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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

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*We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please
let us know if your language choice is Welsh.*



**Cyfarwyddiaeth y Prif Weithredwr / Chief
Executive's Directorate**

Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 /
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Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Andrew Rees

Ein cyf / Our ref:

Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Tuesday, 9 July 2019

Dear Councillor,

TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

A meeting of the Town & Community Council Forum will be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices Angel Street Bridgend CF31 4WB on **Monday, 15 July 2019 at 16:00.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.
3. Approval of Minutes 3 - 10
To receive for approval the Minutes of 26/02/19
4. Presentation by Chief Superintendent Alun Morgan of South Wales Police on Policing in the County Borough
5. Progress of Active Travel in Bridgend 11 - 14
6. Street Cleansing 15 - 22
7. Urgent Items
To consider any other item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Rule 4 of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

Head of Legal and Regulatory Services

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Councillors:

N Alderton
S Aspey
SE Baldwin
H Bennett
JPD Blundell
MC Clarke
N Clarke
HJ David
P Davies
Cllr R Davies
Cllr S Dendy
Cllr L Desmond-Williams

Councillors

Cllr D Evans
RM Granville
Cllr P Gwilliam
Ciaron Jackson
Cllr P Jenkins
Jones
B Jones
C Jones
D Jones
T Lyddon
A Mckay
Cllr A Owen

Councillors

RL Penhale-Thomas
AA Pucella
KL Rowlands
B Sedgebeer
CE Smith
SG Smith
JH Tildesley MBE
MC Voisey
KJ Watts
W Willis
Council
RE Young

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON TUESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor HJ David – Chairperson

SE Baldwin	H Bennett	JPD Blundell	N Clarke
P Davies	Cllr R Davies	Cllr S Dendy	Cllr L Desmond-Williams
Cllr D Evans	RM Granville	Cllr P Jenkins	RL Penhale-Thomas
AA Pucella	CE Smith	KJ Watts	W Willis

Apologies for Absence

MC Clarke, B Jones, A Mckay and RE Young

Officers:

Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Michael Pitman	Business & Administrative Apprentice

172. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

173. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of a meeting of the Town and Community Council Forum dated 27 November 2018 be approved as a true and accurate record.

174. THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR IN WALES

The Leader and Chairperson welcomed to the meeting Claire Germain, Head of Local Government Partnerships, Welsh Government (WG), in order that she could give a power point presentation on the above topic.

The presentation included the following slides:-

Commissioning a Review

Independent review set-up in 2017 to consider the future role of Community and Town Councils.

Cross-party Panel, with wider expertise/experience drawn in.

Given 12 months to:

- Explore the potential role of local government below Local Authority Councils, drawing on best practice;
- Define the most appropriate model(s)/structure(s) to deliver this role;

- Consider how these models and structures should be applied across Wales. This will include consideration of any situations in which they would not be necessary or appropriate.

Undertaking the Review

Involved extensive engagement and evidence gathering, including:

1. Regular Panel meetings including taking evidence;
2. Wide range of oral and written evidence from stakeholders – gathering as many views as possible through a range of engagement activity;
3. Consideration of wider evidence (data, reports, research, etc);
4. Newsletters updating on progress and opportunities to engage.

Findings and Recommendations

The Panel set out views on:

- What Community and Town Councils are;
- What Community and Town Councils do;
- How Community and Town Councils do it;
- How Community and Town Councils are held to account

Final report submitted in October 2018.

Continuing the conversation

Written statement issued on 31 November 2018, setting out Welsh Government's policy approach:

1. Encouraging and enabling change to happen naturally;
2. Providing an element of choice about how far, and how fast, a Council decides to move;
3. Creating an environment for Councils to expand their activities where they feel they could/should

Welsh Government Areas for Action

Areas where we can, and will, take action immediately and areas that require further consideration and consultation

Theme

Clarifying the role of the sector:

Immediate action

Undertake a campaign to:

- Confirm important role of sector;
- Raise awareness of the work of Town/Community Councils (including in areas that don't have them);
- Raise awareness of the benefits of establishing new Town/Community Councils;
- Encourage Town/Community Councils to reflect on what is required locally, in terms of the kinds of services they could deliver.

