

CABINET - TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2017

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 1/2/3, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2017 AT 2.30 PM

Present

Councillor HJ David – Chairperson

CE Smith

HM Williams

D Patel

RE Young

Apologies for Absence

PJ White

Officers:

Darren Mepham

Chief Executive

Mark Shephard

Corporate Director - Communities

Susan Cooper

Corporate Director - Social Services & Wellbeing

Andrew Jolley

Corporate Director Operational & Partnership Services

Andrew Rees

Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees

Deborah Exton

Group Manager - Finance

Lindsay Harvey

Corporate Director Education and Family Support

68. PEOPLE FIRST BRIDGEND

The Leader gave a warm welcome to the visitors from People First, Bridgend who were observing the meeting of Cabinet.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor CE Smith declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 – Appointment of Local Authority Governors as an appointee to the governing body of Cefn Glas Infants.

70. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet of 5 September 2017 be approved as a true and accurate record.

71. ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

The Chief Executive presented the Annual Report 2016-17, which evaluated the Council's performance against the priorities set in the Corporate Plan 2016-20.

He reported that the Annual Report, prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, evaluated how well the Council did in 2016-17 in delivering its commitments and planned outcomes for the financial year, using its success measures and other evidence. He stated that the Annual Report also provides a summary of budgets for the year and the regulator's findings.

The Chief Executive reported that the Plan defined 46 commitments to deliver the three priorities and identified 58 outcome focused indicators for the financial year 2016-17. He

stated that overall, the Council had performed strongly in 2016-17 and of the 46 commitments, had carried out to completion 32 (nearly 70%), with a further 11 (24%) that were mostly completed. He informed Cabinet that the Council was short of meeting the target set for three commitments, namely the digitalisation of planned services, asset transfer to community groups and organisations and income generation initiatives.

The Chief Executive also reported that stated that the Corporate plan had identified 58 indicators to measure success, with 57 indicators collected for the year. The Council met or exceeded the target for 59.2%, with a further 12.2% missing the target marginally. Of those indicators that missed the target, 25% showed improvement, 45% were new indicators which made it hard to set challenging but realistic targets and a further 15% were influenced by external circumstances. He stated that overall, 74% of all indicators with comparable data showed improvement.

The Deputy Leader in commending the Annual Report which had seen the authority being largely on track as an improving authority and making good progress questioned the steps being taken to address those areas where the authority was not meeting its targets. The Chief Executive informed Cabinet that the authority was on target as part of the digitalisation programme to deliver a new website, the digitalisation of revenue and benefits services and the launch of My Account in January 2018. The Corporate Director Communities informed Cabinet that it had been difficult to achieve the asset transfer of facilities such as parks pavilions, playing fields, bus shelters and public conveniences to community groups and town and community councils, although there were a number of potential asset transfers in the pipeline. He stated there a need to have in place a more streamlined process for community asset transfer to assist the completion of transfers.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet considered the Annual Report 2016-17 and recommended it to Council for approval.

72. REVIEWED PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Chief Executive sought approval of the Council's reviewed Performance Management Framework.

He reported that the Council had a duty under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. He stated that the Council had re-engineered its Performance Management Framework in 2013 to help achieve continuous improvement. He informed Cabinet that the Framework sets out the Council's performance management approach, the systematic plan-do-review-revise cycle; introduces the notion of "golden thread"; defines processes and procedures for performance management; and identifies responsibility and accountability for each stage of performance management. The framework also includes expectations around the style and behaviour of managers.

The Chief Executive also reported that since the adoption of the Framework in 2014, fundamental changes had been made to the way in which services are provided in response mainly due to diminishing resources and increasing demand for services and also simplified due to the "one Council" approach and to make it more meaningful for users.

The Deputy Leader in commending the reviewed Performance Management Framework stated that it was critical to what the Council does. The Leader welcomed the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 being reflected in the Framework and questioned whether Cabinet was doing all it could to discharge its responsibilities in the

Performance Management Framework through the Annual Report and Corporate Performance Assessment it undertook of services. The Chief Executive confirmed that Cabinet is discharging all its responsibilities and that in addition targets were set through his own appraisal which cascaded through to Directorate Service Plans.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved and adopted the reviewed and simplified Performance Management Framework.

73. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017-18 TO 2026-27**

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management sought agreement from Cabinet that the revised Capital Programme for 2017-18 to 2026-27 be submitted to Council for approval.

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management reported that since the approval of the capital programme, a number of schemes had been progressed which require the approval of Council. She stated that the establishment of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is fundamental to driving the transformation of children's social care by creating a single point of contact for frontline staff. In order to establish the MASH, capital investment of £205,000 would be required from the Council for the procurement of furniture and ICT infrastructure. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing clarified that the Council would be liable for 40% of the total cost, with remaining 60% recharged to the Council's partners, with South Wales Police being the main partner.

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management also reported that the current Storage Area Network (SAN) was at the end of its usable life and the purchase of a new SAN, including seven years warranty and support is approximately £400,000. All data is replicated to RCT Council and vice versa, to provide a Disaster Recovery solution. She also reported on the need to replace old desktop computers that had come to the end of their life and which had been purchased with a five year extended warranty. She stated that 200 desktop computers were purchased in 2012, 2013 and 2014, with the first batch of 200 computers coming to the end of their warranty; the second batch would come to the end of warranty in March 2018. She stated that the purchase of replacement desktop computers would be a total of £240,000, to be purchased in two batches of £120,000. She also reported on the need to purchase additional PC's as the benchdesk facilities in Civic Offices have no consistent approach to ICT delivery. The proposed cost would be £120,000, met from an established earmarked reserve. The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services clarified that the desktops to be purchased came with a significant amount of software which explained the unit price of £600.

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management reported that the Council has very limited Video Conferencing facilities to enable staff and Councillors to attend virtual meetings and to collaborate more efficiently. The cost of digitisation of meeting spaces would be £150,000 to be met from a revenue contribution to the capital budget from the directorate revenue budget.

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management also reported on the need to rectify a structural issue at the Brynmenyn Homelessness Unit, which provides 16 units of temporary accommodation at Tondy. The estimated cost of the works is £120,000 to be met from revenue budgets. She also reported that an opportunity had arisen to purchase a replacement mayoral vehicle at a cost of £23,000, as the previous mayoral vehicle was 7 years old with a mileage in excess of 90,000 miles. The cost of the new vehicle would be met from the directorate revenue budget.

The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management reported that a number of other adjustments were required to the capital programme to reflect new external funding approvals and changes to expenditure profiles across financial years. She stated that the proposals would result in a revised capital programme of £175.031m, of which £117.536m is met from the Council's resources, including general capital funding from the Welsh Government and £57.495m from external resources.

The Leader commented that the establishment of a MASH is a key priority in the Corporate Plan and accommodating staff in a single location was important as they would otherwise be located at several locations. The Deputy Leader commented that the ICT items were vitally important to the way in which the Council does its business.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agreed that the revised Capital Programme be submitted to Council for approval.

74. SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME - BAND B (2019-2024)

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported on the process undertaken by the Strategic Review Operation Board (School Modernisation) in establishing Band B priorities for the School Modernisation Programme and advised of Welsh Government's elemental funding approach for Band B. He also sought approval for the recommended schemes included within Bridgend's 21st Century Schools and Education Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) submission to Welsh Government.

He reported that Council in September 2006 approved a vision for the County Borough's schools in which they would be fit for the 21st century and achieve the best use of resources and since then, school modernisation has been established as one of the Council's main strategic programmes. He stated that a Schools Task Group was established in 2014 to ensure the Council planned for a high quality education system. Approval was sought from Cabinet in September 2015 to build on the work of the Schools Task Group and for officers to undertake a Strategic Review into the Development and Rationalisation of the Curriculum and Estate Provision of Primary, Secondary and Post-16 Education. He informed Cabinet that a Strategic Review Overarching Board was established in May 2016 and four operational boards identified. One of which was specifically related to the consideration of Band B investment priorities. He stated that it was considered that Band B priorities identified within the 2010 SOP may no longer be of primary importance and the issues facing the Council and schools need to be reviewed to establish a strategic approach for investment and establishing a priority list of schemes for delivery within the Band B timescale (i.e. 2019-2024).

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported on the outcome of the Band B work stream which considered data to determine prioritising the future investment in schools. Based on the projected pupil population, housing development identified within the Local Development Plan and pupil places, the following had been identified as proposed priorities;

- Primary school provision in Bridgend South East area
- Primary school provision in the Bryntirion area
- Primary school provision in Bridgend North East area
- Primary school provision in the Valleys Gateway area
- Special school provision in the Bridgend area
- Welsh-medium primary provision in the Bridgend West area
- English-medium primary provision in Bridgend West

- Primary provision in the Kenfig Hill area
- Post-16 provision

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported that it was anticipated that following Band B, there would be a further two bands of the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme. He stated that in order to inform future bands of the programme, it was considered essential to undertake a review of provision within the Llynfi Valley and Porthcawl areas during the Band B period, which would help inform the future strategy for delivering education in these areas. It would also be necessary, following the outcome of the post-16 review, to undertake a review of secondary school catchment areas to ensure there are sufficient places available to accommodate the pupil yield from areas of growth. He informed Cabinet that all schemes being taken forward to Band B will require an options appraisal detailing the longlist of options leading to a shortlist and taking forward one or two options to feasibility and more detailed design. Where appropriate, it was important that opportunities to create all-through 3-19 or co-located schools, which could include extended services e.g. health, as part of the options appraisal.

He also reported that the Welsh Government had identified two different mechanisms for Band B funding; namely, through the capital grant or mutual investment model (MIM). Funding by capital grant was based on an intervention by the Welsh Government of 50:50, with the local authority being required to meet 50 of all capital costs, including furniture, equipment and ICT. He stated that the MIM is a new approach is a new approach to investment in public infrastructure in Wales, with the Welsh Government's intervention rate being 75%, paid in the form of a revenue grant, with the remaining 25% met from local authority revenue budgets over a 25 year contract period. He outlined the key risks of the Band B schemes not progressing and outlined the following Band B projects considered as priority schemes:

- Bridgend North East area;
- Bridgend South East area;
- Bridgend Special School;
- Bridgend West - Welsh-medium; and
- Bridgend West - English-medium.

He informed Cabinet of the remaining need to re-consider primary school provision in the Kenfig Hill area. He stated that any such future work would be outside of Band B funding, with the full cost falling to the Council. Consequently, priority was currently being given to condition surveys of the existing school infrastructure to identify any urgent or necessary remedial works. He also informed Cabinet that in relation to the Strategic Outline Programme submission, the Welsh Government has confirmed the funding mechanisms and intervention rates for Band B and requested local authorities to submit a revision to the original SOP, this Council complied with this requirement in July 2017.

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported on the financial implications in that the Welsh Government had confirmed the intervention rate for the capital grant would remain unchanged to that used for Band A projects (i.e. 50:50); with the caveat that only the approved cost on an elemental basis will secure this rate. Any abnormalities or "additional" design features will require 100% BCBC funding. Schemes being progressed via the MIM will benefit from a 75% Welsh Government contribution, with the same caveat as for schemes funded by capital grant. He stated that Section 106 funding may be available from certain housing developments and there may be the potential to benefit financially from the sale of sites through rationalisation.

The Leader questioned whether there would be flexibility within Band B should Welsh Government funding become available or circumstances change as some schemes had not been considered as a priority. The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support commented that there is potential for some flexibility to be allowed within Band B although this is limited, which would be dependent on large scale development happening.

