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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

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
dewis iaith.*

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



Annwyl Cyngorydd,

CYNGOR

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Cyngor o bell trwy Skype ar **Dydd Mercher, 16 Medi 2020 am 15:00.**

AGENDA

1. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb
Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Aelodau.
2. Datganiadau o fuddiant
Derbyn datganiadau o ddiddordeb personol a rhagfarnol (os o gwbl) gan Aelodau /
Swyddogion yn unol â darpariaethau'r Cod Ymddygiad Aelodau a fabwysiadwyd gan y
Cyngor o 1 Medi 2008.
3. Cymeradwyaeth Cofnodion 3 - 16
I dderbyn am gymeradwyaeth y Cofnodion cyfarfod y 22/07/20
4. I dderbyn cyhoeddiadau oddi wrth y Maer
5. I dderbyn cyhoeddiadau oddi wrth yr Arweinydd
6. Cyflwyniad ar Fargen Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd a Rhaglen Cyflwyniadau 17 - 20
i'r Dyfodol i'r Cyngor
7. Adroddiad blynyddol ar Reoli'r Trysorlys 2019-20 21 - 34
8. Cynllun Corfforaethol wedi'i Ddiweddarau 2018-2022 Adolygwyd ar Gyfer 2020- 35 - 78
21, Yn dilyn Effaith Covid-19
9. Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr (CDLI) - Cytundeb Cyflawni 79 - 174
Diwygiedig
10. Adroddiadau Gwybodaeth i'w Nodi 175 - 292
11. I dderbyn y cwestiynau canlynol gan:

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Facs/Fax: 01656 668126

Twitter@bridgendCBC

Ebost/Email: talktous@bridgend.gov.uk

Gwefan/Website: www.bridgend.gov.uk

Cyfnewid testun: Rhowch 18001 o flaen unrhyw un o'n rhifau ffon ar gyfer y gwasanaeth trosglwyddo testun

Text relay: Put 18001 before any of our phone numbers for the text relay service

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg. Rhowch wybod i ni os yw eich dewis iaith yw'r Gymraeg

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

1. Cynghorydd T Thomas i'r Aelod Cabinet Lles a Chenedlaethau Dyfodol

A wnaiff yr Aelod Cabinet amlinellu ei gynlluniau i leihau'r risg o ddigartrefedd yn ystod pryder parhaus pandemig Covid-19?

2. Cynghorydd A Hussain i'r Aelod Cabinet Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar

Ceir rhybudd yn dilyn cyhoeddiad adroddiad ar y cyd gan y Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol a'r Ganolfan Genedlaethol ar gyfer lechyd Meddwl sy'n nodi'r angen am wasanaethau lleol ataliol sy'n helpu i leihau anghydraddoldebau iechyd a sicrhau gwell iechyd meddwl i bawb.

A wnaiff yr Aelod Cabinet roi gwybod i ni pa fesurau ataliol yr ydym ni'n eu cymryd yn ein Sir ni i helpu pawb i gadw'n iach yn feddyliol, gan gynnwys y rhai hynny sydd wedi'u heffeithio gan COVID-19?

12. Materion Brys

I ystyried unrhyw eitemau o fusnes y, oherwydd amgylchiadau arbennig y cadeirydd o'r farn y dylid eu hystyried yn y cyfarfod fel mater o frys yn unol â Rhan 4 (pharagraff 4) o'r Rheolau Trefn y Cyngor yn y Cyfansoddiad.

Yn ddiffuant

K Watson

Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio

Nodyn: Sylwch: Yn sgil yr angen i gadw pellter cymdeithasol, ni fydd y cyfarfod hwn yn cael ei gynnal yn ei leoliad arferol. Yn hytrach, bydd hwn yn gyfarfod rhithwir a bydd Aelodau'r Cyngor a Swyddogion yn mynychu o bell. Bydd y cyfarfod yn cael ei recordio i'w ddarlledu ar wefan y Cyngor ar ol i'r cyfarfod orffen. Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiwn am hyn, cysylltwch â cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk neu ffoniwch 01656 643147 / 643148.

Dosbarthiad:

Cynghowrwyr

S Aspey
SE Baldwin
TH Beedle
JPD Blundell
NA Burnett
MC Clarke
N Clarke
RJ Collins
HJ David
P Davies
PA Davies
SK Dendy
DK Edwards
J Gebbie
T Giffard
RM Granville
CA Green
DG Howells

Cynghorwyr

A Hussain
RM James
B Jones
M Jones
MJ Kearn
DRW Lewis
JE Lewis
JR McCarthy
D Patel
RL Penhale-Thomas
AA Pucella
JC Radcliffe
KL Rowlands
B Sedgebeer
RMI Shaw
CE Smith
SG Smith
JC Spanswick

Cynghorwyr

RME Stirman
G Thomas
T Thomas
JH Tildesley MBE
E Venables
SR Vidal
MC Voisey
LM Walters
KJ Watts
CA Webster
DBF White
PJ White
A Williams
AJ Williams
HM Williams
JE Williams
RE Young

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CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 22 GORFFENNAF 2020

COFNODION CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR A GYNHALIWDYD YN O BELL TRWY SKYPE DYDD
MERCHER, 22 GORFFENNAF 2020, AM 15:00

Presennol

Y Cyngorydd SE Baldwin – Cadeirydd

TH Beedle	JPD Blundell	NA Burnett	MC Clarke
N Clarke	RJ Collins	HJ David	P Davies
PA Davies	SK Dendy	DK Edwards	J Gebbie
T Giffard	RM Granville	CA Green	DG Howells
A Hussain	RM James	B Jones	M Jones
MJ Kearns	DRW Lewis	JE Lewis	JR McCarthy
D Patel	RL Penhale-Thomas	AA Pucella	JC Radcliffe
KL Rowlands	B Sedgebeer	RMI Shaw	CE Smith
SG Smith	JC Spanswick	RME Stirman	G Thomas
T Thomas	E Venables	SR Vidal	MC Voisey
LM Walters	KJ Watts	CA Webster	DBF White
PJ White	A Williams	AJ Williams	HM Williams
JE Williams	RE Young		

Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb

JH Tildesley MBE

Swyddogion:

Susan Cooper	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles
Deborah Exton	Dirprwy Bennaeth Cyllid dros dro
Lindsay Harvey	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg a Chymorth i Deuluoedd
Gill Lewis	Pennaeth Cyllid a Swyddog 151 Dros Dro
Michael Pitman	Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd – Pwyllgorau
Andrew Rees	Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd
Zak Shell	Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdogaeth
Mark Shephard	Prif Weithredwr
Kelly Watson	Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio

418. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT

Nid oedd unrhyw ddatganiadau o fuddiant.

419. CYMERADWYAETH COFNODION

PENDERFYNWYD: Y byddai Cofnodion cyfarfodydd y Cyngor ar 26 Chwefror ac 11 Mawrth 2020 yn cael eu cymeradwyo'n gofnod gwir a chywir.

420. I DDERBYN CYHOEDDIADAU ODDI WRTH Y MAER

Diolchodd y Maer yn ddifffuant i holl staff CBS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr sydd wedi mynd i'r afael â'r heriau a wynebwyd yn ystod y pedwar mis diwethaf. Roedd staff ar draws pob adran wedi gweithio'n galed iawn i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau'n parhau i redeg yn rhwydd ac yn llwyddiannus i breswylwyr. Roedd staff wedi addasu'n gyflym iawn i amgylcheddau gwaith newydd a gwahanol, a gwnaethant arloesi mewn meysydd lle'r oedd angen ymateb cyflym, gan weithio y tu hwnt i'r galw am gyfnod estynedig wrth

wynebu eu heriau eu hunain yn sgil y pandemig. Mae eu hymroddiad a'u gwaith caled yn gymeradwy.

Cyhoeddodd y Maer hefyd ei fod wedi addasu i ffordd newydd o weithio ac wedi mynychu ymrwymadau drwy Skype, ac y bydd yn parhau i wneud hynny. Roedd yn fraint ganddo roi negeseuon fideo ar ran CBS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i ddathlu Diwrnod Buddugoliaeth yn Ewrop a choffáu dioddefwyr yr hil-laddiad yn Srebrenica. Er gwaethaf y sefyllfa gyfredol, roedd yn teimlo ei bod yn bwysig parhau i ddathlu digwyddiadau pwysig a chofio'r bobl yr effeithiwyd arnynt.

Cyhoeddodd y Maer â thristwch y bu farw'r cyn Faer a Chynghorydd, Reg Jenkins, a oedd wedi gwasanaethu'n aelod o'r Cyngor am ddau gyfnod cyn ymddiswyddo i fwynhau ei ymddeoliad yn 2017. Roedd nid yn unig yn aelod ward gweithgar dros ben ar gyfer Pontycymer, ond hefyd yn enwog am ei dasg flynyddol fel Siôn Corn, gan godi miloedd o bunnoedd ar gyfer elusennau lleol. Ar ran y Cyngor, ymestynnodd gydymdeimlad y Cyngor at ei wraig, Teresa.

421. I DDERBYN CYHOEDDIADAU ODDI WRTH YR ARWEINYDD

Cyhoeddodd yr Arweinydd mai nod y Cyngor oedd ail-agor mannau chwarae i blant erbyn 30 Gorffennaf. Crybwylodd na ellir agor pob safle ar unwaith, oherwydd bod rhaid cynnal asesiad risg priodol ac archwilio pob safle er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn ddiogel i'w defnyddio, nad yw'r offer chwarae wedi'i ddifrodi na'i fandaleiddio, ac y gallwn gymryd yr holl ragofalon angenrheidiol i gyfyngu'r potensial o ddod i gysylltiad â'r coronafeirws. Er mwyn bodloni hyn, rhaid cyflwyno arwyddion newydd i gynghori pobl ar y gofynion o ran cadw pellter cymdeithasol a defnyddio hylif diheintio dwylo yn y man chwarae, a mwy.

Cyhoeddodd hefyd fod y canfasio etholiadol blynyddol yn mynd rhagddo, a bod y Cyngor yn annog cymaint â phosibl o breswylwyr cymwys i lenwi eu cofrestriadau ar-lein, fel rhan o'r ymdrechion i gyfyngu ar ledu'r coronafeirws. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor, ar ôl i Aelodau'r Senedd basio'r Bil ym mis Tachwedd y llynedd, y gall pobl ifanc 14 a 15 oed gofrestru ymlaen llaw er mwyn iddynt allu pleidleisio'n 16 oed. Roedd yn gobeithio y bydd Aelodau'n annog preswylwyr lleol i gyflawni'r canfasio yn ôl yr angen, ac mae'r tudalennau etholiadol ar wefan y Cyngor yn cynnwys mwy o fanylion am sut y gallant wneud hynny.