Further consideration

1. Alongside raising awareness of the benefits of establishing new Town/Community Councils, explore other models which could provide a focus for communities in urban areas;
2. Consider further the usefulness of a 'placed base services' distinction, the appetite for change and the pace that it could be sustained;
3. Consider consulting on the merits of retaining (dual hatted' Councillors

Increasing democracy and participation:

Immediate action

- Use existing powers to ensure Community Reviews are conducted on a regular basis;
- Establish a better understanding of use of social media by Town/Community Councils, to engage their community and facilitate sharing of good practice;
- Undertake a campaign to encourage more people to stand for election.

Further consideration

1. Consider and potentially consult on the need for a comprehensive review of Town/Community Council boundaries, recognising any action in future would require a different legislative vehicle;
2. Consider whether to ensure that elections should be held regardless of whether seats are contested, balancing stimulating the democratic process with cost;
3. Explore what more can be done to promote diversity amongst Councillors;
4. Allow the lower minimum voting age of 16 years to embed (should it go ahead), before considering whether to lower the minimum age to stand as a Town/Community Council candidate to 16 years;
5. Consider how local engagement and public participation has been affected in England, following the introduction of the duty on Parish Councils to hold at least one public meeting per year.

A Member felt that smaller Community Councils found it difficult to assist the Local Authority they served, ie in providing or supporting services, including some financial support for these from their precept allocation. He felt that within the BCB, there could be some merit in reducing the number of Town/Community Councils and/or combining adjoining ones in order for them to be more robust and valued.

He added that some of the smaller ones were finding it difficult working in isolation.

The WG representative advised that there were certain areas within Wales that had none or very few Town/Community Councils, for example, Merthyr only had one, and there were only a small few in the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf. She agreed that the review needed to look at the sustainability and robustness of Town/Community Councils, particularly with regard to, (in these times of austerity), services they could provide for the communities they serve.

She added that Town/Community Council boundaries were being looked at as part of the review also and she added that WG would encourage any proposals of certain Town/Community Councils working jointly or collaboratively, in the support of constituents as part of a type of Federalisation.

A Member also made the point that more money should be made available for Town/Community Councils, to financially support any paid posts they have, such as the Clerk's salary.

A Member felt that the above was an important point to make, given that there was a huge difference in the precepts of, for example, Bridgend Town Council which was in the region of £550k per annum and Merthymawr Community Council which was £4,800k.

The WG representative advised the Forum that there was certain funding streams that were available for Town/Community Councils (from WG) and she would send details of these to all Clerks outside of the meeting, in order that they could share details of these with their Members.

Prior to debate concluding on this item, the WG representative encouraged all Town/Community Councils to engage with WG on their vision of the future role of Town/Community Councils in Wales as part of a continued consultation process moving forward, until such review reaches its conclusion.

The Leader (and Chairperson) on behalf of Members, thanked Ms Germain for attending the meeting and providing such an informative and detailed presentation.

RESOLVED: That Members noted the presentation from the Head of Local Government Partnerships, Welsh Government.

175. **THE BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) CANDIDATE SITE REGISTER**

The Corporate Director – Communities presented a report, the purpose of which, was to inform the Forum of the register of Candidate Sites (attached at Appendix 1) which have been received from interested parties following a call for such sites to be submitted between 14 September 2018 and 9 November 2018.

The Development Planning Team Leader advised that the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) is a high level strategy which must be prepared by the Council. The LDP sets out in land-use terms all the priorities and objectives of the Corporate Plan. The future Replacement LDP will be required to express in land-use terms the wellbeing objectives and priorities of the Bridgend Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan.

The call for sites was advertised as was detailed in paragraph 3.2 of the report and by the closing date of 9 November 2018, 172 sites had been duly submitted and collated into a 'Candidate Site Register' appended to the report.

The report detailed the next steps in terms of process of this document.

