to the operating costs of the festival is raised by community fundraising activities in the host local authority area.
- 6.2 The fundraising has increased since last reported on 29th April and totalled £215,000 on 17th May. This figure does not yet include funds raised from the Mayor's Charity or business sponsorship opportunities.
- 6.3 16 people from the local fundraising committees, along with the Council's Eisteddfod Officer, will be taking part in the 'Three Peaks challenge' in June, with sponsorship monies raised contributing towards funds raised for the Eisteddfod.
- 6.4 The Council continues to support the Eisteddfod to promote fundraising and sponsorship opportunities to communities and businesses across the County Borough and are enabling use of its venues when possible, which are approved on a case-by case basis.

7. LEGACY

- 7.1 The Community Workstream group continue to capture information as activities are being developed and delivered in relation to each of the Legacy aims.
- 7.2 The planning, developing and scheduling of the Council's offer for our Host stand at the Eisteddfod event is underway and will be based on the previously reported Legacy themes, and include the key topics of :
- Tourism – Attractions, Heritage and What's on the Menu
 - RCT – a great place to live and work
 - Biodiversity – A Greener RCT
 - Culture and Arts – Putting RCT on the Stage
 - Welsh language – Developing RCT into a bilingual county

- 7.3 An example is given below of the ‘Altered Images’ project that has been developed over recent years and which will celebrate the arrival and legacy of the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.
- 7.3.1 As a National Lottery Heritage Fund Priority Area, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council received a solicited invitation to apply to the NLHF for grant funding towards a project of our selection, that would look to rebuild capacity within Rhondda Cynon Taf and the community in relation to heritage.
- 7.3.2 The ‘Altered Images’ project was developed as a result of this approach and was awarded a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £250,000 for a three-year project in August 2021. The project commenced in February 2022 and is managed by RCT’s Library Service.
- 7.3.3 To mark the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol 2024, Altered Images will be publishing a creative writing Anthology which will include short stories and poetry written by members of the general public on the Themes of culture, heritage and history of Rhondda Cynon Taf. Copies of the anthology will be available to collect from Pontypridd Library during the Eisteddfod, free of charge.
- 7.3.4 Altered Images is also facilitating an art project which is exploring the life of the cultural Welsh icon, Morfydd Llwyn Owen, the singer and composer from Treforest who was admitted to the Gorsedd at the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol of 1912. This project is being developed with the Council’s Arts Service and the community arts sector.
- 7.3.5 Altered Images will also be exhibiting the work of young photographers at Pentref RhCT during the Eisteddfod. The exhibition, entitled ‘Our Heritage, Pontypridd in Print’, will include contemporary and archive photographs of Pontypridd – its streets, landscapes and people – which document the story and evolution of the town.
- 7.4 Rhondda Cynon Taf’s Heritage Service are also developing a Heritage Strategy, which will define a shared vision of Rhondda Cynon Taf’s heritage and set out practical, long-term objectives. The draft Heritage Strategy will be consulted upon during the Summer of 2024, taking advantage of visitors to RCT during the week of the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.
- 7.5 All of this work will be available to the general public via a new website which will preserve and promote the heritage of Rhondda Cynon Taf (rctourheritage.com / eintreftadaethrhct.com).

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 8.1 This is an information report and therefore no equality and diversity screening is necessary.

9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 This is an information report and therefore no Welsh Language assessment is necessary.

10. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 10.1 This is an information report therefore no consultation is required.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

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

12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

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

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

- 13.1 The Welsh language is a cross-cutting theme in the Council's Corporate Plan and the Council has a Strategy for the Promotion of the Welsh Language and supporting Action Plan, which includes a focus on increasing the use of the Welsh Language within communities by working with partners to deliver and/or facilitate events and activities as well as improving the number of services the Council offer through the medium of Welsh. The work undertaken in partnership with the National Eisteddfod will support this as well as contributing to [Cymraeg 2050 : A Million Welsh speakers](#) – the Welsh Government's Strategy to achieve 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.
- 13.2 The Corporate Plan recognises the important role that culture and heritage plays in supporting the wellbeing of residents enabling them to be independent or maintain their independence for longer. Supporting the development of events to engage with residents of all ages will contribute to the Council's aim of increasing participation in arts and culture.
- 13.3 The success of the Rhondda Cynon Taf Eisteddfod is dependent on a partnership between the National Eisteddfod, the Council and local communities. This report highlights how the National Eisteddfod and the Council are working together to ensure that communities across the County Borough are involved in the preparations for the festival, that no one feels excluded and that they have an opportunity to shape the events and activities that will be developed so that there is a longer-term legacy after 2024.
- 13.4 The main well-being goal being addressed is goal 6 – A Wales of Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language. However, as recognised in the Corporate Plan, participation in arts and culture has a positive impact on

promoting health and well-being and brings people together, thereby increasing community cohesion.