Cyhoeddodd yr Arweinydd hefyd, drwy gydol y pandemig, y bu'r Cyngor yn ymgymryd ag ystod o fentrau a luniwyd i helpu clybiau chwaraeon lleol. Mae hyn yn cynnwys sefydlu Cronfa Cymorth Chwaraeon Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i roi grantiau o hyd at £1,000 i glybiau. Gwnaed penderfyniad yn ddiweddar i hepgor ffioedd ar gyfer tymor 2019-20 a rhoi cefnogaeth barhaus i glybiau sydd eisoes yn datblygu'r broses trosglwyddo asedau cymunedol. Sicrhawyd bod mwy o gymorth ar gael drwy Gronfa Cymru Actif Chwaraeon Cymru. Mae hyn yn galluogi clybiau i wneud cais am grantiau rhwng £300 a £50,000 i helpu i dalu am gyfleustodau, yswiriant a chostau sefydlog eraill a all fod ar waith ar gyfer llogi cyfleusterau neu offer. Gall helpu clybiau i wneud addasiadau hefyd er mwyn sicrhau bod gweithgareddau'n ddiogel, fel cyflwyno system unffordd, darparu hylif diheintio dwylo a phlatfformau archebu ar-lein, neu osod arwyddion iechyd a diogelwch. Os yw Aelodau'n ymwybodol o unrhyw glybiau lleol yn eu cymunedau a all elwa ar hyn, mae manylion llawn ar gael ar wefan Chwaraeon Cymru, a byddem yn annog clybiau chwaraeon i fanteisio'n llawn ar y cyfleoedd ariannu sydd ar gael.

Roedd hefyd am roi gwybod i etholwyr, gan fod y pandemig yn bodoli o hyd, bod ystod o gymorth ariannol ar gael i unrhyw un sy'n cael trafferth talu'r Dreth Gyngor. Anfonwyd dros 6,000 o lythyr yn rhoi gwybod i breswylwyr am y balansau sy'n weddill ar eu cyfrifon. Crybwylodd fod hwn yn gyfnod heriol ac ansicr dros ben, a bod y Cyngor wedi

ceisio cydweithio â phreswylwyr, lle bynnag y bo hynny'n bosibl. Mae ystod o opsiynau ar gael, gan gynnwys gostyngiadau, disgowntiau ac atgyfeiriadau, ac mae'n gobeithio y bydd Aelodau'n annog unrhyw un sy'n cael trafferthion i gysylltu â'r Cyngor er mwyn canfod ffordd ymlaen.

Cyhoeddodd yr Arweinydd mai cyfarfod y Cyngor heddiw fyddai cyfarfod olaf Sue Cooper, Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles, cyn iddi ymddeol. Cyfeiriodd at hanes nodedig y Cyfarwyddwr fel arweinydd proffesiwn mor bwysig i'r Awdurdod a Chymru; proffesiwn y bu'n rhan ohono ar hyd ei gyrfa. Bu'n angerddol iawn tuag at y cymorth a ddarperir i'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yn y Fwrdeistref ac yn ymroddedig i sicrhau bod ei chalon ym mhob un o'r penderfyniadau a wnaed o'r diwrnod cyntaf iddi ddechrau gweithio i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Ogwr, a bydd yno yn ei diwrnod olaf yn gweithio i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Dechreuodd Ms Cooper ar y rheng flaen, a dangosodd yr ymroddiad hwnnw i ddinasyddion a chymunedau Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr dro ar ôl tro, nid lleiaf drwy ei phenderfyniad diweddar i ohirio ei hymddeoliad gan fod y pandemig yn cael effaith mor ddinistriol ar Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr. Crybwyllodd yr Arweinydd ei bod wedi newid ei chynlluniau a'i bod am arwain ymateb yr Awdurdod i'r argyfwng yn y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Diolchodd i Ms Cooper am ei gwaith arbennig.

Diolchodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar i'r Cyfarwyddwr am ei hymroddiad, ei phenderfyniad i gyflawni pethau a'u cyflawni'n ddiogel, a fu'n nodwedd ragorol a thrugarog. Roedd yn falch o fod yn gydweithiwr ac yn gyfaill ac, o siarad â phobl eraill yn ei phroffesiwn a'i swydd, roeddent wedi edmygu ei phroffesiynoldeb ac roedd yn ddelfryd ymddwyn i bobl eraill. Crybwyllodd y bu'n ysbrydoledig dros y 5 mlynedd diwethaf wrth arwain y Gyfarwyddiaeth drwy'r rhaglen drawsffurfio ac uno'r Awdurdod â rhanbarth iechyd newydd. Bu'r trawsnewid hwnnw'n llwyddiant mawr i Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor ei bod wedi cyrraedd brig ei gyrfa drwy waith caled. Byddai'n gweld colled ar ôl Ms Cooper. Roedd yn teimlo bod y Gyfarwyddiaeth yn addas i'r diben a'r 21ain ganrif, a bod yr Awdurdod a phreswylwyr Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn well am ei chyfraniad a'i thrugaredd, ac am wneud pethau'n iawn ar gyfer gofal cymdeithasol ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chymru. Dymunodd ymddeoliad hir ac iach i Ms Cooper.

Ailadroddodd Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid bopeth roedd ei chydweithwyr wedi'i ddweud, a dywedodd y byddai'n gweld colled fawr ar ôl Ms Cooper. Diolchodd iddi am y ffordd broffesiynol roedd wedi cyflawni ei rôl a'r hyn yr oedd wedi'i wneud i breswylwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, yn enwedig ei phreswylwyr mwyaf agored i niwed. Dymunodd ymddeoliad hir a hapus iawn iddi.

Diolchodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles i'r Aelodau am eu sylwadau, a oedd yn drech na hi. Dywedodd y bu'n ychydig fisoedd anodd, ond bod Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi dod drwyddo'n dda iawn, ac y bu'n ffrainth gweithio ochr yn ochr â phawb dros yr ychydig fisoedd diwethaf. Diolchodd i bawb am eu cefnogaeth dros y 36 blynedd, a diolchodd yn arbennig i'r Arweinydd a'r Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar, cyn Arweinydd y Cyngor a'r Aelod Cabinet blaenorol. Dywedodd y bu'n anodd ac yn heriol iawn ar adegau, ond bob amser yn werth chweil. Bu'n ffrainth bod yn rhan fach o gefnogi a gwella bywydau pobl, a'r bobl hynny sy'n fwyaf agored i niwed. Dywedodd ei bod yn falch iawn o'i phroffesiwn ac o fod yn weithiwr cymdeithasol, ac yn falch iawn o weithio i'r Cyngor, sydd ag enw da iawn. Diolchodd i bawb am eu dymuniadau da.

422. DIWEDDARIAD AR YMATEB BWRDEISTREF SIROL PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR I COVID-19

Rhoddodd y Prif Weithredwr gyflwyniad ar yr ymateb i'r pandemig COVID-19 a'r camau sy'n cael eu cymryd tuag at adfer, ac i roi'r newyddion diweddaraf i Aelodau am y dull adfer, gan gynnwys sefydlu Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol.

Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor, er mwyn ymateb i'r pandemig COVID-19 byd-eang, ar 23 Mawrth 2020, y rhoddodd Llywodraeth y DU gyfyngiadau symud cenedlaethol ar waith er mwyn ceisio lleihau lledaenu'r coronafeirws. Ers hynny, mae'r Cyngor wedi newid yn sylweddol dros y pedwar mis diwethaf, yn aml yn ymateb ar frys i newidiadau o ran amgylchiadau, arweiniad a rheoliadau. Crëwyd gwasanaethau newydd, ataliwyd rhai gwasanaethau, adleoliwyd staff a rhoddwyd arferion gweithio newydd ar waith, gan gynnwys galluogi'r rhai sy'n gallu gweithio gartref i wneud hynny. Crybwyllodd mai'r ffocws dros y pedwar mis diwethaf fu cyflwyno gwasanaethau hanfodol, yn enwedig y rhai i'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yn ei gymunedau, a cheisio atal lledaenu'r feirws er mwyn achub bywydau. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor bod gwasanaethau wedi'u haddasu ar raddfa a chyflymder digynsail, tra rhoddwyd trefniadau llywodraethu brys ar waith. Trwy gydol y broses hon, bu un dull gan y Cyngor a gwaith partneriaeth gwell.

Tynnodd sylw hefyd at graffeg a oedd yn dangos ymateb y Cyngor i COVID-19. Amlygodd nifer yr achosion o COVID-19 yn y Fwrdeistref Sirol, ynghyd â nifer y marwolaethau.

Amlinellodd y Prif Weithredwr y camau sy'n cael eu cymryd o ran llacio'r cyfyngiadau symud yn raddol, ynghyd â'r heriau parhaus sy'n effeithio ar y Cyngor. Amlygodd yr heriau ariannol i'r Cyngor, sef y pwysau ychwanegol o ran costau, incwm a gollwyd i'r Cyngor, a'r posibilrwydd na fydd yr arbedion o £2.413m yn y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig yn cael eu cyflawni. Fodd bynnag, gwnaed arbedion annisgwyl o ran cludiant o'r cartref i'r ysgol, adeiladau a thanwydd. Dywedodd ei bod yn debygol y bydd diffyg yn y Dreth Gyngor, yn enwedig o ystyried yr oedi wrth ddechrau adfer a'r cynnydd mewn budd-daliadau'r Dreth Gyngor. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor am ystod y cymorth ariannol a fu ar gael gan Lywodraeth Cymru ledled Cymru. Amlygodd y sefyllfa o ran hawliadau misol am wariant ychwanegol a gyflwynwyd i Lywodraeth Cymru, ynghyd â'r heriau ariannol sy'n wynebu'r Cyngor, â thanwariant o £3.8m yn chwarter 1.

Amlinellodd y Prif Weithredwr y broses Ailddechrau, Adfer ac Adnewyddu a sefydlu'r Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol. Byddai angen ailosod cyllideb a Chynllun Corfforaethol 2020/21 er mwyn ystyried yr amgylchiadau a'r blaenoriaethau diwygiedig. Amlygodd y blaenoriaethau adfer y mae'r Cyngor yn eu hwynebu, ynghyd ag ymateb cydlynus i adfer. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor am yr angen i groesawu'r normal newydd, ond hefyd deall y cyfleoedd a'r risgiau. I gloi, rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor y bu'n cyfnod heriol hwn o 4 mis yn unigryw â newid digynsail, a bu ymateb y Cyngor yn rhagorol, gyda'r ymateb gan rai aelodau staff yn arwrol. Dywedodd fod yr ergyd economaidd yn debygol o fod yn ddifrifol, â mwy o ddiweithdra a phobl yn hawlio budd-daliadau.

Gofynnodd aelod o'r Cyngor ba mor hyderus yw'r Cyngor o ran ymdopi ag ail ymchwydd mewn achosion. Rhoddodd y Prif Weithredwr wybod i'r Cyngor fod yr holl ysbytai dros dro wedi'u cadw, a bod gwasanaethau wedi'u paratoi'n well ar gyfer ail ymchwydd. Bu llai o achosion o'r haint ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr o gymharu â'r ardaloedd eraill sy'n ffurfio Bwrdd Iechyd Cwm Taf, ac mae cyfarfodydd wythnosol yn cael eu cynnal â'r Prif Weithredwr a Chadeirydd y Bwrdd Iechyd.

Diolchodd aelod o'r Cyngor i weithwyr allweddol y Cyngor am eu gwaith yn ystod y pandemig, a diolchodd i'r swyddogion am eu gwaith wrth brosesu atgyfeiriadau mor brydlon yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

Cyfeiriodd aelod o'r Cyngor at y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol a gofynnodd a fyddai trefniadau'r cyfarfodydd yn hyblyg ac yn cael eu darlledu ar y we. Roedd y Prif

Weithredwr yn rhagweld y byddai cyfarfodydd y panel yn hyblyg, y byddai'n gallu gwahodd mynychwyr ac adrodd ar ei ganfyddiadau i'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol i wneud argymhellion i'r Cabinet. Nid oedd unrhyw fwrdd i ddarlledu cyfarfodydd y Panel ar y we. Crybwyllodd y byddai angen i'r panel edrych ar ailosod y gyllideb a'r Cynllun Corfforaethol er mwyn gwneud argymhellion i'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol, ac ymlaen i'r Cabinet.