The Deputy Leader questioned whether the intervention rate of 75% for schemes funded through the MIM model would be sufficient for the Council. The Group Manager Financial Planning and Budget Management informed Cabinet that schemes funded through the MIM model would be a revenue budget pressure. She stated there would be a need for a Welsh Government steer on which schemes would fit which model. She also stated that there would also be a need to maximise Section 106 funding from housing developments. Officers were also looking at the future funding of schemes in detail. The leader requested a further report once the outcome of Welsh Government funding was known.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Approved discontinuing with the proposed Band B schemes as approved by Cabinet in 2010; and

Approved the revised schemes as set out in Bridgend's 2017 Strategic Outline Programme submission to Welsh Government, detailed in paragraph 4.16.1 of the report.

75. SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY AND ARRANGEMENTS 2019-2020

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support sought approval to consult on the authority's school admission arrangements as required by the Welsh Government's School Admissions Code July 2013.

He reported that the School Admissions Code 2013 requires admission authorities to act in accordance with the Code. The authority has a statutory duty to consult with the governing bodies of schools who have delegated admission powers, all neighbouring local authorities, the admission authorities for all other maintained schools in the county borough and the governing bodies of all other schools (i.e. community and voluntary controlled schools which do not have delegated admission powers) in Bridgend County Borough. He stated that the authority is required to publish both an admission policy and guidance on the admission arrangements for its schools.

He reported that admission arrangements for the 2019-2020 academic year must be consulted on for each maintained school between 1 September 2017 and 1 March 2018, and set by 15 April 2018. The Bridgend Admission Forum which is responsible for monitoring compliance with the Schools Admissions Code had met to review the draft School Admissions Policy and arrangements for 2019-10 and proposed significant changes to the policy. Changes were made to Maes yr Haul and Trelales Primary Schools with the proposed removal of transitional arrangements. The removal of transitional arrangements was also proposed at Pencoed Primary School. In addition, no further amendments were proposed to be made to the catchment of Coychurch Primary School to include the Linc Cymru development and it was considered necessary that a double demountable classroom be placed at that school as a permanent solution to meet the pressure for pupil places at that school.

The Cabinet Member Education and Regeneration in commending the School Admission Policy stated that no fundamental changes were proposed but it was intended to clarify arrangements to parents. He urged all Members familiarise themselves with the policy and arrangements to assisting them to answer potential queries from constituents.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved that a consultation for the 2019-2020 Schools Admission Policy and Arrangements takes place between 9 October 2017 and 31 December 2017.

76. APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

The Interim Corporate Director Education and Family Support sought approval for the appointment of Local Authority Governors to the school governing bodies listed.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved the appointments listed.

77. CONSULTATION ON PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Corporate Director Communities sought approval to formally enter into public consultation on the future of Council owned and operated public conveniences across the County Borough.

He reported that as part of the Council's response to cuts to public service funding, measures to achieve savings against the provision of public toilets across the County Borough had been included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). He stated that in order to achieve these savings it would be necessary to review the provision and operation of toilet facilities currently operated by the Council.

He set out the locations and opening hours for the six public toilets which the Council operates, one in Maesteg, two in Bridgend and three in Porthcawl. He stated that the outcome of the public consultation will form part of a future report to Cabinet on measures to achieve potential savings identified in the MTFS of £150,000 in 2018/19. He also informed Cabinet that the transfer of public toilets to Town and Community Councils formed part of the Council's objective under its Community Asset Transfer programme and discussions on their transfer were ongoing. He stated that the consultation will seek the views of the public on the provision of public toilets where transfer under the CAT had not been possible.

The Cabinet Member Communities in commending the proposal for public consultation was pleased to note that a number of Town and Community Councils were pursuing the Community Asset Transfer of some facilities. He asked whether dialogue had taken place with Bridgend Town Council as to whether they would take responsibility for public toilets in the town centre. The Corporate Director Communities stated that all Town and Community Councils had been approached to ascertain whether they would be interested in taking responsibility for facilities as part of the Community Asset Transfer programme.

In response from the Cabinet Member Wellbeing and Future Generations as to the format the consultation will take, the Corporate Director Communities stated that the public consultation would be undertaken in conjunction with the Consultation Team.

