



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018-2019**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

**A SHARED COMMUNITY –MODEL CHARTER REVISIONS.**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & INTERIM HEAD  
OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES.**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To review the 'Shared Community Model – Model Charter' as originally agreed by all Members.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To note the initial revisions to the Model Charter as attached in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 To agree that further revisions be made to the Charter to reflect the principles and goals of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and to further strengthen the working relationship between all members.
- 2.3 To agree for Officers to progress further engagement and discussion with Community Council colleagues in respect of the content and scope of the revised charter and to agree the suggested way forward as outlined within paragraphs 5.3 and 5.4.
- 2.4 To provide an update on the Revised Charter at the next meeting of the Community Liaison Committee.

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The need to revise the Charter to reflect the requirements of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and to further strengthen

collaborative arrangements between the Council and the Town / Community Councils.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 During 2011, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council, along with 11 Community Councils and 1 Town Council signed up to a shared Charter, following guidance received from Welsh Government in respect of 'Relationship Building Measures and Charters for Unitary Authorities and Town and Community Councils'.
- 4.2 Since this time representatives from the Council, Town and Community Council's have attended meeting of the Community Liaison Committee to strengthen partnership working.

#### **5. SHARED MODEL CHARTER**

- 5.1 With updates in legislation and as good practice, revisions have been made to the 2011 Charter to incorporate the principles and wellbeing goals of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.
- 5.2 A revised Charter has been circulated to all Community and Town Councils earlier in the year as a platform for discussion. It is proposed that further amendments are made to the Charter to further strengthen the document, illustrating the work already being taken forward in line with the Future Generations goals and five ways of working and to reflect the working relationship between each of its members.
- 5.3 Going forward it is proposed that following discussions on the Charter, (attached as appendix 1), at the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> September, the Chair of the Community Liaison Committee and the Interim Head of Democratic Services meet with Town and Community Council representatives to discuss the Charter in further detail.
- 5.4 Alongside this, the Council's Performance Manager, will also assist with revisions to ensure the Charter complies with the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

#### **6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no Equality or Diversity implications aligned to this report

#### **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 Initial revisions to the Charter have been taken forward following meetings and discussions with Town and Community Council Clerks, to ensure the charter was fit for purpose.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report.

## **10 LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

10.1 Working in partnership with the Town and Community Council's within Rhondda Cynon Taf links with the three priorities within the Corporate plan of People, Economy and Place, as it will help people and Communities to help themselves and assists in building a sustainable Rhondda Cynon Taf.

10.2 The revised charter reflects the seven well being goals and the five ways of working, from within the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, to which the Town / Community Council as well as Rhondda Cynon Taf Council work to. However, further work can be done in this area to strengthen these links, which will be made through further revisions to the Charter.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

11.1 The Welsh Government has been clear that charters should be voluntary and not a statutory obligation, although all Town / Community Councils within Rhondda Cynon Taf have shared the willingness to support and strength partnership working through the original signing of the Charter in 2011. Continued support has been provided through the Community and Liaison Committee.

11.2 Revisions to the Charter are necessary to reflect new legislation and are deemed as good practice.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

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

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**Background Papers**

Freestanding Matter