

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 10TH MARCH, 2025

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 6TH FEBRUARY, 2025

“C246 VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PANEL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader presented the Council’s Panel Performance Assessment and proposed response to the recommendations for areas of improvement.

Taking part in the Panel Performance Assessment had been timely as it coincided with the development of the new Corporate Plan and would work hand-in-hand to increase performance. The Vale of Glamorgan Council was only the third Local Authority to have undergone the process which was a new experience for all concerned.

Appendix A to the report contained the report of the independent Panel of peers, with the Overall Conclusion that “The Panel assessed the Vale of Glamorgan to be a good Council within the current context of high service demand, operational pressures, and resources. It is a values-based organisation with a good internal culture and solid external relationships. There is a clear commitment to delivering on the Corporate Plan, with a particular focus on prioritising the needs of vulnerable people. Staff are enormously proud to work for the Council, and there is a strong sense of ambition for the future.”

The Leader, when referring to paragraph 2.10 of the report concerning Local Context, said it was important to talk about the Vale of Glamorgan as a County rather than as a Council which was being addressed in the new Corporate Plan. Paragraph 2.11 referred to Strengths and Areas of Innovation and the Leader said she was pleased that it had been recognised that the Council had established itself as a values-based organisation built on a strong positive culture, with that culture demonstrating “a strong appetite for innovation and a willingness to do things differently”.

The Panel’s report made four Recommendations contained in paragraphs 2.17 to 2.20 of the report, with the Council’s response to those Recommendations detailed in paragraphs 2.25 to 2.38.

The Leader was pleased with the outcomes of the Panel Performance Assessment and grateful for the opportunity to reflect on how the Council might improve and thanked the Panel for the time they spent in the Vale of Glamorgan and for their

insight into Council practices. Councillor Wilson also thanked the Members, Officers and various stakeholders who contributed to the Assessment.

The Deputy Leader endorsed the findings of the Assessment, particularly in regard to being considered as a values-based organisation and looked forward to further feedback and discussion at Governance and Audit Committee.

This was a matter for Executive decision and thereafter Full Council.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the content of the report and appendices be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report and appendices be referred to Governance and Audit Committee for their consideration at the meeting of 17th February, 2025, with any comments reported back to Cabinet for further consideration.
- (3) T H A T the report and appendices, and the views of the Governance and Audit Committee and Cabinet, be referred to Full Council for consideration and approval.**
- (4) T H A T Full Council considers the report and the views of the Cabinet and Governance and Audit Committee and approves the Council's response to the Panel Performance Assessment.**
- (5) T H A T following consideration and approval by Full Council, delegated authority be granted to the Director of Corporate Resources to send the response to the Panel Performance Assessment to the members of the Panel, the Auditor General for Wales, HM Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales and the Welsh Ministers.
- (6) T H A T Cabinet receive updates on the progress to implement the recommended areas of improvement in due course, including as part of the Council's next Annual Self-Assessment report later in 2025.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To enable Governance and Audit Committee to consider the report, to discharge their duties under Part Six of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act, 2021 and for Cabinet to subsequently consider the views of the Governance and Audit Committee.
- (3) To enable Full Council to consider the report and the views of Cabinet and Governance and Audit Committee.**

(4) To enable Full Council to consider and approve the response to the Panel Performance Assessment.

(5) To comply with the requirement for the Council to publish its response to the Panel Performance Assessment and provide this to a range of specified recipients.

(6) To ensure the actions taken to progress the recommended areas of improvement are reported to Cabinet, consistent with the requirements of the Act.”