The Development Planning Team Leader stressed to Members, that it is important to reiterate at this stage that the publication of any site in this Candidate Site Register does not confirm any status or suggestion that it will be taken forward for inclusion within pre-deposit proposals or the deposit LDP nor does it imply any preference of the Local Planning Authority regarding its merits. This includes any sites submitted by internal Departments of the Council.

He also emphasised that this register is not a public consultation document but rather it is a factual compilation of the sites which have been submitted.

Paragraph 4.8 of the report gave information as to the methods by which the Development Planning Team has publicised and made the register available.

The Development Planning Team Leader advised that the cost of the Replacement LDP would be met from the Development Planning budget and carried out by Development Planning staff with expert advice and evidence procured from consultants and through collaboration with neighbouring authorities as required.

The Group Manager – Planning and Development Services confirmed that all Town and Community Councils would be visited and from time to time updated as part of the LDP process going forward.

RESOLVED: The Town and Community Council Forum noted the report and the contents of the Candidate Site Register.

176. **BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2018-2033, DRAFT VISION AND OBJECTIVES, GROWTH AND SPATIAL OPTIONS**

The Development Planning Manager presented a report to the Development Control Committee on the draft vision and objectives, growth and spatial strategy options for the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP).

He explained that the 3 technical reports (attached as appendices A, B and C to the covering report) provided background information in respect of the draft vision and objectives, growth options and spatial strategy options proposed for the Replacement LDP.

It is intended that these technical reports will inform the ongoing pre-deposit engagement and participation in and also inform the preparation of the preferred strategy and subsequent stages of plan preparation:

- Technical Report 1: Draft Vision and Objectives (attached as Appendix A);
- Technical Report 2: Draft Strategic Growth Options (attached as Appendix B);
- Technical Report 3: Draft Spatial Strategy Options (attached as Appendix C).

The next sections of the report, outlined executive summaries of the above Technical Reports, and the Development Planning Manager gave a resume of the key points of each for the benefit of Members.

The Development Planning Manager then gave a power point presentation, which gave further information on this topic as follows:-

Bridgend County Borough will continue to be transformed to become a sustainable, safe, healthy and inclusive network of communities comprising strong, interdependent, connected and cohesive settlements that can offer people:

- The best start in life by providing effective learning environments to secure the best possible outcomes for learners;
- Provide opportunities to reduce social and economic inequalities;
- An improved quality of life and a healthy environment for all people living, working, visiting and relaxing in the area.

The revised LDP Vision would be delivered through 4 Strategic Objectives, ie:-

1. To create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking).
2. To create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social communities

3. To create Productive and Enterprising Places.
4. To Protect and Enhance our Distinctive and Natural Places.

The LDP when fully established, would assist the following:-

- Increase Sustainability
- Create new, affordable homes
- Support future generations
- Assist employment opportunities
- Assist the viability of our town centres
- Help the environment
- Give regeneration opportunities
- Enhance green infrastructures
- Support Education
- Prevent inappropriate development

There were three growth options that were being looked at, and these were classified as High, Medium and Low, and Officers explained that the Medium growth option was the preferred one. Some of the key points of this option were:-

Background

- Looked at past birth, death and migration trends
- Translated into households, dwellings and jobs
- Analysed a range of different scenarios to arrive at three growth options
- Underpin the Local Development Plan

Mid Growth Option; +505 dwellings, +266 jobs

- Welsh Government Projection Plus Mid-Year Estimates
- Trends from 2011/12 - 2016/17, akin to build rate
- Higher net migration flows
- Younger age profile, growth in 35-44 age category
- Job creation through skilled workforce

Recommend Mid Growth Option (for the following reasons)

- Sustainable growth levels to secure investment
- Established working households attracted
- Employers enticed by young, skilled workforce
- Secure integrated affordable housing
- Improve general market affordability via supply

Of the headline Spatial Options for growth, these were as follows, with Option 4 being recommended, on the basis of this being a hybrid of the other 3:-

- Option 1** – Continuation of the existing LDP Regeneration led Strategy;
- Option 2** – Public Transport Hubs and Strategic Road Corridors (growth is directed to major public transport hubs and the strategic highway network (M4)
- Option 3** – Prioritise growth to the north of the M4 – a Valleys led Strategy
- Option 4** – Regeneration and Sustainable Growth – led Strategy

With regards to potential sites (to secure growth), in conclusion, the Development Planning Manager confirmed the following:-

1. Preferred Strategy Document will identify potentially suitable broad areas – for strategic sites - not specific sites;
2. Further assessment however is required;
3. Chosen sites need to be Deliverable Sites.