14. CONCLUSION

- 14.1 The Council's Eisteddfod Project Officer and other Council Officers will continue to work closely with the National Eisteddfod team especially in relation to their work of engaging with communities across the whole of the County Borough. Our common aim is to ensure maximum involvement by communities and to promote the message that the Eisteddfod is for everyone and you do not need to be able to speak Welsh to enjoy and participate in its activities and events.
- 14.2 Good promotion and engagement is being achieved and preparation work for the event is gaining momentum. Ongoing efforts will continue to ensure Members, residents and businesses across the County Borough are involved and engaged and fundraising is maximised.
- 14.3 The importance of this work cannot be under-estimated as it will be central to the success of the festival and its legacy in Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 14.4 Further reports will be prepared for Members in the period between now and the RCT Eisteddfod, updating Members on a range of issues associated with the event in addition to the ongoing community engagement work.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

10th JUNE 2024

REPORT OF DIRECTOR - PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CLLR. RHYS LEWIS, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, INCLUSION & WELSH LANGUAGE

UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024 – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Background Papers:

None

Officer to contact:

Nicola Lewis – Head of Community and Welsh Language Services – 07786523987

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

10th June 2024

UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SPATIAL PLANNING

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR - PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CLLR. ANN
CRIMMINGS, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
AND CLLR. RHYS LEWIS, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION,
INCLUSION AND WELSH LANGUAGE**

Authors: Keith Nicholls - Head of Leisure, Sport and Parks
Chris Richards - Visitor Attractions Manager
Scott Treeby - Events Manager.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide a further update to the Cabinet Sub-Committee in relation to the infrastructure, transport and traffic, and spatial planning for the RCT National Eisteddfod of Wales 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Sub-Committee:

- 2.1 Note the content of the update report.
- 2.2 Considers whether further information is required.
- 2.3 Agree to temporarily close the Hawthorn Swimming Pool from the 2nd August to 12th August to ensure the safe operation of the Park and Ride facility at Hawthorn High School.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The report is to provide the Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee the opportunity to comment on progress with the work required to deliver the infrastructure, transport and traffic, and spatial planning arrangements for the National Eisteddfod in August 2024.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

4.1 For Cabinet Members information, there are a number of changes to the spatial plan previously reported to Committee in April 2024. These changes mainly reflect the evolving needs of the National Eisteddfod (NE) customers with the aim of providing them with a greater overall experience. These changes include:

- A new plan for the Maes in Ynysangharad War Memorial Park (YWMP) has been developed. The changes relate to the way in which the NE has reconfigured the layout to enhance the experience of the festival.
- The NE has reviewed the location for Maes B and moved its location from Pontypridd High School to the Berw Road on land adjacent to the Eisteddfod caravan site.
- Plans have been developed to provide park and ride facilities (pre bookable) at Hawthorn High School and Abercynon with hours of operation being finalised. Discussions are ongoing in respect of the safe traffic management requirements for the site during the week of the Eisteddfod. A communication plan is being developed by the NE to inform the local residents of the details relating to the P+R facility housed in the school.
- It is proposed to close the swimming pool within Hawthorn High school for the period of the Eisteddfod (2nd August – 12th August) to ensure safe operation of the park and ride due to the large amounts of traffic entering and leaving the site.
- The Park and Ride areas will be staffed and managed by RCT employees supplemented with trained Security Staff and NE Volunteers. Security Staff will marshal traffic on and leaving the main highways and RCT staff will manage the parking of the cars and bus service. A group has been established to manage the rotas and staff compliment.
- NE volunteers will work alongside RCT staff and provide a direct NE point of contact for visitors before leaving to travel to the Maes.
- YWMP will be closed on a phased basis as the NE Maes build work is due to commence on the 17th June 2024. Officers have worked closely with the NE Team to ensure agreements are in place and operational arrangements understood to establish a

timeline overview of the Eisteddfod's occupation and use of land, to set up and remove infrastructure. Public communications will be issued as the build progresses and planned restrictions on areas of the park are put in place.