PENDERFYNWYD: Bod y Cyngor:

- (1) yn nodi'r cyflwyniad gan y Prif Weithredwr;
- (2) yn nodi'r dull a gymeradwywyd gan y Cabinet ar gyfer ymateb i'r pandemig COVID-19, a galluogi'r Cyngor i ailddechrau, adfer ac adnewyddu'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir ganddo;
- (3) yn nodi sefydlu Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol i helpu i ffurfio, llywio a chynghori'r Cabinet ar gynlluniau adfer y Cyngor.

423. CANLYNIAD Y RHAGLEN GYFALAF 2019-20 AC ADRODDIAD DIWEDDARU CHWARTER 1 2020-21

Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro adroddiad i gydymffurfio â gofynion Cod Materion Ariannol ar gyfer Cyllid Cyfalaf mewn Awdurdodau Lleol y Sefydliad Siartredig Cyllid Cyhoeddus a Chyfrifyddiaeth (CIPFA); rhoddodd ddiweddariad ar yr alldro cyfalaf ar gyfer 2019-20; rhoddodd ddiweddariad ar y Rhaglen Cyfalaf ar gyfer y cyfnod o 1 Ebrill hyd 30 Mehefin 2020; ceisiodd gymeradwyaeth ar gyfer rhaglen gyfalaf ddiwygiedig ar gyfer 2020-21 hyd 2029-30, ac i'r Cyngor nodi'r Dangosyddion Darbodus ac Eraill rhagamcanol ar gyfer 2020-21.

Crybwyllodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro fod y Cyngor, ar 20 Chwefror 2019, wedi cymeradwyo rhaglen gyfalaf £35.474m, a ddiweddarwyd ddiwethaf ar 26 Chwefror 2020, ac a ddiwygiwyd ymhellach a'i chymeradwyo gan y Cyngor yn ystod y flwyddyn i gynnwys cyllidebau a dducpwyd ymlaen o 2018-29 ac unrhyw gynlluniau a chymeradwyaethau grantiau newydd. Crybwyllodd fod y rhaglen ddiweddaraf ar gyfer 2019-20, a gymeradwywyd gan y Cyngor yn Chwefror 2020 fel rhan o'r Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig, yn dod i gyfanswm o £30.137m, y daw £13.964m ohono o adnoddau CBS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, gan gynnwys derbyniadau cyfalaf, cyfraniadau refeniw o gronfeydd wrth gefn a glustnodwyd a benthyciadau, gyda'r £16.173 miliwn sy'n weddill yn dod o adnoddau allanol.

Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro wybod i'r Cyngor na wnaed llawer o newidiadau, heblaw'r cymeradwyaethau newydd o £1.964m o ganlyniad i'r cynllun grant newydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru – sef Grant Seilwaith Hwb a'r £0.403m o gyllid a ddaethpwyd yn ôl o 20-21 o adlewyrchu'n fwy cywir y proffiliau gwario, a oedd yn dod â'r gyllideb ddiwygiedig i £32.504m. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor mai'r cyfanswm gwariant ar 31 Mawrth 2020 oedd £22.822m, a oedd yn arwain at gyfanswm tanwariant o £9.682m. Yn ystod y flwyddyn, roedd nifer o gynlluniau wedi dechrau ond nid oeddent wedi'u cwblhau yn ystod y flwyddyn, neu roeddent wedi'u symud yn gyfan gwbl i 2020-21. Roedd y rhain yn cynnwys adnewyddu Depo Tredŵr, Cryfhau Pontydd ar yr A4061 Cwm Ogwr, y Fargen Ddinesig a gwaith adnewyddu yng Nghwm Llynfi. Crybwyllodd y bu llithriant am nifer o resymau, gan gynnwys oedi o ran dechrau prosiectau oherwydd yr angen i ymgymryd ag arolygon ehangach, trafodaethau parhaus â chyrff ariannu ac oedi cyffredinol arall mewn rhaglenni. Roedd yn debygol y byddai llithriant sylweddol yn ystod 2020-21 hefyd, o ganlyniad i gyfyngiadau symud COVID-19 a'r rheoliadau dilynol yn ymwneud â chadw pellter cymdeithasol.

Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro wybod i'r Cyngor bod angen llithriant net o £9.073 miliwn yn 2020-21, a bod y prif gynlluniau fel a ganlyn:

- £2,246,000 mewn perthynas â Datblygiad Llynfi – mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cytuno ag estyniad o 6 mis i'r benthyciad i alluogi'r Cyngor i ymgymryd â gwaith dichonolrwydd pellach
- £908,600 o gyllid ar gyfer mân waith cyfalaf sydd wedi llithro o ganlyniad i'r oedi o ran cwblhau nifer o gynlluniau
- £564,000 mewn perthynas â'r Hwb Preswyl i Blant oherwydd oedi wrth gadarnhau'r cymeradwyaeth cyllid
- £471,000 mewn perthynas â Chryfhau Pontydd. Bu oedi o ran elfennau sylweddol o'r gwaith gan y cwmni cyfleustodau ac, fel y cyfryw, mae nifer o elfennau o wariant y contract wedi'u gohirio tan yn ddiweddarach yng nghyfnod y contract diwygiedig
- £582,000 mewn perthynas â'r Hwb Menter, gan fod y prosiect wedi'i ailbroffilio a'i ail-ffurfweddu yn 2020-21
- £520,000 mewn perthynas â Thrawsffurfio Digidol tra mae'r strategaeth digidol yn cael ei datblygu, er mwyn sicrhau bod datblygu'n ystyried effeithiau COVID-19 a sut gall technoleg digidol gefnogi'r Cyngor o ran ei fodel gweithredu
- £320,000 mewn perthynas ag Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif Band B. Mae cynlluniau newydd yn y cyfnod dichonolrwydd ar hyn o bryd
- £260,000 mewn perthynas â Neuadd y Dref Maesteg oherwydd oedi a newidiadau i broffiliau ariannu o ganlyniad i'r Cyngor yn manteisio ar gyllid grant ychwanegol yn ystod 2019-20.

Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro ddiweddariad ar raglen gyfalaf y Cyngor ar gyfer 2020-21 ers i'r gyllideb gael ei chymeradwyo ddiwethaf gan y Cyngor, a oedd yn cynnwys unrhyw gynlluniau newydd a chymeradwyaethau grant. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r rhaglen ddiwygiedig ar gyfer 2020-21 yn dod i gyfanswm o £62.305m, y daw £40.313m ohono o adnoddau'r Cyngor, gan gynnwys derbyniadau cyfalaf, cyfraniadau referiw o gronfeydd wrth gefn a glustnodwyd a benthyciadau, gyda'r £21.992 miliwn sy'n weddill yn dod o adnoddau allanol, gan gynnwys y Grant Cyfalaf Cyffredinol. Amlygodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro y sefyllfa fesul Cyfarwyddiaeth. Crynhodd y rhagdybiaethau ariannu cyfredol ar gyfer rhaglen gyfalaf 2020-21, a bod adnoddau cyfalaf yn cael eu rheoli i sicrhau'r budd ariannol mwyaf i'r Cyngor, a all gynnwys adlinio cyllid i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar grantiau'r llywodraeth.

Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro wybod am nifer o newidiadau i'r rhaglen gyfalaf ar gyfer 2020-21, fel a ganlyn:

- Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif Band B
- Ysgol Gynradd Mynydd Cynffig – Dosbarthiadau Symudol
- Gosod Mannau Gwefru Cerbydau Trydanol (EVCP)
- Hwb Llety Preswyl i Blant
- Depo Bryncethin
- Hwb Menter Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
- Canolfan Ailgylchu Cymunedol, Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Village Farm, Y Pîl
- Peilot Catrefi Gwag Gorllewin y Cymoedd

Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro wybod am fonitro dangosyddion ariannol a dangosyddion eraill ar gyfer 2020-21 hyd 2022-23 hefyd, ynghyd â rhai dangosyddion lleol. Bwriad y Strategaeth Cyfalaf yw rhoi trosolwg a sut mae gwariant cyfalaf, cyllid cyfalaf a gweithgarwch rheoli'r trysorlys yn cyfrannu at ddarparu gwasanaethau, ynghyd â throsolwg o sut caiff risgiau cysylltiedig eu rheoli, a'r goblygiadau ar gyfer cynaliadwydd yn y dyfodol. Cynhwyswyd nifer o ddangosyddion darbodus, a gymeradwywyd gan y Cyngor. Yn unol â gofynion y Cod Materion Ariannol, mae'n ofynnol i'r Prif Swyddog Cyllid sefydlu gweithdrefnau i fonitro perfformiad yn erbyn pob dangosydd ariannol blaengar a'r gofynion penodedig. Rhoddodd fanylion am y

dangosyddion gwirioneddol ar gyfer 2019-20, y dangosyddion amcangyfrifedig ar gyfer 2020-21 a amlinellir yn Strategaeth Cyfalaf y Cyngor, a'r dangosyddion rhagamcanol ar gyfer 2020-21 ar sail y Rhaglen Gyfalaf ddiwygiedig, sy'n dangos bod y Cyngor yn gweithredu'n unol â'r cyfyngiadau cymeradwy.

Crybwyllodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro fod angen i'r Strategaeth Cyfalaf fonitro buddsoddiadau nad ydynt yn fuddsoddiadau rheoli'r trysorlys a rhwymedigaethau hirdymor eraill. Crybwyllodd fod gan y Cyngor bortffolio buddsoddi bresennol sydd wedi'i seilio 100% yn y Fwrdeistref Sirol, ac yn y sectorau swyddfa a diwydiannol yn bennaf. Mae ffrydiau incwm wedi'u lledaenu rhwng y buddsoddiadau gosodiad sengl ac aml-osod ar Barc Gwyddoniaeth Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, yr ystadau diwydiannol aml-osod a'r buddsoddiadau rhent tir rhydd-ddaliadol. Cyfanswm gwerth yr Eiddo Buddsoddi ar 31 Mawrth 2020 oedd £4.635 miliwn. Rhoddodd wybod i'r Cyngor fod ganddo nifer o Rwymedigaethau Hirdymor Eraill yn y Strategaeth Cyfalaf hefyd.

Rhoddodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd wybod i'r Cyngor fod hwn yn gyfnod heriol iawn i'r Cyngor, a oedd wedi arwain at lithriant mewn nifer o gynlluniau. Crybwyllodd ei fod wedi gorfod defnyddio pwerau brys i ddiwygio'r rhaglen gyfalaf i awdurdodi gwariant o £1.2m i ddarparu dosbarthiadau dros dro ac ymgymryd â gwaith seilwaith ar rannau o brif adeilad yr ysgol y mae angen eu cadw, a'u cadw mewn defnydd (e.e. y neuadd a'r gegin) yn Ysgol Gynradd Mynydd Cynffig.

Roedd yn falch gan aelod o'r Cyngor nodi'r cyllid brys ar gyfer gwaith yn Ysgol Gynradd Mynydd Cynffig, a oedd oherwydd y diffygion difrifol yng nghyflwr yr adeilad yn peri risg iechyd a diogelwch i ddisgyblion a staff. Diolchodd yr aelod i'r Cyngor ar ran disgyblion, staff a'r corff llywodraethol am ba mor gyflym yr awdurdodwyd ystafelloedd dosbarth dros dro a gwaith seilwaith.

PENDERFYNWYD: Bod y Cyngor:

- Yn nodi'r alldro cyfalaf ar gyfer 2019-20;
- Yn nodi diweddariad Chwarter 1 Rhaglen Gyfalaf y Cyngor ar gyfer 2020-21 hyd at 30 Mehefin 2020;
- Yn cymeradwyo'r Rhaglen Gyfalaf ddiwygiedig;
- Yn nodi'r Dangosyddion Ariannol ar Eraill ar gyfer 2020-21.

424. ADRODDIAD GWYBODAETH I'W NODI

Rhoddodd y Swyddog Monitro a Phrif Swyddog Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddiol wybod am yr Adroddiad Gwybodaeth canlynol, a gyhoeddwyd ers cyfarfod diwethaf y Cyngor.

Teitl
Penderfyniadau Dirprwyedig Brys

Dyddiad Cyhoeddi
16 Gorffennaf 2020

PENDERFYNWYD: Bod y Cyngor yn cydnabod y cyhoeddwyd y ddogfen a restrir yn yr adroddiad hwn.

425. I DDERBYN Y CWESTIYNAU CANLYNOL GAN:

Cwestiwn gan y Cynghorydd MC Voisey i'r Dirprwy Arweinydd

"Sawl achos llys, dirwy, gorchymyn atal cyflog ac ati, a sawl gwaith mae CBS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi defnyddio beiliaid i adennill y Dreth Cyngor heb ei thalu, a faint a adenillwyd drwy'r camau gweithredu hyn?"

Ymateb y Dirprwy Arweinydd:

Mae'r Dreth Gyngor yn daladwy ar bob annedd domestig yn y fwrdeistref ac mae'n daladwy o 1 Ebrill bob blwyddyn. Fodd bynnag, mae pawb yn cael yr opsiwn i dalu drwy randaliadau am 10 neu 12 mis. Os caiff rhandaliad ei golli, caiff hysbysiad atgoffa ei anfon yn gofyn am y taliad, a bydd y broses adennill yn dechrau. Crynhowyd y broses ar ffurf siart llif.

Wedi i'r hysbysiad terfynol gael ei anfon, mae talwr y Dreth Gyngor yn colli'r hawl i dalu drwy randaliadau, a daw'r balans sy'n weddill ar gyfer y flwyddyn yn daladwy.

- Os caiff y taliad llawn ei dderbyn, ni chymerir unrhyw gamau pellach
- Os caiff rhan o'r taliad neu ddim ohono ei (d)derbyn, caiff gwys ei dderbyn ynghyd â chostau ar gyfer y balans sy'n weddill

Wedi i wŷs gael ei anfon, mae talwr y Dreth Gyngor yn colli'r hawl i dalu drwy randaliadau, a daw'r balans sy'n weddill ar gyfer y flwyddyn yn daladwy.

- Os caiff y taliad llawn ei dderbyn, gan gynnwys costau, cyn y dyddiad llys, ni chymerir unrhyw gamau pellach
- Os caiff rhan o'r taliad ei derbyn cyn y dyddiad llys, ceir Gorchymyn Atebolrwydd gan y Llys Ynadon ar gyfer y balans sy'n weddill
- Os na chaiff taliad ei dderbyn cyn y dyddiad llys, ceir Gorchymyn Atebolrwydd gan y Llys Ynadon ar gyfer y balans sy'n weddill

Ar hyn o bryd, ar ôl cael Gorchymyn Atebolrwydd gan y Llys Ynadon, mae'r camau canlynol ar gael i ni er mwyn adennill dyled y Dreth Gyngor:-

Cam gweithredu Cytundeb swyddfa

Sylwadau

Os bydd rhywun yn mynd i gytundeb ac yn parhau i wneud taliadau, ni chymerir unrhyw gamau pellach. Fodd bynnag, os caiff cytundeb ei dorri, byddant yn cael llythyr i ddechrau yn gofyn iddynt sicrhau bod eu cytundeb yn gyfredol. Os na chaiff hyn ei wneud, defnyddir dull arall i adennill y balans, a all gynnwys unrhyw rai o'r dulliau sydd ar gael, gan ddibynnu ar ba wybodaeth sydd wedi'i dal ar y cyfrif penodol.

Atafaelu enillion

Dyma lle mae'r balans sy'n weddill yn cael ei gasglu drwy gyflog unigolyn ar sail ei incwm net. Dim ond 2 orchymyn atafaelu enillion sy'n gallu bod ar waith ar unrhyw adeg. Llywodraeth ganolog sy'n pennu'r swm i'w ddiynnu gan y cyflogwr, a bydd yn parhau nes i'r ddyled gael ei thalu'n llawn neu nes i'r cyflogai roi'r gorau i weithio. Yna, mae'r cyflogwr yn gyfrifol am anfon unrhyw ddiynniadau'n uniongyrchol atom er mwyn clirio'r ddyled. Os bydd unigolyn yn gadael cyflogaeth, caiff llythyr ei anfon yn gofyn iddo/iddi gysylltu â ni i wneud trefniadau amgen i glirio'r ddyled. Fodd bynnag, os na fydd yn cysylltu â ni ac os nad oes dull amgen ar gael, gellir pasio'r ddyled i asiant gorfodi i'w chasglu, a fydd yn arwain at gostau pellach.

Atafaelu budd-daliadau

Dyma lle mae'r balans sy'n weddill yn cael ei ddiynnu'n uniongyrchol o fudd-daliadau unigolyn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bosibl gwneud y diynniadau hyn o fudd-daliadau penodol yn unig, a chaiff y swm i'w ddiynnu ei bennu gan lywodraeth ganolog gan ddibynnu ar y budd-dal mae'r unigolyn yn ei gael, a dim ond 1 gorchymyn atafaelu budd-

daliadau sy'n gallu bod ar waith ar unrhyw adeg. Gan fod unigolyn sy'n cael budd-daliadau ar incwm isel, mae swm y didyniadau'n gymharol isel, felly mae'n cymryd amser sylweddol i'w talu. Os nad yw unigolyn yn cael budd-dal y gellir ei atafaelu mwyach, caiff llythyr ei anfon yn gofyn iddo/iddi gysylltu â ni i wneud trefniadau amgen. Fodd bynnag, os na fydd yn cysylltu â ni ac os nad oes dull amgen ar gael, gan ddibynnu ar werth y balans sy'n weddill, gellir pasio'r ddyled i asiant gorfodi i'w chasglu, a fydd yn arwain at gostau pellach.

Atafaelu nwyddau drwy
Asiantau gorfodi

Fel arfer, defnyddio asiantaeth orfodi yw'r gobaith olaf pan nad oes unrhyw ddull adennill arall ar gael i ni. Pan fydd dyled yn cael ei phasio i'r asiantau gorfodi, bydd llythyr cychwynnol yn cael ei anfon at y dyledwr. Bryd hynny, bydd cost o £75 yn cael ei chodi; fodd bynnag, gall y dyledwr ddod i drefniant â'r asiantau gorfodi i glirio'r ddyled heb iddynt orfod ymweld â'r eiddo. Cyn belled ag y glynir wrth y trefniant hwn ac y caiff y ddyled ei thalu'n llawn, ni chymerir unrhyw gamau pellach ac ni fyddai angen i'r asiant gorfodi ymweld â'r eiddo. Fodd bynnag, os caiff y llythyr ei anwybyddu, bydd yr asiant gorfodi'n ymweld â'r eiddo gyda'r bwriad o gasglu cyfanswm y balans sy'n weddill, a daw cost ychwanegol o £235 yn daladwy. Gall ffi ychwanegol fod yn daladwy hefyd, gan ddibynnu ar werth y ddyled. Sylwer fod strwythur y ffioedd wedi'i bennu mewn deddfwriaeth dan Ddeddf Tribiwnlysoedd, Llysoedd a Gorfodaeth 2007 – Rheoliadau Cymryd Rheolaeth Dros Nwyddau (Ffioedd) 2014 – ac felly nid ydynt yn agored i drafodaeth.

Gorchymyn talu

Os caiff dyled ei dychwelyd gan yr asiantau gorfodi, gan nad oeddent yn gallu ei chasglu, os yw'r dyledwr yn berchen ar yr eiddo, gellir rhoi gorchymyn talu ar yr eiddo os yw'r ddyled sy'n weddill ar yr eiddo hwnnw dros £1,000. Mae hyn yn gofyn i Adran Gyfreithiol y Cyngor wneud cais am orchymyn talu dros dro gan y Llys Sirol. Yna, bydd yr Adran Gyfreithiol yn ysgrifennu at y dyledwr i roi gwybod y cafwyd gorchymyn talu dros dro, ac yn rhoi gwybod am y dyddiad y gofynnir am y tâl terfynol, oni bai y caiff ei dalu'n llawn. Os caiff y ddyled ei thalu'n llawn, ynghyd â'r costau cyfreithiol yr aed iddynt, ni chymerir unrhyw gamau pellach. Os na chaiff y ddyled ei thalu'n llawn, gofynnir am y tâl terfynol gan y llys a chaiff ei gofrestru yn erbyn yr eiddo ar y gofrestrfa tir. Dim ond pan gaiff y ddyled ei thalu'n llawn, ynghyd ag unrhyw gostau yr aed iddynt, y caiff y tâl ei dynnu oddi ar gofnodion y gofrestrfa tir. Caiff y math hwn o gam adennill ei ddefnyddio mewn achosion cyfyngedig iawn yn unig, ac mae'n effeithiol pan fydd eiddo'n cael ei werthu, gan nad yw'r perchnogion newydd eisiau prynu eiddo sydd â thâl arno. Os yw'r eiddo'n wag, gall y Cyngor wneud cais i'r llys am orchymyn gwerthu.

Methdaliad

Gellir ond defnyddio'r math hwn o gam adennill os yw ddyled y Dreth Gyngor yn fwy na £5,000, a byddai ond yn

cael ei ddefnyddio pe byddai asedau talwr y Dreth Gyngor yn fwy na'r swm sy'n daladwy. Caiff gwrandawriad methdalau ei drefnu yn y Llys Sirol, a dylid gwneud pob ymdrech i'w fynychu.

Cyn 1 Ebrill 2019, roedd y bygythiad o fynd i'r carchar yn gorfodi talwyr y Dreth Gyngor i dalu eu costau; fodd bynnag, er 1 Ebrill 2019, diddymwyd y gosb o draddodi am beidio â thalu'r Dreth Gyngor, gan ei gwneud yn anoddach casglu dyledion gan ddyledwyr trafferthus. Fodd bynnag, pan fo achosion traddodi wedi dechrau cyn 1 Ebrill 2019, gellir parhau i fynd i'r afael â'r rhain.

Gallai un talwr y Dreth Gyngor fod â sawl gorchymyn atebolrwydd â dyled yn daladwy ar bob un ohonynt dros nifer o flynyddoedd.

Gellid dechrau casglu un gorchymyn atebolrwydd drwy atafaelu enillion; fodd bynnag, gallai'r dyledwr ddod yn ddi-waith a gwneud cytundeb swyddfa, ond methu â chadw at delerau'r cytundeb, a byddai'r ddyled yn cael ei phasio i'r asiantau gorfodi. Mae hyn yn dangos y gellid defnyddio sawl dull adennill ar orchymyn atebolrwydd unigol er mwyn casglu'r ddyled sy'n weddill, a gall cymryd blynyddoedd i'w chasglu'n llawn.

Mae gennym nifer o gyfrifon y dreth gyngor lle'r ydym yn casglu dyledion ar fwy nag un gorchymyn atebolrwydd ar y tro, lle mae pob un yn cael ei chasglu drwy ddull adennill gwahanol. Gallai hyn fod ar y cyd â rhandaliadau'r flwyddyn gyfredol hefyd.

Nid yw'r system TGCh refeniw rydym yn ei defnyddio yn cynnig dadansoddiad o faint a gasglwyd drwy bob dull adennill, gan y gallai pob gorchymyn atebolrwydd fod wedi defnyddio sawl dull adennill gwahanol dros amser, â thaliad rhannol drwy bob dull adennill.

Hefyd, nid yw'n bosibl nodi taliadau a wnaed mewn perthynas ag atafaelu enillion drwy'r system derbynebau arian parod a ddefnyddir gan y Cyngor.

Mae'r wdurdod hwn wedi ceisio casglu cymaint o ddyledion ag y bo modd erioed, a bydd ond yn anfon dyled at asiantau gorfodi pan fetho popeth arall, gan ein bod yn ceisio osgoi costau pellach i'r dyledwr.

Amlinellwyd tabl yn dangos nifer y gorchymynion atebolrwydd a gafwyd gan y Llys yn ystod blwyddyn ariannol 2018/19 a hyd yma yn 2019/20. Mae hefyd yn cynnwys nifer a gwerth y cyfrifon a anfonwyd at yr asiantau gorfodi am yr un cyfnod, ynghyd â'r incwm a gafwyd ganddynt yn ystod yr un cyfnod. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r swm a gafwyd ar gyfer y cyfnod yn ymwneud â'r cyfrifon a anfonwyd yn ystod yr un cyfnod, o reidrwydd, gan y gallant fod ar gyfer dyledion a anfonwyd mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol.

Gallai atafaelu enillion ac asiantau gorfodi fod yn ymwneud â dyledion o flynyddoedd blaenorol, ac nid y rhai hynny y cafwyd Gorchymynion Atebolrwydd ar eu cyfer yn ystod y flwyddyn yn unig. Hefyd, gellid eu hanfon ar gyfer yr un dull adennill fwy nag unwaith y flwyddyn e.e. gellir anfon dyled at yr asiantau gorfodi, a all gael ei dychwelyd atom gan nad ydynt yn gallu olrhain y dyledwr. Yna, os byddwn yn dod o hyd i gyfeiriad anfon ymlaen, gellir anfon y ddyled yn ôl atynt ar gyfer yr un gorchymyn atebolrwydd. Felly, bydd un gorchymyn atebolrwydd yn dangos fel 2 orchymyn atebolrwydd a anfonwyd at yr asiantau gorfodi. Yn yr un modd, os caiff gorchymyn atafaelu enillion ei anfon a bod yr unigolyn yn gadael y cyflogwr penodol hwnnw, ond yn dechrau gweithio rywle arall, bydd gorchymyn atafaelu enillion newydd yn cael ei anfon at y cyflogwr newydd, ac felly'n dangos fel un gorchymyn atebolrwydd â 2 orchymyn atafaelu enillion.

Ar hyn o bryd, y gyfradd casglu'r Dreth Gyngor yn ystod y flwyddyn yw 95.1%, sy'n gyfwerth â chyfanswm o £78,993,469.70 a gasglwyd hyd yn hyn yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon, a'r ôl-ddyledion a gasglwyd ar gyfer blynyddoedd blaenorol yw 31.6%, sy'n gyfwerth â gostyngiad o £1,808,042.17 i'r cyfanswm ôl-ddyledion o gymharu â dechrau'r flwyddyn.

Mae'r isadran refeniw yn ceisio gwneud gwelliannau i'r system yn y flwyddyn ariannol newydd fel rhan o'r rhaglen awtomatiaeth/digidoleiddio, er mwyn gwella effeithlonrwydd a chasglu. Gyda'r modiwlau hyn, bydd yr isadran refeniw yn gallu awtomeiddio mwy o'r prosesau â llaw presennol, a fydd yn rhyddhau amser i'r gwasanaeth allu canolbwyntio ar adennill y dyledion anoddach a mwy llafurus. Po gyflymaf yw'r broses, y mwyaf tebygol ydyw y caiff y ddyled ei chasglu. Bydd awtomeiddio'r prosesau hyn yn arwain at amseroedd ymateb ac ymgysylltiad cynt â chwsmeriaid, cyfraddau casglu gwell ac incwm i'r Cyngor yn ei gyfanrwydd.

Yn ei gwestiwn atodol, gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Voisey ba gamau y bydd y Cyngor yn eu cymryd i wella cyfradd casglu'r Dreth Gyngor pan nad yw preswylwyr yn talu'r Dreth Gyngor. Rhoddodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd wybod i'r Cyngor bod nifer yr achosion lle nad yw'r Cyngor yn cael ymateb gan breswylwyr ac mae'n gwysio preswylwyr nad ydynt yn talu'r Dreth Gyngor yn isel. Dywedodd y byddai swyddogion yn gweithio tuag at gyflawni cyfradd casglu o 98%. Rhoddodd y Swyddog Adran 151 wybod i'r Cyngor y byddai'n rhoi gwybod i Aelodau am gyfradd casglu'r Dreth Gyngor ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn.

Holodd aelod o'r Cyngor am effaith gadarnhaol dileu'r Dreth Gyngor ar dai gwag. Rhoddodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd wybod i'r Cyngor fod dileu'r Dreth Gyngor wedi galluogi ailddefnyddio 866 o dai a oedd yn wag yn flaenorol. Roedd adeiladu tai newydd yn y Fwrdeistref wedi creu £1.5m ychwanegol yn y Dreth Gyngor.

Cyfeiriodd aelod o'r Cyngor at y cynllun ffyrlo yn dod i ben, a gofynnodd a ellid cynnal ymarferion modelu data i gysylltu cofnodion y Dreth Gyngor ag asiantaethau gwirio credyd er mwyn helpu preswylwyr a all ei chael hi'n anodd talu'r Dreth Gyngor. Dywedodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd y byddai'n fodlon edrych ar hyn. Dywedodd y byddai cyfraddau casglu'n effeithio ar awdurdodau ledled Cymru, ac roedd yn ddiolchgar am y cymorth a gafwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Cwestiwn gan y Cynghorydd A Hussain i'r Aelod Cabinet ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar

Mae tystiolaeth wedi dod i'r amlwg yn ystod y pandemig bod COVID-19 wedi cael effaith anghymesur ar weithwyr iechedd proffesiynol o gefndiroedd ethnig. A allai'r Aelod Cabinet sicrhau i ni fod pob gweithiwr iechedd proffesiynol sy'n gweithio yn Awdurdod Iechyd Cwm Taf Morgannwg, gan gynnwys ein cartrefi gofal, wedi cael asesiad risg fel mesur rhagofalus, a oedd yn cynnwys eu hethnigrwydd fel ffactor risg, ynghyd â'u hoedran, pwysau, cyflyrau iechedd sy'n bodoli eisoes, anabledd a beichiogrwydd, a beth ydym wedi'i ddysgu?

Ymateb yr Aelod Cabinet ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar

Bu Bwrdd Iechyd Cwm Taf Morgannwg yn defnyddio offeryn asesu risg safonol sydd ar gael i'r holl staff. Targedwyd yr offeryn asesu ar gyfer staff duon, Asiaidd a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, a lle y nodir risg, mae rheolwyr yn addasu'r gweithle neu'r patrwm gwaith neu, os nad yw'n glir, gwneir atgyfeiriad i Iechyd Galwedigaethol. Os oes gan y Cynghorydd Hussain bryder penodol am unigolyn neu leoliad lleol, byddwn yn fodlon derbyn yr atgyfeiriad hwnnw a'i gyfeirio at y gweithiwr iechedd proffesiynol priodol.

Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi datblygu asesiad risg y gweithlu i gynorthwyo staff yn y gwaith, a sicrhau y gall unrhyw aelod staff a fu i ffwrdd o'r gwaith

ddychwelyd yn ddiogel ac y gellir gwneud unrhyw addasiadau angenrheidiol. Yn ogystal, bu'r Cyngor yn cynnal hyfforddiant rheoli heintiau drwy gydol y pandemig, a blaenoriaethwyd lleoedd i staff duon, Asiaidd a lleiafrifoedd ethnig. Bu lechyd yr Amgylchedd, y Bwrdd lechyd ac AGC yn cefnogi'r sector gofal i reoli heintiau hefyd.

Yn ei gwestiwn atodol, cyfeiriodd y Cyngorydd Hussain at asesiad risg y gweithlu, a gofynnodd a ddysgwyd unrhyw wersi a pha bryd y byddai'r adroddiad ar gael. Rhoddodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar wybod i'r Cyngor fod y pecyn offer a gyflwynwyd wedi canolbwyntio'n wreiddiol ar gyflogeion ieuchyd a gofal cymdeithasol sy'n gweithio mewn lleoliadau clinigol. Erbyn hyn, mae wedi'i ddiwygio gan Lywodraeth Cymru a gellir ei ddefnyddio mewn unrhyw weithle, a bu'r Cyngor a'r Bwrdd lechyd yn adolygu'r pecyn offer ac yn cyflwyno matrices sgorio i gynorthwyo cyflogeion i ailgydio yn eu dyletswyddau. Wrth i'r pecynnau offer gael eu cyflwyno'n ehangach, dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet y byddai'n holi pryd y bydd yr adroddiad ar gael.

Gofynnodd aelod gwestiwn atodol yn ymwneud â'r arolwg staff diweddar, a ph'un a oedd yn fodlon bod yr holl staff sy'n ystyried eu hunain yn bobl dduon, Asiaidd a lleiafrifoedd ethnig wedi'i lenwi. Rhoddodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar wybod i'r Cyngor ei fod yn fodlon â'r ymatebion a bod pobl dduon, Asiaidd a lleiafrifoedd ethnig wedi amlygu eu hunain yn yr arolwg, ac y byddai'n anfon copi o'r adroddiad at Aelodau.

Gofynnodd aelod gwestiwn atodol yn ymwneud ag annog partneriaid i ddefnyddio'r pecyn offer. Rhoddodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Help Cynnar wybod i'r Cyngor fod y pecyn offer yn cael ei ddefnyddio'n ehangach erbyn hyn, a'i fod wedi'i ddatblygu â'r undebau llafur, a oedd wedi cytuno â'r broses ar gyfer aelodau staff yn llenwi'r pecynnau offer. Dywedodd fod Bwrdd lechyd Cwm Taf ar y blaen o ran pobl dduon, Asiaidd a lleiafrifoedd ethnig a'r risgiau, nid yn unig i staff BAME ond preswylwyr BAME hefyd.

426. HYSBYSIAD O GYNNIG A GYNIGIWDYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD R YOUNG

Hysbysiad o Gynnig gan y Cyngorydd R Young

Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cydnabod y dystiolaeth wyddonol aruthrol o batrymau tywydd cyfnewidiol, fel y dangoswyd yn ddiweddar gan y glawiad a'r llifogydd digynsail ar lefel leol ac ar draws y DU, ac mae o'r farn bod hyn yn dystiolaeth bellach o gynhesu byd-eang. Felly, mae'n credu'n gryf bod argyfwng hinsawdd yn bodoli erbyn hyn ac, fel y cyfryw, mae'n galw ar Lywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth Cymru i roi'r canlynol i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr:

- a. y pwerau a'r adnoddau angenrheidiol i sicrhau bod Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn garbon niwtral
- b. lefelau adnoddau ar raddfa i ymateb i'r heriau a wyneb, a phrosesau i fanteisio ar yr adnoddau hynny er mwyn gallu cymryd camau cyn gynted â phosibl
 - i) Sefydlu dulliau ymgysylltu priodol i gydweithio â rhanddeiliaid allweddol
 - ii) Cynnal adolygiad ar draws Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr o'r camau cyfredol i ymateb i'r argyfwng hinsawdd
 - iii) Datblygu Strategaeth Ymateb i'r Argyfwng Hinsawdd, a chynllun gweithredu â blaenoriaethau sy'n amlinellau camau tymor byr, canolig a thymor hir.

Eiliwyd yr Hysbysiad o Gynnig gan y Cyngorydd CE Smith.

Cynigiwyd diwygiad i'r Hysbysiad o Gynnig gan y Cyngorydd R Penhale Thomas, a eiliwyd gan y Cyngorydd N Clarke, y dylid ychwanegu'r geiriau "Cyngor Bwrdeistref

CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 22 GORFFENNAF 2020

Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cyhoeddi argyfwng hinsawdd” ar ddechrau’r Hysbysiad o Gynnig.

Derbyniwyd y diwygiad gan y Cynghorydd Young.

PENDERFYNWYD: Bod yr Hysbysiad o Gynnig yn cael ei gymeradwyo.

427. MATERION BRYD

Nid oedd unrhyw eitemau brys.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 16:48

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PRESENTATION ON THE CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL & PROGRAMME OF FUTURE PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce a presentation to Council on the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal programme and to inform Members of the programme of future presentations to Council.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**

Smarter use of resources – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 Arrangements have been made for the Director of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and the Chair of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Economic Growth Partnership to deliver a presentation to Council at the meeting of 16th September 2020 on the City Deal programme.
- 3.2 The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal is a programme agreed in 2016 between the UK Government, the Welsh Government and the ten local authorities in South East Wales to bring about significant economic growth in the region through investment, upskilling, and improved physical and digital connectivity. With an investment of £1.2 billion, the programme aims to deliver up to 25,000 new jobs and leverage an additional £4 billion of private sector investment. Both the UK and Welsh Government are contributing £500 million to the Capital City Region Investment Fund respectively, while the ten local authorities will contribute a minimum of £120 million over the 20-year duration of the Fund.
- 3.3 Presentations will be made to future meetings of Council by the Council's partners, Valleys to Coast, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable of South Wales Police and Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board during the course of the year on the following dates:

21 October 2020 – Valleys to Coast

18 November 2020 - Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable of South Wales Police

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 Members are requested to receive the presentation by the Director of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and the Chair of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Economic Growth Partnership.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the policy framework and 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 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 That Members note the presentation by the Director of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and the Chair of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Economic Growth Partnership.
- 9.2 That Members note the programme of future presentations to Council as outlined at paragraph 3.3.

Mark Shephard
Chief Executive
3 September 2020

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Background Documents

None

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE

ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2019-20

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- Comply with the requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) and Accountancy 'Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice' (the Code) to report an overview of treasury activities for the preceding financial year;
- Report on the actual Treasury Management indicators for 2019-20.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:-

1. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

2.2 The Annual Treasury Management Outturn Report is integral to the delivery of the Corporate Improvement Objectives as the allocation of resources determines the extent to which the Corporate Objectives can be delivered.

3. Background

3.1 Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Authority to approve a Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) before the start of each financial year and, as a minimum, a semi-annual and annual treasury outturn report. Council approved the TMS 2019-20 on 20 February 2019 and received a half-year position report on 24 October 2019. The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003, as amended, requires the Council to undertake any borrowing activity with regard to the CIPFA Code. This report fulfils this requirement.

3.2 The Welsh Government (WG) issues Guidance on Local Authority Investments, which was most recently revised in November 2019, which requires the Council to

approve an Investment Strategy prior to the start of each financial year and this is included in the TMS.

3.3 The Council's treasury management advisors are Arlingclose. The current services provided to the Council include:

- advice and guidance on relevant policies, strategies and reports
- advice on investment decisions
- notification of credit ratings and changes
- other information on credit quality
- advice on debt management decisions
- accounting advice
- reports on treasury performance
- forecasts of interest rates
- training courses

Following a recent tender process, the contract for Arlingclose has been renewed for a period of 4 years, until August 2024.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1 Economic Context

4.1.1 The UK's exit from the European Union and future trading arrangements remained one of the major influences on the UK economy during 2019-20. The original Brexit deadline of 29 March 2019 was extended to 12 April 2019, then to 31 October 2019 and finally to 31 January 2020. Politics played a major role in financial markets over the period as the UK's tenuous progress negotiating its exit from the European Union, together with its future trading arrangements, drove volatility, particularly in foreign exchange markets. The outcome of the December 2019 UK General Election removed a lot of the uncertainty and looked set to provide a 'bounce' to confidence and activity.

4.1.2 The headline rate of UK Consumer Price Inflation fell to 1.7% in February 2020, below the Bank of England's target of 2%. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in quarter 4 2019 was reported as flat by the Office for National Statistics and service sector growth slowed and production and construction activity contracted on the back of what at the time were concerns over the impact of global trade tensions on economic activity. The annual rate of GDP growth remained below trend at 1.1%.

4.1.3 The Bank of England, which had held policy rates steady at 0.75% through most of 2019-20, moved in March 2020 to cut rates from 0.75% to 0.25% and then swiftly thereafter brought them down further to the record low of 0.1%.

4.1.4 Towards the end of the financial year, the Covid-19 pandemic swiftly changed everything. COVID-19, which had first appeared in China in December 2019, started spreading across the globe causing falls in financial markets. In response to the spread of the virus and sharp increases in those infected, the government enforced lockdowns, central banks and governments around the world cut interest rates and introduced massive stimulus packages in an attempt to reduce some of the negative economic impact to domestic and global growth. In conjunction with these cuts, the UK government introduced a number of measures to help businesses and

households impacted by a series of ever-tightening social restrictions, culminating in pretty much the entire lockdown of the UK.

4.2 Treasury Management Outturn 2019-20

4.2.1 The Council has complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements during 2019-20. The TMS 2019-20 and the Half Year Report were reported to Council on 20 February 2019 and 23 October 2019 respectively. In addition, quarterly monitoring reports were presented to Cabinet during 2019-20.

4.2.2 A summary of the treasury management activities for 2019-20 is shown in **Appendix A**. The Council's external debt and investment position for 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 is shown in Table 1 below and more detail is provided in **Appendix A** section 2, Borrowing Strategy and Outturn, and section 3, Investment Strategy and Outturn. No long term borrowing was taken out in 2019-20 and no debt rescheduling was undertaken as there were no significant savings to be made, however, the loan portfolio will be reviewed during 2020-21. Favourable cash flows have provided surplus funds for investment and the balance on investments at 31 March 2020 was £30 million, with an average interest rate of 0.82%. This was an increase in investments outstanding from the start of the financial year where investments were £27.4 million (average interest rate 0.94%). Table 2 in Appendix A details the movement of the investments by counterparty types and shows the average balances, interest received, original duration and interest rates for 2019-20.

Table 1: External debt and investment position 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

	Principal 01/04/2019 £m	Average Rate 01/04/2019 %	Principal 31/03/2020 £m	Average Rate 31/03/2020 %
External Long Term Borrowing:				
Public Works Loan Board	77.62	4.70	77.62	4.70
Lender's Option Borrower's Option	19.25	4.65	19.25	4.65
Total External Borrowing	96.87	4.69	96.87	4.69
Other Long Term Liabilities (LTL):				
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)*	17.00		16.31	
Other LTL	0.88		1.12	
Total Other Long Term Liabilities	17.88		17.43	
Total Gross External Debt	114.75		114.30	
Treasury Investments:				
Banks	5.40	0.86	5.00	0.67
Building Societies	1.00	0.90	2.00	0.78
Local Authorities	21.00	0.96	21.00	0.94
DMO	-	-	2.00	0.06
Total Treasury Investments	27.40	0.94	30.00	0.82
Net Debt	87.35		84.30	

* (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg 13 years remaining term

- 4.2.3 The £19.25 million in Table 1 above relates to Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans which have a maturity date of 2054, however these may be rescheduled in advance of this maturity date. The LOBO rate and term may vary in the future depending upon the prevailing rates at one of the bi-annual trigger points (these being July and January) and, therefore, the Council being given the option to accept the increase or repay the loan without incurring a penalty. The next trigger point is January 2021 although it is anticipated that the lender is unlikely to exercise this option in the current low interest rate environment.
- 4.2.4 The other long term liabilities figure of £17.43 million at 31 March 2020 includes £16.31 million for the Council's Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg.
- 4.2.5 Both the CIPFA Code and WG Guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return. Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard and Poor's to ensure that this lies within the Council's agreed minimum credit rating.
- 4.2.6 The Council defines high credit quality as organisations and securities having a credit rating of A- (A3 for Moody's) or higher and the Council does not invest in any organisation below this level. **Appendix B** shows the equivalence table for credit ratings for Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's and explains the different investment grades.
- 4.2.7 There were two long-term investments (original duration of 12 months or more) outstanding as at 31 March 2020 totalling £4 million with Local Authorities included in the £30 million in Table 1, which will mature during 2020-21. All other investments at 31 March 2020 were short term deposits including instant access and notice accounts.
- 4.2.8 The TM Code requires the Council to set and report on a number of Treasury Management Indicators. The indicators either summarise the expected activity or introduce limits upon the activity. Details of the estimates for 2019-20 set out in the Council's TMS, compared to the actual at year end, are shown in section 4 in Appendix A and these show that the Council is operating in line with the approved limits.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 As required by Financial Procedure Rule 20.3 within the Council's Constitution, all investments and borrowing transactions have been undertaken in accordance with the TMS 2019-20 as approved by Council with due regard to the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services.

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 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of wellbeing goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 These are reflected in the body of the report.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 It is recommended that Council:
- Approve the annual treasury management activities for 2019-20;
 - Approve the actual Treasury Management indicators for 2019-20 against the ones approved in the Treasury Management Strategy 2019-20.