Following the presentation, Planning Officers then responded to questions from Members.

RESOLVED: That the Forum noted the contents of Technical Reports 1, 2 and 3 (attached as Appendices A, B and C to the report), as the basis for preparing the Preferred Strategy document that will be published for formal public consultation in October/November 2019.

177. **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

The meeting closed at 18:06

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

15 JULY 2019

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

PROGRESS OF ACTIVE TRAVEL IN BRIDGEND

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Town and Community Council Forum with an update on active travel in Bridgend that was presented to the Clerks of Town and Community Councils on 28th June 2019.

2. Connection to corporate improvement objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 requires the council to implement the routes identified and approved in the Integrated Network Map adopted by the council. In the process, the Welsh Government has been approving annual grant funding for the development of both active travel routes and safe routes in communities and to schools. These schemes contribute to the council's pursuit and delivery of the following corporate priority/priorities:

- Supporting a successful economy – taking steps to make the county a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county.
- Helping people to be more self-reliant – taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
- Smarter use of resources – ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

- 2.2 The schemes that have been implemented so far, and those planned for the future will assist the council to deliver the central themes of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. They will also assist the council in delivering other social and public policy objectives including encouraging physical activity to reduce obesity particularly among children, making a local contribution towards the bigger international effort to combat the climate crisis.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 came into force in September 2014 and since then, the Welsh Government has been supporting councils in Wales, through grant funding to deliver the active travel programme identified in individual council's Integrated Network Maps. Every year, councils are invited to submit proposals to

implement routes; these routes complement schemes implemented under safe routes, also funded by the Welsh Government. Where appropriate and applicable, the council also implements sections of the active travel network through developer contributions.

4. Current situation/proposal

4.1 Much progress has been made since the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 came into effect. The purpose of the presentation made to the Clerks of Town and Community Councils on 28th June 2019 and presented to the Town and Community Council Forum is to inform Councillors of the extent of progress and explain the processes that the council officers undergo to determine and assess schemes. The presentation addresses the following principal points :

- Key provisions of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013
- Various definitions and designations
- The Integrated Network Map for Bridgend and the preparation process
- The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 and its relationship with other Acts and policy frameworks.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no effect on Policy Framework or Procedure Rules

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not applicable.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The implications for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are captured in the profile of all active travel schemes as the provisions of the Act form an essential assessment criteria for scheme selection and scheme justification.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that the Town and Community Council Forum note the contents of the report and presentation.

JONATHAN PARSONS

GROUP MANAGER – PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

8TH JULY 2019

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Background documents: Not applicable

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

15 JULY 2019

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STREET CLEANSING

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit an informational update on the current street cleansing activities and resource levels throughout Bridgend County Borough and its Town Centres.
- 1.2 The report follows a previous report on the subject provided in March 2018 to the Town and Community Council Forum and provides more recent information in relation to positive litter awareness campaigning and enforcement.
- 1.3 Lastly the report considers the potential future direction for the Street Cleansing Service given the ongoing pressures of austerity on budgets.

2. Connections to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate priorities:
 - **Supporting a successful economy** - taking steps to make the County a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the County.
 - **Helping people to be more self-reliant** - taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
 - **Smarter use of resources** - ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

3. Background

- 3.1 The ongoing financial savings implemented by the Council ("BCBC") in order to meet reductions in public funding have had a significant impact on the size of the Street Cleansing Teams.
- 3.2 In 2010, the Street Scene Department consisted of circa 85 staff in total. Now in 2019, the Cleaner Streets Department is made up of 35 operators and 2

foreman with 17 operators based in the North and 18 operators based in the South.