- 4.2 Officers continue to communicate with local ward members regarding the Eisteddfod and where possible provide updates and information in a timely manner when enquiries are made, recognising that confirmation of the final traffic management plans in particular are progressing at pace with our partners in Transport for Wales and NE. Members are also updated via the Cabinet Office and members bulletins.
- 4.3 The Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) has met since the last committee meeting. The NE and third party organisation discussions are progressing well. This includes wider discussions between the Council, Emergency Planning Leads, with South Wales Police and the NE to ensure contingency plans to manage any incidents outside the main Maes are planned for and adequate resources are in place by all agencies to manage and respond as required.
- 4.4 The Council is progressing the application submitted for a licence for the event, in line with usual licensing procedures and legislation with a determination on any licence and licensing conditions to be determined in coming weeks.
- 4.5 Officers are continuing to work with existing sporting groups and organisations directly affected by the Eisteddfod to ensure any disruption is kept to a minimum.
- 4.6 Unfortunately the cricket pitch at Ynysybwl for the ladies and junior Pontypridd Teams will not be available. This is due to the adverse weather conditions experienced in the last 6 months. Contractors have confirmed that it will not be playable and alternative facilities are being sourced that meet the Club needs. The main team will play their fixtures from August to the end of the 2024 season in Aberdare as previously agreed with the Club.

5. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

- 5.1 The RCT Traffic Team are continuing to meet with the NE and Transport for Wales as part of a Working Group, regarding the movement of visitors around Pontypridd and surrounding areas during the festival. The traffic management consultant appointed to work with all partners to devise a traffic management plan is actively supporting

the development of a traffic management plan for the event and a draft plan is being finalised.

- 5.2 A single channel of communication co-ordinated by lead officers for all agencies has been agreed across all partners streams of communication (including social media channels and the NE website), working with RCT Council and Transport for Wales communications officers and NE and South Wales Police teams. A strategic communications plan has been finalised and work to promote messages on active travel, use of public transport and how to book park and ride spaces is being issued by the NE and Council. Further planned communications will be issued as part of ticket sale launch messages and in the lead up to the event.
- 5.3 Through the survey conducted by NE on the travel plans of previous attendees and through survey work for local people and people planning to attend this year, a clearer understanding of traffic and travel requirements for this unique NE have been identified. The information on customers travel plans being collected will assist in the understanding on pinch points and traffic management on our network.
- 5.4 Further work is also in hand regarding park and ride bus pick up and drop off points and contractual arrangements for bus operations to support the park and ride sites. As the Eisteddfod programme is finalised, the needs of ad hoc travelling coach parties is being shared by NE so that plans can be finalised to support coach parking requirements for those attending as day visitors for large-group competitions.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 6.1 This is an information report and therefore no equality and diversity screening is necessary.

7. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This is an information report and therefore no Welsh Language assessment is necessary.

8. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 8.1 There is no requirement to carry out a consultation in relation to this report.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 9.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report. The National Eisteddfod is a charitable organisation and the costs of the event are met through community and corporate fundraising, income from the event (traders/ tickets) and a Welsh Government grant.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

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

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

- 11.1 There are significant links to both the Corporate Plan 2024-2030 (Culture, Heritage and Welsh Language priority) and the Council's Welsh Language Promotion Strategy. As a Council we are committed to promoting and enabling use of the Welsh language in our communities and the NE is a national event that is providing a platform from which we can continue to make progress.

- 11.2 The NE is being delivered in partnership with the organisers, communities, businesses, sector partners and visitors to RCT. The approach to delivering the event is an inclusive one to ensure everyone can feel part of the largest cultural event in Europe and that we derive a long term legacy from our hosting of the event.

12. STRATEGIC OR RELEVANT TO ELECTORAL WARDS

- 12.1 The Rhondda Cynon Taf National Eisteddfod, whilst based mainly in the Pontypridd and adjacent areas, will affect and benefit wards across the County Borough.

13. CONCLUSION

- 13.1 The Eisteddfod Cabinet Sub-Committee should note the significant progress being made to ensure the infrastructure, transport and spatial plan requirements of the event are delivered successfully and efficiently.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EISTEDDFOD CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

10th JUNE 2024

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR – PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CLLR. ANN
CRIMMINGS, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
AND CLLR. RHYS LEWIS, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION,
INCLUSION AND WELSH LANGUAGE**

**UPDATE ON THE RCT NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2024
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SPATIAL PLANNING**

Background Papers:

None

Officer to contact:

Keith Nicholls – Head of Leisure, Sport and Parks

Relevant Scrutiny:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee