

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

### REQUEST FOR THE USE OF EMERGENCY POWERS – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

**SUBJECT:** Annual Delivery Plan

1. **Originating / Department / Service** –

Managing Director and Resources – Policy and Business Transformation

2. **Reason for Seeking Emergency Powers** –

PLEASE SPECIFY BELOW ~~and attach appropriate Committee report /  
minute/ memo~~ \* (\* delete as appropriate)

The Corporate Plan 2020-25 was published in March 2020 and details the Council's Well-being Objectives and priorities for the next five years. Aligned to the new Corporate Plan an Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) for 2020-21 has been developed setting out the activities planned for 2020-21 to deliver commitments within the Corporate Plan. A number of discussions have taken place with Members regarding this new approach and implications for performance management as part of the development of the Corporate Plan and the ADP.

Consultation on the draft ADP commenced at the beginning of March and was due to end on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. As part of the consultation process the ADP was due to be considered by all five Scrutiny Committees together with new Service Plans for 2020-21. Following the consultation process the ADP would then have been amended and presented to Cabinet and Council for approval and publication.

The drafting of the ADP was informed by engagement and consultation undertaken as part of the development of the Corporate Plan and also engagement undertaken for the ADP itself. The lockdown which was introduced on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 has meant that it was not possible to hold the stakeholder workshop which had been organised as part of the ADP consultation and the response to the on-line survey was understandably low with only 13 responses received. In addition, the ADP has not been considered by any of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as originally planned.

The ADP is Part One of the Council's Improvement Plan. It is required to be published by May 2020 and must set out the Council's priorities for the next twelve months. As such the Plan must be approved by Council in line with the Council's constitution. It is requested that Emergency Powers are used to approve the ADP for publication in the form that was shared for consultation purposes with members, officers, partners and the public in recognition of the work and engagement that had been undertaken to shape the draft and ensure that it reflected the priorities within the Corporate Plan.

Although it is recognised that the ADP was drafted prior to the Coronavirus Pandemic and it has not been possible to complete the usual consultation, scrutiny and approval processes it is important that the ADP is published. The ADP provides the framework for Service Plans and the Council's Performance Management activities for 2020-21. Significant changes to how we work have already been put in place and further changes will be necessary over the coming months but the ADP still provides a necessary framework for service delivery.

In response to the challenges arising from the pandemic and in order to avoid adding any undue pressure to local authority colleagues, the Welsh Government have suspended the passing of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill and local authority statistical data collection obligations and deadlines over the next few months. The Welsh Government intends to consider how best to approach data collection for 2019-20 and the first half of 2020-21 in due course, and whether it will be feasible to collect data at a later date, or what the statutory requirements for these datasets will be. Similarly, the Public Accountability Measures (PAM) collection process for 2019-20 has been postponed and there are currently no plans to report on this data during the year ahead. Current guidance remains in place however, it is unclear what the process for the coming year will look like. It is anticipated that discussions will continue between Welsh Local Government Association and local authority colleagues with further information issued in due course.

Despite the above arrangements, the Council's obligations for improvement planning and performance reporting under the Local Government (Wales) Measure will continue to remain in force for the foreseeable future, so preparatory work needs to be undertaken now in order to enable us to meet our obligations for 2020/21. Consequently, the formal adoption and publication of the Council's ADP 2020/21 (which incorporates Service Plans and improvement targets for the period) is necessary in order for the Council to start to develop its performance monitoring and reporting arrangements, which will enable the collection of relevant performance information and in turn will enable assessment of the ADP's delivery (and its associated Well-being Objectives).

Emergency powers are sought to approve the Annual Delivery Plan (which incorporates Service Plans and improvement targets for the period Appendix A, B and C appended) for publication in recognition that as the longer-term impacts of the coronavirus impact become clearer then there may be changes in the focus of activity.

Work on the Annual Delivery Plan and Service Plans for 2021-22 will commence in the Autumn 2020 and will take account of service self-assessments and changes resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

A statement by the Leader will prefix the Annual Delivery Plan 2020-21 explaining the context for the publication of the ADP for 2020-21. A copy of the statement together with the draft ADP are attached to this proforma.

3. **Policy Framework and Budget** –

PLEASE INDICATE as appropriate that the matter that you are seeking the use of Emergency Powers for is a Cabinet or Council function.

Cabinet

Council

4. **Relevant Scrutiny Committee** –

All Scrutiny Committees

**IMPORTANT**

The following sections **must** be completed **prior** to the request being submitted to the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Section for processing.

I confirm (delete as appropriate)

~~(a) — That there are no financial implications and the relevant Cabinet Member, Leader and / or the Deputy Leader has been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers; **or**~~

(b) That, in view of the financial commitments, the Head of Financial Services, the appropriate Chief Officer, the relevant Cabinet Member, Leader and / or Deputy Leader have been consulted and are in agreement with the use of the Emergency Powers and that

~~(c) — For matters relating to the Planning Committee the Chairman of the Planning Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers;~~

~~(d) — For matters relating to the Licensing Committee the Chairman of the Licensing Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.~~

~~(e) — For matters relating to the Welsh Church Act Estate Committee the Chairman of the Welsh Church Act Estate Committee has also been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.~~

(f) For matters relating to policy the relevant Scrutiny Committee Chairman has been consulted and is in agreement with the use of Emergency Powers.

**Signed:** Tom Bowring **Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020  
**(Instructing Chief Officer)**

**Please print name:** Tom Bowring

**I hereby approve under my Emergency Powers the attached recommendation(s) on behalf of the Cabinet / Council (please delete as appropriate).**

**Signed:** D.R. Thomas..... **Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020...  
**Managing Director**

**NB Should the relevant portfolio Cabinet Member be unable to be consulted only the Leader and / or Deputy Leader be consulted in their absence.**

**N.B. Cabinet: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2020 Minute No. 295**