



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018-2019**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019.**

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

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

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To review and agree the ‘Shared Community Model – Model Charter’ as originally agreed by all Members.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To note the revisions to the Model Charter as attached in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 To agree in principle to the revisions to the “Model Charter”
- 2.3 To formally agree and adopt the revised Charter at each of the respective Town and Community Council meetings.
- 2.4 To provide an update on the adoption of the Charter at the next meeting of the Committee.

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The need to advise and agree the revisions put forward in respect of the ‘Shared Community Model – Model Charter’.

**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 was circulated to all Community and Town Councils earlier in the year as a platform for discussion. Since this draft further amendments have been 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 Assisting in these revisions the Chair of the Community Liaison Committee along with the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication has met with members from each of the Town and Community Councils to discuss strengthening partnership arrangements and support.

## **6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 Revisions to the Charter have been taken forward following meetings and discussions with Town and Community Council Clerks, with the Chair of the Community Liaison Committee and the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication to ensure the charter was fit for purpose.
- 7.2 The Council’s Performance Manager, has assisted with revisions to ensure that the Charter complies with the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

## **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.

11.3 Members are asked to agree to the revised Charter and that the document be taken forward at the next appropriate meetings of the Town and Community Councils for progression.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

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

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**Background Papers**

Community Liaison Committee – [25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.](#)