Gill Lewis CPFA
Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
September 2020

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Background documents: None

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APPENDIX A

SUMMARY OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES 2019-20

1. External Debt and Investment Position

The Council's external debt and investment position for 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 is shown below in Table 1; more detail is provided in section 2, Borrowing Strategy and Outturn, and section 3, Investment Strategy and Outturn:

Table 1: External debt and investment position 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

	Principal 01/04/2019 £m	Average Rate 01/04/2019 %	Principal 31/03/2020 £m	Average Rate 31/03/2020 %
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Total External Borrowing	96.87	4.69	96.87	4.69
Other Long Term Liabilities (LTL):				
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)*	17.00		16.31	
Other LTL	0.88		1.12	
Total Other Long Term Liabilities	17.88		17.43	
Total Gross External Debt	114.75		114.30	
Treasury Investments:				
Banks	5.40	0.86	5.00	0.67
Building Societies	1.00	0.90	2.00	0.78
Local Authorities	21.00	0.96	21.00	0.94
DMO	-	-	2.00	0.06
Total Treasury Investments	27.40	0.94	30.00	0.82
Net Debt	87.35		84.30	

* (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg 13 years remaining term

Although not classed as treasury management activities and therefore not covered by the CIPFA Code or the WG Guidance, the Council may also purchase property for investment purposes and may also make loans and investments for service purposes, for example in shared ownership housing, or as equity investments and loans to the Council's subsidiaries. Such loans and investments will be subject to the Council's normal approval processes for revenue and capital expenditure and need not comply with the TMS. The Council's existing non-treasury investments relate to investment properties and the balance as at 31 March 2020 was £4.63 million.

It should be noted that the accounting practice to be followed by the Council requires financial instruments in the accounts (debt and investments) to be measured in a method compliant with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The figures shown in the above table and throughout the report are based on the actual amounts borrowed and invested and so may differ from those in the Statement of Accounts which include accrued interest or other different accounting adjustments.

The other long term liabilities figure of £17.43 million as at 31 March 2020 includes £16.31 million for the Council's Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement (for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg – thirteen years remaining term) which includes the short term PFI liability of £0.743 million which is included as current liabilities in the Council's balance sheet in the Statement of Accounts.

2. Borrowing Strategy and Outturn for 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

The Council's primary objective for the management of its debt is to ensure its long term affordability. The majority of its loans have therefore been borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) at long term fixed rates of interest.

The last time the Council took out long term borrowing was £5 million from the PWLB in March 2012. With short-term interest rates remaining much lower than long-term rates, the Authority considered it more cost effective in the near term to use internal resources or would, if necessary, take out temporary short term loans. The capital programme is anticipating £5m new borrowing for 2020-21 but we will monitor this closely as the year progresses. It is interesting to note, however, that in the middle of October 2019 the UK government raised the cost of borrowing from the PWLB by 1% with immediate effect. Whilst this Council has not needed to borrow for a number of years, with the reduction in capital receipts availability going forward, this may be the only option, so it is worth noting the potential increased revenue costs associated with this.

The £19.25 million in Table 1 relates to Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans which have a maturity date of 2054, however these may be re-scheduled in advance of this maturity date. The LOBO rate and term may vary in the future depending upon the prevailing market rates, the lender exercising their option to increase rates at one of the bi-annual trigger points (the trigger dates being July and January) and therefore, the Council being given the option to accept the increase or to repay the loan without incurring a penalty. The lender did not exercise their option on 22 January 2020 nor 22 July 2020, the next trigger point is 22 January 2021. The lender is unlikely to exercise their option in the current low interest rate environment, however, an element of refinancing risk remains. The Council would take the option to repay these loans at no cost if it has the opportunity to do so in the future. The current average interest rate for these LOBO's is 4.65% compared to the PWLB Loans average interest rate of 4.70%.

The Council is currently maintaining an under-borrowed position. This means that the capital borrowing need (the Capital Financing Requirement), has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves,

balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This is known as Internal Borrowing. This strategy is prudent as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is relatively high in the current economic climate.

3. Investment Strategy and Outturn 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

Both the CIPFA Code and the WG Guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, balancing the risk of incurring losses from defaults against receiving unsuitably low investment income.

The major objectives during 2019-20 were:

- To maintain capital **security**
- To maintain **liquidity** so funds are available when expenditure is needed
- To achieve the **yield** on investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity

The Annual Investment Strategy incorporated in the Council's TMS 2019-20 includes the credit ratings defined for each category of investments and the liquidity of investments. The Council's investments have historically been placed in mainly short term bank and building society unsecured deposits and local and central government. However, investments may be made with any public or private sector organisations that meet the minimum credit criteria and investment limits specified in the Investment Strategy. The majority of the Council's surplus cash is currently invested in other local authorities but the Council will continue to look at investment options in line with the limits detailed in the Investment Strategy.

Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard & Poor's to ensure that this lies within our agreed minimum credit rating. **Appendix B** shows the equivalence table for these published ratings and explains the different investment grades. Where available the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used. In the current climate, relying mainly on credit ratings is considered to be inappropriate and the Council understands that credit ratings are good, but not perfect, predictors of investment default. Full regard is therefore given to other available information on the credit quality of the organisations in which it invests, including financial statements, information on potential government support and reports in the quality financial press. No investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality, even though it may meet the credit rating criteria.

On a day to day basis, the Council potentially has positive cash balances arising from its cash flows e.g. timing differences between grants being received and making various payments. These are invested on the market via brokers, direct with the institution or held in deposit accounts or a money market fund with instant access. The Council usually invests for a range of periods dependent on

cash flow requirements and the interest rates on offer having regard to the Investment Strategy.

The Council's primary objective for the management of its investment portfolio is to give priority to the security and liquidity of its funds before seeking the best rate of return. As shown in the tables below, the majority of investments have been held as short term investments with UK Local Authorities and banks of high credit quality. This has therefore resulted in more of the investment portfolio being moved into investment instruments with lower rates of return but higher security and liquidity.

Occasionally, investments are placed with the UK Debt Management Office (DMO - Executive Agency of UK Government) but only for very short term deposits and after all other options have been explored. The interest rates offered by this facility are lower than most other counterparties but this is commensurate with the high level of security and reduced risk offered. It provides another option when examining potential investments and ensures compliance with the Council's investment objective that security takes priority over yield. The value of deposits outstanding with the DMO as at the 31 March 2020 was £2 million.

Favourable cash flows have provided positive cash balances for investment and the balance on investments at 31 March 2020 was £30 million as shown in Table 2 below which details these investments by counterparty type.

Table 2: Investments Profile 1 April to 31 March 2020

Investment Counterparty Category	Balance 01 April 2019 (A) £m	Investments raised (B) £m	Investments Repaid (C) £m	Balance 31 Mar 2020 (A+B-C) £m	Investment income received** Apr-Mar 2020 £'m	Average original duration of the Investment Days	Weighted average investment balance Apr-Mar 2020 £m	Weighted average interest rate Apr-Mar 2020 %
Government DMO	-	46.70	44.70	2.00	0.017	5	1.40	0.50
Local Authorities	21.00	34.50	34.50	21.00	0.182	257	20.40	0.92
Banks (Fixed Maturity)	4.00	6.00	8.00	2.00	0.038	201	3.40	1.00
Building Societies	1.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.002	138	3.40	0.89
Banks Instant Access/Notice Period Account*	1.40	39.87	38.27	3.00	0.018	n/a	15.10	0.83
Money Market Fund (Instant Access)*	-	75.15	75.15	-	0.105	n/a	5.60	0.72
Total/Average	27.40	206.22	203.62	30.00	0.363	150	49.30	0.84

* An average duration is not shown as there is no original duration as instant access or notice period and money is added and withdrawn to/from these accounts as required by cash-flow

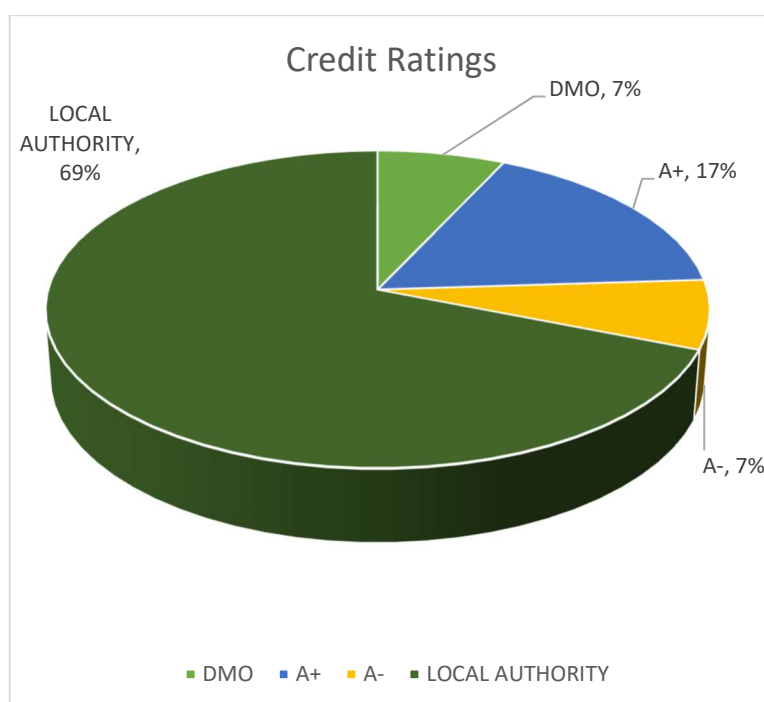
** Received in the Council's bank account not interest earned

There were two long term investments (original duration of 12 months or more) outstanding at 31 March 2020 totalling £4 million with Local Authorities included in Table 3 below, which will mature during 2020-21. All other investments at 31 March 2020 were short term deposits (including instant access and notice accounts). Table 3 below details these investments by counterparty type based on the remaining maturity period as at 31 March 2020:

Table 3: Investments Outstanding Maturity Profile 31 March 2020

Counterparty Category	Instant Access £m	Deposits Maturing Within 1 Month £m	Deposits Maturing Within 2-3 Months £m	Deposits Maturing Within 4-12 Months £m	Total £m
Local Authorities		3.00	4.00	14.00	21.00
DMO		2.00			2.00
Banks	3.00	2.00			5.00
Building Societies				2.00	2.00
Total	3.00	7.00	4.00	16.00	30.00

The Council defines high credit quality as organisations and securities having a credit rating of A- or higher. The pie chart summarises the above table by credit ratings and shows the £30.00 million investments at 31 March 2020 by percentage outstanding. Most Local Authorities do not have credit ratings.



4. Treasury Management Indicators 2019-20

The following indicators (which are forward looking parameters) form part of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management. They enable the Council to measure and manage its exposure to Treasury Management risks.

The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument periods. Short term and variable rate loans expose the Council to the risk of short term interest rate rises and are therefore subject to the Treasury Management indicator in Table 4 below to manage Interest Rate Exposures.

Table 4: Interest rate risk indicator 31 March 2020

No.	Interest rate risk indicator	Indicator £'000	Actual 31-03-20 £'000
1	One year revenue impact of a 1% rise in interest rates	(140)	(108)
2	One year revenue impact of a 1% fall in interest rates	315	301

This indicator has been set as an indicator (not a limit) to measure the net impact over one year on the revenue account of both a 1% rise and a 1% fall in all interest rates for borrowing net of treasury investments. This is calculated at a point in time on the assumption that maturing loans and investments will be replaced at rates 1% higher or lower than they would otherwise have been on their maturity dates and that the treasury investment and borrowing portfolios remain unchanged over the coming year. Interest rates can move by more than 1% over the course of a year, although such instances are rare.