- 3.3 Despite the significant savings made, the Council has managed to largely mitigate the impact of the staff losses by better utilisation of resources moving to an area based team model and improving individual productivity.
- 3.4 In May 2019, the All Wales Local Environmental Audit and Management System Report 2018-19 compiled from independent on street inspections carried out by Keep Wales Tidy, gave Bridgend a Cleanliness Indicator Score of 67.7 and graded the streets predominantly free of litter and refuse apart from some small items or better as 96.7%. These scores are shown on Appendix 1 with all other Welsh authorities, as can be seen the Bridgend scores are comparable with those of surrounding South Wales authorities.

4 Current Situation

4.1 Cleaner Streets Cleansing Schedules:

4.2 The street cleansing for Town Centres and surrounding areas is based on a set schedule and rota.

4.3 The schedule however, is not set in stone and is often adapted to change the frequency of cleansing and litter picking to ensure that a service is provided in all areas all be it on a reduced level especially in seasonal cases or where major events are taking place.

4.4 Other factors which affect the service schedule are when cleansing and caged vehicles are put out of service coupled with staff shortages through holiday and sickness cover, which in both cases has a detrimental outcome and therefore cleaning schedules have to be adjusted and frequency reduced.

4.5 Town Centre Cleaning Schedules:

- **Bridgend Town Centre**

Bridgend	Sweeper	Bins and litter picking
Mon – Friday	06.00 – 09.30	06.00 – 14.00 (08.00-16.00)
Saturday	06.00 - 09.30	06.00 - 10.00
Sunday	06.00 - 09.30	06.00 – 10.00

Mon – Fri: 06.00 – 08.00, caged lorry, team leader and one operative litter pick and empty BCBC bins in town centre, they then remove fly tipping, empty BCBC bins and litter pick surrounding areas as per schedule until 1400.

Mon – Fri: 06.00- 14.00 - Pedestrian Sweeper also sweeps town, once completed reverts to sweep as per schedule.

Mon – Fri: one operative 08.00 – 16.00, litter picks and empty BCBC bins.

Saturday and Sunday: 06.00 – 10.00, caged Lorry, team leader and one operative – Pedestrian Sweeper. Town is cleaned and then lorry empties bins in surrounding areas and picks as required, sweeper reverts to schedule.

- **Porthcawl**

<u>Porthcawl</u>	<u>Sweeper</u>	<u>Bins and litter picking</u>
Mon – Friday	06.00 – 09.30	06.00 – 14.00 (09.00-17.00)
Saturday	06.00 - 09.30	06.00 - 11.00
Sunday	06.00 - 09.30	06.00 – 11.00

Mon – Fri: 06.00 – 14.00, team leader and one operative empty bins on Promenade and town centre plus litter pick.

Mon, Wed, and Fri: empty bins and litter pick in surrounding areas.

Mon – Fri: 08.00 – 16.00, lorry, team leader and usually one operative empty bin in Porthcawl until 10.30 and then litter pick as required by schedule.

09.00 – 17.00, one operative litter picks and empties BCBC bins in town centre and surrounding areas.

Sat to Sun: 06.00 – 11.00 Lorry, team leader and one operative empty BCBC bins on Promenade, then in to Town to empty bins and litter pick. Sweeper follows on behind and they brush out as necessary. Sweeper then returns to schedule and lorry empties BCBC bins in surrounding areas.

- **Pencoed**

Does not have a schedule like other town centres, 0800 – 16.00 Mon, Wed, Friday, bins emptied and litter picked. Sweeper visits as required or by schedule.

- **Maesteg**

<u>Maesteg</u>	<u>Sweeper</u>	<u>Bins and litter picking</u>
Mon – Friday	06.00 – 07.40	08.00 – 16.00 (09.00-17.00)
Saturday	06.00 - 07.40	06.00 - 11.00
Sunday	06.00 - 07.40	06.00 – 11.00

Mon – Sunday, 0600 -0740, Town centre with sweeper and a brush man who will also empty bins. On two weekends in a month it is completed by two men, this normally takes around two hours which is without use of the sweeper.