The Cabinet Member Education and Regeneration commented that a number of Town and Community Councils had been proactive in taking responsibility for the management

of some public toilets. Most notably, Pencoed Town Council and Cornelly Community Council which had taken responsibility for the public toilets in the Kenfig National Nature Reserve. The Leader hoped that People First would respond to the consultation.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved that a consultation exercise be conducted as described in the report and that the outcome of the same be reported back to Cabinet in due course.

78. RATIONALISATION OF SUPPORTED BUS SERVICES 2018/19

The Corporate Director Communities reported on proposals for the rationalisation of supported bus services across the County Borough to meet a proposed budget reduction of £188,000 in 2018/19 as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

He reported that the Council and Welsh Government support the provision of regional and local bus services by subsidising routes that are not commercially viable. These services serve routes that enable residents who live along them to access employment, education, health care and social activities. He informed Cabinet that the Council was therefore required to approach a reduction in service provision in a manner that will enable the retention of the grant funding by providing support for core strategic bus network and community transport.

He reported that a reduction of £188,000 had been identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy from Bridgend's core budget of £318,000 for supported bus services in 2018/19 which would leave £130,000 for supported bus services. He stated that if this reduction is approved, the likely overall budget for supported bus services in 2018/19 is likely to be £426,164 (£130,000 core funding + £296,164 available WG grant). He informed Cabinet that an impact assessment had also been undertaken on all of the supported public transport routes to assess the impact that the withdrawal might have on the public, with a maximum score of 220 available and a higher score representing the greatest impact.

The Corporate Director Communities also reported on a list of supported bus services, cross boundary services and the grant administration used. The list also contained comments / implications which include detail of some routes that have alternative services along the main roads but are not as accessible as the current services. Other routes would be at a reduced frequency. He stated that discussions had been held with the service providers on the possible reduction in services. At those meetings they could not give an indication as to whether they would operate any removed services commercially; however they would consider the matter further once a decision had been made as to what services would be rationalised.

The Corporate Director Communities reported that a consultation would be undertaken to seek the views of persons impacted upon by the proposed changes. This will consist of an initial discussion with the bus operators to ascertain if they would consider taking on any of the routes as commercially viable. A wider online consultation using social media would be undertaken to advise of the proposal and seeking any views. Details of the consultation would also be sent as part of a press release emailed to various stakeholders within the county borough. He stated that a partial mitigation to the above would be to utilise the Bridgend Community Transport, which offers accessible transport solutions for charitable and voluntary groups, and individuals, through a range of services including the provision of fully accessible minibuses for community groups, dial a ride, community car, and wheels to work services for individuals.

The Cabinet Member Communities in commending the proposal to undertake consultation was pleased to see proposals to mitigate the possible loss of some services, in particular through the Community Transport scheme and asked if a pilot service could be run.

The Cabinet Member Wellbeing and Future Generations questioned whether socio economic characteristics would be considered when assessing the impact of supported bus services. The Corporate Director Communities stated that social isolation was a factor which was looked at in the scoring matrix.

The Deputy Leader commented that an assessment needed to be made of where people live and where people need to get to in planning services as part of the one council approach. The Leader commented on the possibility of using the Council's fleet of vehicles more effectively to support bus services. The Cabinet Member Communities commented on the need for an integrated transport solution to be looked at particularly in light of the City Deal, which could present opportunities and not a cut in services.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Considered the content of the report and agreed that a 12 week consultation is undertaken on the proposals following which a Full Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken;
- (2) Agreed to a further report outlining the results of the consultation, to be accompanied by a Full Equality Impact Assessment, to be presented at a future meeting of Cabinet in order that the proposals outlined in the report may be considered.

79. BRIDGEND TOWN CENTRE ACCESS INFORMAL CONSULTATION

The Corporate Director Communities reported on an update on the findings of the informal consultation with vulnerable groups and stakeholders regarding Bridgend Town Centre Access and sought approval to undertake statutory consultation on the proposal, and commission detailed design work as a result of that consultation.

