

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Hybrid Meeting, 13th December, 2023.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor E. Goodjohn (Vice-Chair in the Chair); Councillors G.D.D. Carroll, P. Drake, S.J. Haines, S.M. Hanks, Dr. I.J. Johnson, B. Loveluck-Edwards and N.J. Wood

Also present: Councillors A. Asbrey, L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources), G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing) and E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillor J. Protheroe (Chair); Councillors C.P. Franks and H.C. Hamilton

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November, 2023 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

AGENDA ITEM 4. Q2 SICKNESS ABSENCE REPORT 2023/2024 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the Cabinet reference and the appended report regarding Q2 Sickness Absence for 2023/2024 be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of both the Cabinet reference and report on Q2 Sickness Absence for 2023/2024.

AGENDA ITEM 5. CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING SUMMARY REPORT (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the reference and appended Cabinet report on the activity that had been undertaken in relation to Corporate arrangements for Safeguarding across the Council be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the reference and report to provide assurance around safeguarding activity taking place across the Council as well as to ensure that there was a wide-reaching level of Member oversight.

AGENDA ITEM 6. QUARTER 2 REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24 (DCR) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the position with regard the Authority's 2023/24 Revenue Budget be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Revised Budget 2023/24 presented in this report be noted.
- (3) T H A T the following comments from the Committee be referred to Cabinet for their consideration:
 - The ongoing importance of anticipating potential demands on and increased costs in key services provided by the Council, as well as other potential challenges or risks when setting the budget and reserves.
 - The need for an equal focus on Education as well as Social Services, and on concerns that a number of schools within the Vale of Glamorgan were in deficit and therefore faced an impasse as they cannot have their budgets signed off due to structural and legislative constraints.
 - Future reporting should breakdown and 'split' information on Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Welsh Language information and resources with regards to education.
 - The importance of monitoring the Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) effectively, in order to mitigate slippages and over / underspends as much as possible and ensure the 'synchronisation' of financial reports (revenue and capital).

Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(3) For Cabinet to consider the comments made by the Committee in relation to revenue and financial reporting going forward.

AGENDA ITEM 7. CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the Cabinet reference and appended report on Capital Monitoring for the period 1st April to 30th September, 2023 be noted, subject to the queries raised by the Committee for this item being addressed.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the reference and report on the progress made on the Capital Programme, the use of Delegated Authority, Emergency Powers and changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme and future years' Capital Programme.

AGENDA ITEM 8. REFRESH OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the Refresh of Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2028/29 be noted.
- (2) T H A T the following comments be referred to Cabinet for their consideration:
 - The importance of the Vale of Glamorgan Council to adequately fund and resource more sustainable sources of procurement in order meet its obligations under Project Zero.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the reference, report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) For Cabinet to consider the comments made by the Committee in relation to the Refresh of Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2028/29.

AGENDA ITEM 9. ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT: QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE 2023/24 (DCR) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the Quarter 2 performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2023/24 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Wellbeing Objectives within the remit of the Committee, be noted.
- (2) T H A T the remedial actions to be taken to address areas of under-performance and to tackle the key challenges identified within the remit of the Committee, be noted.
- (3) T H A T the following comments be referred to Cabinet for their consideration:
 - That the Cabinet note the importance of the Vale of Glamorgan Council working with stakeholders, other public and private bodies and partners, including the Public Service Board (PSB) in working towards Project Zero and their collective net zero agreements and that information on the

progress of the climate change work undertaken by the PSB should be reported to the relevant Committees.

- That Cabinet note the further request of the Committee to ensure that specific areas of PSB activity are presented for scrutiny by the relevant scrutiny committees during the year.

Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(3) For Cabinet consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 10. DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2024-25 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T following consideration of the Draft Vale of Glamorgan Council Annual Delivery Plan 2024-25 by the Committee, the following comments be shared with the Director of Corporate Resources to inform revisions to the Annual Delivery Plan, prior to Cabinet considering a final draft in due course:

- It was important that the Annual Delivery Plan 2024-25 focussed on the Council's outputs including both its successes and areas of improvement, as well as the relevant processes involved.
- As part of this, it was important to consider the results of the Let's Talk About Life in the Vale survey and incorporate its findings into the Annual Delivery Plan. This would ensure that the public's opinions of the performance of and services undertaken by the Vale of Glamorgan Council would be duly considered and to help foster public engagement and trust in local government.
- It was important to ensure that the consultation and self-assessment process in place for the Annual Delivery Plan was sufficiently robust and effective.
- A greater focus on 'smart' targets in the Annual Delivery Plan and measuring their subsequent successes or need for improvement, as one mechanism to assist in developing future Annual Delivery Plans.
- It was also still important to clearly outline the successes achieved by the Council, which could not always be easily framed within the context of purely statistical analysis and output.
- That consideration be given to including public engagement as a critical challenge within the Annual Delivery Plan.

Reason for recommendation

To ensure that the comments and feedback made by Committee on the Annual Delivery Plan are considered as part of the programme of consultation.