Mon – Fri, 0800 – 1600, lorry, team leader and usually one operative empty bins around Maesteg until 1030 and then litter pick as required by schedule. 0900 – 1700, one operative litter picks and empties BCBC bins in town centre and surrounding areas.

The town centre consists of the main streets, bus station, car park and surrounding lanes around the main streets.

4.6 Building Relations

4.7 The Cleaner Streets Team report that the increasing demands and pressures placed on the Department and Service has led to the section now being at maximum capacity and to be able to maintain a satisfactory service provision, the Department is having to curtail the fitting of any additional litter bins as requested through referrals. The Cleaner Streets Team understands that closer working with Town and Community Councils is important to be able to maintain a satisfactory service should any further financial constraints be placed on the Department. The Cleaner Streets Operations Officer has spent considerable time over the past year working with and attending meetings to identify opportunities and offering support and ideas for ways in which to work together to meet the objectives of cleaner towns / streets.

4.8 We believe that good relations have been forged and in some cases much work has been accomplished through partnering, examples include the provision and revamping of litter bins throughout the borough, servicing community bins and providing additional support through volunteer services.

4.9 This year the Cleaner Streets Operations Officer presented a 'litter awareness and behaviour change' Project to all Town Councils. The Project involves educating the community by firstly linking with schools to develop messages that the children would like to give to their community. The Project work that took place in Porthcawl involved the following:

- Firstly, school pupils learnt about the impact of litter by carrying out a litter-pick in the streets surrounding their school with Keep Wales Tidy, followed by a beach clean with Seaquest and workshops in the classroom. The school children collated the information they had found out through carrying out these activities and produced a report and posters. The reports and posters then provide the basis of a marketing campaign where the posters were displayed in the local area. An information leaflet was also produced and circulated to local households along with various other PR activities. The litter-picks and beach cleaning were repeated after 6 months to see if there were any changes.
- Secondly, following on from the work with schools the project looked at business waste. The Cleaner Streets Operations Officer will visit local shops and cafes to offer advice on reducing their packaging waste and to look at alternatives to using plastic and get involved with becoming a water bottle refill point. Any business that came on board displays a 'supporter's sticker'

based on the posters designed by the school children, further spreading the message within the local community.

- 4.10 Porthcawl Town Council were the first to see the value of running such a scheme and the “Porthcawl Love it Don’t Trash it” Project was launched in January of this year. The work with the 5 primary schools in Porthcawl has now been completed and as well as their posters now being displayed in the locality, some 7,000 households in the Porthcawl area have also received an information leaflet. The media attention, both on social media and in the local press, and the involvement of the community has been extremely supportive which has provided a very successful outcome to date. Local businesses are also coming on board, looking at their packaging waste and meeting the challenges of providing a litter and plastic free Porthcawl.

The results from the school litter picks and beach clean have also noted a success with a 50% reduction in litter collected between their first litter pick and beach clean and their second. When the activities were repeated 6 months later, the schools also reported a reduction in larger pieces of litter being found, such as single use plastic bottles, with the main types of litter collected being the smaller items such as wrappers etc.

- 4.11 Following the success of the Project in Porthcawl, BCBC are keen to expand this project and discussions are now under way with Pencoed Town Council and interest has also been expressed by Brackla Community Council.
- 4.12 To develop relations further within the communities, the Cleaner Streets Operations Officer and the Waste and Policy Officer have been attending various community groups, associations and schools presenting talks on waste issues and recycling and also providing an update on the ‘Porthcawl Love it Don’t Trash it’ Project, which has received positive responses to date. The Project feedback received has revealed, a former general unawareness of the pressures Waste and Cleaner Streets services are under, an appreciation of staff working differently to achieve a cleaner Bridgend and a general increase in knowledge recycling and waste.

4.13 Dog Fouling

- 4.14 Dog fouling has been at the forefront of complaints received coupled with social media escalating people’s opinions further which have increased the demand for more action to be taken: dog fowl bins, enforcement, signage etc.

