

LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Hybrid Meeting, 8th February, 2024.

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

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

Present: Councillor R.R. Thomas (Chair); Councillor H.M. Payne (Vice-Chair); Councillors A. Asbrey; W. Gilligan; R. Godfrey, E.J. Goodjohn; W.A. Hennessy; N.P. Hodges; J. Lynch-Wilson; J.M. Norman; N. Marshallsea and E. Penn.

Co-Opted Members: M. Price (Roman Catholic Church), L. Barrowclough (Parent Governor – Primary Sector), G. van der Burgt (Parent Governor – Secondary Sector), R. Goodjohn (Vale Youth Forum); J. Clemett and T. Williams (Vale Youth Council).

Also present: Councillor R.M. Birch (Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from R. Morteo (Church in Wales).

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January, 2024 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Councillor H.M. Payne (Vice Chair) declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 5 -Proposed Corporate Strategy for Children who need Care and Support 2024-28. The nature of the interest was the Councillor worked for Llamau.

AGENDA ITEM 4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES ANNUAL PLACEMENTS REVIEW (REF) -

RECOMMENDED – T H A T both the covering reference from Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee and appended report, be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the covering reference, the appended report, and to discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5. PROPOSED CORPORATE STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN WHO NEED CARE AND SUPPORT 2024-28 (DSS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made in developing a new four-year Corporate Strategy and Action Plan for Children who need Care and Support, be noted.
- (2) T H A T having considered the proposed Strategy and the associated Action Plan, Committee's feedback inform the final draft of the Strategy.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report, and to discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To inform the development of a final draft of the Strategy for approval by Cabinet.

AGENDA ITEM 6. ANNUAL EQUALITY MONITORING REPORT 2022-23 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T having considered the reference from Cabinet, and the appended report, Committee's comments be referred back to Cabinet for consideration and inclusion in the final version of the Annual Equality Monitoring Report.

Reason for recommendation

In order to make Cabinet aware of the views of this Committee, and to enable publication by 31st March, 2024 to meet the Council's statutory duties.

AGENDA ITEM 7. REVIEW OF VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL STRATEGIC EQUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR PERIOD 2024-25 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T, having considered the report and appendices as part of the consultation process, their contents be noted, and this Committee's comments regarding Mental Health be considered by Cabinet.

Reason for recommendation

In order that this Committee's views are considered by Cabinet ahead of the publication of the final draft of the Strategic Equality Objectives for the Period 2024-25.

AGENDA ITEM 8. INITIAL BUDGET 2024/25 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 TO 2028/29 PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATION (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the revised funding and spend assumptions, along with the draft savings proposals be noted, and this Committee's views be referred for scrutiny at the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee, and for a composite response to be developed and referred back to a Special Cabinet on 29th February, 2024.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the report, and to discussions at the meeting, and to ensure that Cabinet are aware of the views of this Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 9. DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (REF) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T, having considered the draft Capital Programme for 2024/25 to 2028/29, the comments of this Committee regarding Pencoedtre High School be passed to the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee, as the lead Scrutiny Committee, in order for the Committee's views to be forwarded to Cabinet.

Reason for recommendation

In order that Cabinet be informed of the comments of this Committee, before making a proposal on the Capital Programme.

AGENDA ITEM 10. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP) ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23 (DSS) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the contents of the Annual Review Report 2022-2023, and the feedback received by Welsh Government in terms of the long-term commitment outlined in our Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022-32, be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the report, and to discussions at the meeting.