He reported that an additional consultation had been undertaken on proposals for town centre access in order to consider comments on the revised changes to re-introduce traffic to Queen Street, Dunraven Place and Market Street inclusive of a 20 mph speed limit, two pedestrian crossings, approximately 18 parking/loading bays and a series of street bollards designed to improve safety by delineating the space between pedestrians and vehicles and prevent parking on the footways. In addition, a verbal presentation, including detailed discussions and Q&As was carried out with the groups representing vulnerable people or people with protected characteristics. He highlighted the key findings whereby four out of the six groups did not support the scheme in the format presented to them and suggested further changes. He stated that a formal response was also received from South Wales Police.

He reported that all bar one of the groups commented that half an hour limited parking bays did not allow enough time for visitors including the blue badge holders to access the town centre in a meaningful way. It was strongly felt that a minimum of an hour would be considered more appropriate. He stated that in terms of the use of bollards to segregate the footway there was no consistent view expressed by the groups. The incorporation of bollards came out of the feasibility stage report for reasons of public safety, more specifically the risk of cars encroaching on to the footway. The current proposal is to place them at approximately 2 metre intervals subject to site conditions. In

addition to these physical barriers it was proposed that a prohibition of waiting at any time be introduced along the highway including the painting of double yellow lines on the highway. He also informed Cabinet that the informal consultation with the groups representing vulnerable people confirmed the need for the installation of two formal crossing points which would be located in the vicinity of the job centre and the Wyndham Arms. He stated that it had been raised by three of the groups, that the re-introduction of vehicles could give rise to the possibility of increased air pollution in the town centre. To mitigate this, a 20mph zone would be introduced and freight delivery companies would be encouraged to use only their cleaner vehicles in the town centre.

The Corporate Director Communities reported that if the Council is minded to move forward with the proposal, traffic orders associated with the proposal would need to comply with the requirements of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedures)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and there would be a need to undertake a statutory consultation and public notice to implement the changed Traffic Order. A letter and plan explaining the proposal would need to be issued as part of the consultation.

He also reported that previously it had been considered that the proposals would proceed by way of an Experimental Traffic Order; however the scheme would now be progressed as a permanent traffic order.

The Cabinet Member Education and Regeneration stated that the proposals were another step forward in the process which had seen positive comments received; however the scheme which needed to be fully costed was predicated on external funding being secured. The Cabinet Member Communities stated that the scheme included proposals which the traders were looking for.

The Leader in commending the scheme stated that discussions needed to take place with South Wales Police taking into consideration designing in counter terrorism measures. The Corporate Director Communities stated that the full design proposals would be submitted to South Wales Police.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

(1) Considered the key findings of the consultation authorised by the Cabinet report of 29 November 2016;

(2) Authorised officers to make the suggested changes to the proposal detailed in 4.6 and 4.7 of the report being to:

- increase the limited waiting bays from 30 minutes to 1 hour
- Introduce a no waiting at any time provision along the highway where there are no parking bays along Queen Street, Dunraven Place and Market Street
- At detailed design stage, the type of bollard and their spaces will be considered

(1) Authorised the next steps outlined in section 4.12, 4.13 and 4.14 of the report to progress statutory consultation to finalise detailed design as detailed in 4.12 of the report

(4) Receives a further report upon completion of the initial phase of the statutory consultation to consider and approve a way forward.

80. FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT ACT 2010 ANNUAL FLOOD INVESTIGATION REPORT

The Corporate Director Communities presented a report in compliance with Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 in respect of the investigation and reporting of flooding incidents.

He reported that the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 placed a number of statutory duties on local authorities in their role as Lead Local Flood Authority and the Council is required to produce a Flood Risk Management Plan. He stated that where an authority carries out an investigation it must publish the results of its investigation and notify any relevant risk management authorities.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

- (1) Endorsed the actions undertaken to ensure that the Council meets its duties under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as set out in the Annual Flood Investigation Report 2016-17;

Approved the Annual Flood Investigation Report 2016-17.

81. AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS

The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services presented a report which sought approval for a series of amendments to be made to the Scheme of Delegation of Functions.

He informed Cabinet that a number of administrative amendments had been made and changes made to the titles and portfolios of Cabinet Members. He stated that the desktop review undertaken was to ensure that the Scheme was up to date and fit for purpose. He also informed Cabinet that a similar report would be presented to Council on 4 October 2017 in respect of changes to be made to the scheme which are the functions of Council.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved the Scheme of Delegations in relation to its functions.

82. INFORMATION REPORTS FOR NOTING

The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services presented a report, the purpose of which was to inform Cabinet of the Information Reports which had been published since the last meeting.

The Cabinet Member Education and Regeneration commented that where schools receive a judgement of Adequate by Estyn they would receive the support of the authority to improve their performance. The Leader requested that Cabinet receive a further report on progress that Llangynwyd Primary School is making in addressing the recommendations made by Estyn.

RESOLVED: (1) That Cabinet acknowledged publication of the documents listed in the report:-

Title Date Published

Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr 27 September 2017

Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Mynydd Cynffig Primary 27 September 2017

Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Llangynwyd Primary School 27 September 2017

Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Oldcastle Primary School 27 September 2017

(2) that a further report be presented to Cabinet on Llangynwyd Primary School in 6 to 12 months on progress it is making in addressing the recommendations made by Estyn.

83. **FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT AND CHARGING FRAMEWORK UNDER THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING (WALES) ACT 2014 - PAYING FOR CARE**

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing sought approval, following a formal consultation exercise to implement a new Charging Policy for residential services and to update the policy for non-residential care services following the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported that prior to the introduction of the Act; residential charges were assessed in line with Welsh Government Guidance, Charges for Residential Accommodation Guide (CRAG) and the National Assistance Act 1948. Non Residential care charges were assessed in line with the Fairer Charging Policy and the Social Care Charges (Wales) Measure 2010. She stated that the introduction of the 2014 Act provided for a single legal framework for charging for care and support. It also provided the authority with the discretion to charge.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported that detailed work had been undertaken to look at the implications of changing the discretionary aspects of the charging policy. She summarised the responses to the proposals received to the consultation and highlighted the recommendation to be made in each of the charging categories.

The Leader was pleased to see that the Council had listened to the views of the public as a result of the consultation.

The Cabinet Member Wellbeing and Future Generations questioned whether other local authorities charge more for the cost of care. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing stated that this authority had been the only one to have undertaken a consultation on paying for care. She informed Cabinet that all local authorities had been surveyed on paying for care and she would inform Cabinet of the outcome of that survey on the cost of care charged by local authorities.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet recommended noting the report and the consultation exercise and approved that the Council:

- Continues to charge for the cost of care and support in a care home;

- Applies an inflationary increase each year for the cost of care and support in a care home;
- Does not charge administration fees for the arranging of a Deferred Payment Agreement;
- Does not charge interest on any debt secured against an interest in land/property from the date of death;
- Under the residential charging rules begin to charge for temporary respite stays over more than 8 weeks, or stays that are intended to last more than 8 weeks and that a £10 commitments allowance should be made for all temporary respite stays;
- Charge all adults over the age of 18 for respite services and offer a transitional period for people between the age of 18-21 that are already receiving this service;
- Introduce a cost neutral administration fee to cover additional costs that the Council would face when arranging care and support in a care home with a care provider when asked to do so (this will only affect residents with savings above £30,000);
- Continue not to charge for services directly provided to carers as a result of a carers' assessment;

Continue not to charge for preventative services and services provided in prisons.

84. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

85. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Following the application of the public interest test in consideration of this item, it was resolved that pursuant to the Act referred to above, to consider the item in private, with the public being excluded from the meeting as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information of the nature as stated above.

86. APPROVAL OF EXEMPT MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the exempt minutes of the meeting of Cabinet of 5 September 2017 be approved as a true and accurate record.

The meeting closed at 4.32 pm