4.15 TiksPac UK Ltd (“TiksPac”)

Following the successful trial of the TiksPac dog fouling posts in Pencoed and Maesteg, partnership with TiksPac has expanded providing a further twenty posts throughout the borough. TiksPac is an environmental concept which includes a post station that provides biodegradable dog waste bags for dog walkers, and these stations have been placed at selected locations such as footpaths, parks and other public areas and on routes where there are also litter

bins for their collection. This has been completed in collaboration with Town and Community Councils providing the locations.

4.16 Initial reports from areas suggest that these are helping reduce the impact of dog fouling and social media such as Facebook have provided positive feedback, as have several Local Councillors.

4.17 To support the scheme new signage has been developed to encourage dog walkers to pick up after their pets, these posters are in the form of a cartoon caricature and are currently being strategically placed in hot spot areas.

4.18 3rd Sector working/Volunteering

4.19 The Cleaner Streets Team has been working closely with Keep Wales Tidy (KWT) towards the development of community volunteer hubs based on a successful application for £30,000 of funding from Welsh Government.

4.20 The application is based on the Cleaner Streets Team working jointly with KWT in the development of community based projects under the Caru Cymru Project.

Part of the Project is to set up Community Hubs (“Hubs”) throughout the borough (5 in the first year). These Hubs are based on the volunteer groups that were set up previously. The success and popularity of the groups whilst welcomed has led to difficulty in providing the resources to the support the activities and as a result the voluntary work was becoming unsustainable. The Hubs will aim to provide a central point in specific areas/communities where litter champions can go to access resources to carry out their activities and the Hub being provided with the equipment as a central base. The Cleaner Streets Officer has already begun identifying the various hub areas and has been discussing this with various communities and over the coming weeks will be contacting Community Councils to provide a full understanding and outline of the Hub.

4.21 The grant also allows the Department to develop sustainable projects and to work with communities and schools. It is our aim to use these funds to work on initiatives such as the ‘Bridgend Love It Don’t Trash it’ Campaign with the wider community.

4.22 Enforcement / 3GS

4.23 To further improve the street scene environment the contractor 3GS has been engaged to carry out litter enforcement activities throughout the borough. This is for an initial one year period that commenced in May 2019. Towards the end of this period a review of the success of the enforcement activities will be carried out to inform future enforcement provision.

4.24 Future Direction

4.25 With no immediate end to austerity and funding reductions in sight the future provision of the street cleansing service will have to be considered. Whilst it is

not decided what savings if any the cleansing budget may have to produce, any future service model may need to be significantly different to the current arrangement. A move to a re-active cleansing service model would whilst being far from ideal offer further savings if required.

- 4.26 It is clear that reliance on voluntary groups and Town and Community Councils will inevitably increase as we move forwards and maintaining effective and innovative working relationships to address littering will be vital.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 There are no effects upon BCBC's Policy Framework or Procedure Rules.

6 Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

- 7.1 None for this information only report

8 Financial implications

- 8.1 The costs of the Street Cleaning Teams are met through the Council's Revenue Budget and there has also been the additional grant of £30,000 from Welsh Government for the Volunteer Community Hubs Project.

9 Recommendation

- 9.1 That the Town and Community Council Forum note the content of this report.

Zachary Shell
Head of Operations - Communities
11th July 2019

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Background Documents:

None

Appendix 1: Headline Local Authority Results

2018-19 Local Authority

	Cleanliness Indicator Score	Percentage of Streets Graded B and Above
Anglesey	74.6	100
Blaenau Gwent	64.9	94.1
Bridgend	67.7	96.7
Caerphilly	68.2	97.9
Cardiff	67.3	96
Carmarthenshire	77.9	91.2
Ceredigion	83.6	97.8
Conwy	72.3	97.5
Denbighshire	74	98.7
Flintshire	70.6	95.8
Gwynedd	73.6	98.6
Merthyr Tydfil	66.3	95.5
Monmouthshire	67.4	95.8
Neath Port Talbot	65.9	93.8
Newport	64	89.6
Pembrokeshire	83.2	94.6
Powys	66.4	94.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	66.7	97.6
Swansea	67.1	96.4
Torfaen	67.4	96.6
Vale of Glamorgan	69.4	96.1
Wrexham	70.0	97.4