A further indicator for Treasury Management measures the Maturity Structure of Borrowing and is the amount of projected borrowing that is fixed rate, maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected fixed rate borrowing. This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk and has been set to allow for the possible restructuring of long term debt where this is expected to lead to an overall saving or reduction in risk.

The 19.87% shown in the table below relates to £19.25 million Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans which may be re-scheduled in advance of their maturity date of 2054. The Code requires the maturity of LOBO loans to be shown as the earliest date on which the lender can require payment, i.e. the call date of July 2020 in 2020-21 so the maturity date is actually uncertain but is shown in the "Under 12 months" category as per the Code.

Table 5. Maturity structure of borrowing indicator as at 31 March 2020

No.	Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2019-20	TMS 19-20 Upper limit	TMS 19-20 Lower limit	Projection 31-03-20 %
3.	Under 12 months	50%	0%	19.87%
	12 months and within 24 months	25%	0%	-
	24 months and within 5 years	25%	0%	5.76%
	5 years and within 10 years	40%	0%	15.00%
	10 years and within 20 years	50%	0%	16.64%
	20 years and above	60%	25%	42.73%

The Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums invested longer than 1 year indicator controls the amount of longer term investments which mature beyond the period end. This is set to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments.

Table 6. Upper limit for total principal sums invested as at 31 March 2020

No.		TMS 2019-20 (Limit) £m	Principal Outstanding Over 1 year as at 31-03-20 £m
4.	Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums Invested for more than 1 year	15	0

5. Review of the Treasury Management Strategy 2019-20

CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires all local authorities to conduct an annual review of its treasury management policies, practices and activities. No changes were necessary to the TMS 2019-20.

Credit Rating Equivalence Table

	Description	Fitch		Moody's		Standard & Poor's	
		Long	Short	Long	Short	Long	Short
INVESTMENT GRADE	Extremely strong	AAA	F1+	Aaa	P-1	AAA	A-1+
	Very strong	AA+		Aa1		AA+	
		AA		Aa2		AA	
		AA-		Aa3		AA-	
	Strong	A+	F1	A1	P-2	A+	A-1
		A		A2		A	
		A-	F2	A3		A-	A-2
	Adequate	BBB+		Baa1	P-3	BBB+	
		BBB		Baa2		BBB	A-3
		BBB-	F3	Baa3		BBB-	
SPECULATIVE GRADE	Speculative	BB+	B	Ba1	Not Prime (NP)	BB+	B
		BB		Ba2		BB	
		BB-		Ba3		BB-	
	Very speculative	B+		B1		B+	
		B		B2		B	C
		B-		B3		B-	
	Vulnerable	CCC+	C	Caa1		CCC+	
		CCC		Caa2		CCC	
		CCC-		Caa3		CCC-	
		CC		Ca		CC	
	Defaulting	C	D			C	D
		D		C		D	

Standard & Poor's (S&P), Moody's and Fitch are the three most significant rating agencies in the world. These agencies rate the creditworthiness of countries and private enterprises.

"AAA" or "Aaa" is the highest rating across all three rating agencies and indicates the highest level of creditworthiness. A "D" rating ("C" rating from Moody's) indicates poor creditworthiness of a company or government. A difference is made between short-term and long-term ratings.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

UPDATED CORPORATE PLAN 2018-2022 REVIEWED FOR 2020-21, FOLLOWING IMPACT OF COVID-19

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek Council approval of the updates to the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2022 reviewed for 2020-21, following the impact of Covid-19 (**Appendix A**) and adopts the revised Corporate Plan (**Appendix B**).

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being/objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**
 1. **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
 2. **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
 3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan 2018-2022, describes the Council's vision for Bridgend County Borough, the 3 well-being objectives and the organisational values and principles that underpin how the Council will work to deliver its priorities.
- 3.2 The Plan represents the Council's contribution to achieving the 7 national well-being goals as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and its improvement objectives under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

- 3.3 The Corporate Plan was refreshed for 2020-21 in February 2020, endorsed by Cabinet and approved by Council in line with the normal statutory requirement to review the Corporate Plan annually.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 The Covid-19 pandemic will affect the ability of the Council to progress on the delivery of its well-being objectives set out in the refreshed Corporate Plan. It is therefore prudent to revisit the current commitments and targets and refocus the key priorities for the rest of 2020-21.
- 4.2 Attached at **Appendix A** is an extract from the refreshed Corporate Plan setting out proposed changes. This includes some minor changes to our commitments as well as some new ones to reflect the key priority areas we need to focus on for the remainder of 2020-21.
- 4.3 There are also a number of new success measures in the Plan, as well as current ones, where the targets have been revisited. Where targets have been reduced as a result of the impact of Covid-19 a rationale is provided. For example, town centre closure has had an impact on businesses and footfall. New commitments / amendments are set out in red as are changes to any targets. Where commitments / measures have been deleted these are shown but have been stricken through.
- 4.4 The Plan will be reviewed annually to take into account changing circumstances and progress made against the well-being objectives and to ensure that the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are met.
- 4.5 If Council approve the changes in **Appendix A**, the revised commitments and measures will supersede those commitments and measures set out in the current Corporate Plan and will become the updated Corporate Plan 2018-2022 reviewed for 2020-21 version 2. This is attached as **Appendix B**.
- 4.6 Delivery will be supported by the Medium Term Financial Strategy and directorate business plans. It will be monitored quarterly through the Corporate Performance Assessment process, directorate management team meetings and the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

- 5.1 The Council's Corporate Plan forms part of the Policy Framework.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken when the Plan was developed. Consideration was given to the potential impact on protected groups within the community and on how to avoid a disproportionate impact on people within these groups. Separate EIAs will be undertaken when proposals for carrying out the Plan are developed and implemented.

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

- 7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides a framework for embedding sustainable development principles within the activities of the Council and has major implications for the long-term planning of finances and service provision. The 7 well-being goals identified in the Act have driven the Council's three well-being objectives.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Corporate Plan is closely aligned to the Medium Term Financial Strategy which sets out the resources for delivering the council's corporate plan. Any requirement to re-focus funding to meet the revised and new commitments will be progressed through the quarterly budget reports to Cabinet.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 That Council approves the updates to the Corporate Plan 2018-22 reviewed for 2020-21 attached as **Appendix A** and adopts the revised Corporate Plan attached as **Appendix B**.

Mark Shephard
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
16 September 2020

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Background Documents: None

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WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE ONE – Supporting a successful sustainable economy

To help improve learner outcomes we will

Sustain the current good pupil performance at key stage 4

Raise standards of literacy in primary schools

Improve outcomes for post-16 learners in school sixth forms

NEW - Assess the impact of the Covid-19 school closures on outcomes for learners and support schools to mitigate teaching and learning issues as a result of the pandemic

NEW - Support schools to provide safe learning environments for all learners and staff in schools

NEW - Identify the impact of blended learning and further its development and implementation

Deliver the priorities in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) to promote Welsh medium education and increase the number of Welsh speakers to support Cymraeg 2050.

To support growth and prosperity we will

As part of regeneration to support the growth and prosperity of the county borough two key developments are planned:

- Redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall providing improved community facilities to include the town library, performance spaces, offering improved accessibility for visitors and creating jobs.
- Complete on the sale of Salt Lake Development for food retail as part of an ambitious regeneration scheme in Porthcawl.

Create better town centres through improving property and the environment.

Through Employability Bridgend, work with individuals to improve their job opportunities and reduce economic inactivity.

REWORDED - Providing the right infrastructure and support for business to ~~thrive~~ **overcome the impact of the Covid-19 situation by:**

- Supporting business start ups
- Supporting resilience of businesses - (enterprise hubs)
- Developing procurement strategies to boost the foundational economy

REWORDED - Improving the visitor experience to boost tourism **in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis by:**

- Enhancing the natural environment through Valleys Regional Park
- Deliver the Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus (PRIF) programme

Measures

Priority area: Improve learner outcomes

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
Average capped 9 score for pupils in Year 11.	363.0		.
Percentage of pupils, at end of foundation phase, achieving Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessments for LLC-E and LLC-W (Language Literacy and Communication in English and Welsh).	85.1%		
Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of key stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the expected outcome in English/Welsh first language, as determined by teacher assessment.	90.2%		
Percentage of pupils at A level achieving 3 A*-C grades.	55.6%		
Percentage of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh.	8.7%		

Priority area: Growth and prosperity

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
The number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment.	200		
The number of vacant premises in town centres: a) Bridgend b) Maesteg c) Porthcawl d) Pencoed	a) 60 b) 10 c) 11 d) 6	No target	Targets are null & void due to Covid-19. This year will be about monitoring the situation & setting new targets in the wake of Covid-19 next year.
The number of visitors to town centres- footfall for a) Bridgend b) Porthcawl	a) 2.5m b) 7.3m	No target	
Financial value of externally funded town centre regeneration projects underway/in development	£13m		
The number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment.	200		
DELETED - Number of start-up business.	462		Given Covid-19 the focus will shift more towards resilience and supporting existing businesses

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
DELETED – Total annual expenditure by tourists.	2% increase		Covid-19 and the impact on hospitality and tourism previous growth projects will need careful consideration for future years.

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE 2 – Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient

To develop and enhance community support and services we will

REWORDED Expand a range of integrated community services to ~~7 days~~ over an extended day

Target the use of early intervention services to reduce demand on statutory services.

To build resilient communities we will

Continue the safe reduction of looked after children to ensure young people are supported to live with their families and where this is not possible alternative permanence options are achieved at the earliest opportunity.

DELETED ~~Enable community groups and the third sector to have more voice and control over community assets, supporting sporting clubs and other organisations to transfer assets to the community.~~

NEW - Work in partnership with town and community councils and community groups to complete community asset transfers and develop long-term sustainable solutions to manage and maintain facilities / services.

Work with households and partners to provide a range of accommodation options to prevent people from becoming homeless, and support vulnerable people to prevent homelessness and escalation into statutory services.

Work with landlords to return empty properties back into use helping to increase the availability of affordable housing for sale or rent.

To support better health and well-being we will

Improve the quality of care and support provided to individuals at home through a multidisciplinary team around people in our Community Cluster Networks, ensuring timely and responsive assessments that are people centred and meet need. This will also improve our ability to anticipate future need and ensure contingency plans are in place.

REWORDED ~~-Increase~~ **Rebuild** participation in leisure and cultural activities by improving accessibility, removing barriers to involvement and creating age friendly communities.

Measures

Priority Area: Developing and enhancing community support and services

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
Number of people aged 65+ referred to Community Resource Team.	Establish baseline		
Number of referrals to Community Resource Team on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.	Establish baseline		
Percentage of reablement packages completed that: a) Reduced the need for support b) Maintained the same level of support c) Mitigated the need for support	Establish baseline		

Priority Area: Building resilient communities

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
Number of council owned assets transferred to the community for running.	40	15	Target revised due to impact of Covid-19 on sports facilities who are at financial detriment and less able to progress CAT transfers this year.
Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless.	72%	52%	Due to Covid-19 the Housing team have focused on housing citizens who are/were threatened by homelessness in the immediate pandemic which has seen more citizens enter statutory provision hence the PI is reduced as options to prevent homelessness were limited due to the pandemic.
Percentage of people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless, for whom the local authority has a final legal duty to secure suitable accommodation.	10%	32%	WG have changed conditions around homelessness "duty" which will see more people coming under the umbrella of statutory intervention. Therefore increasing the PI as more citizens come into the service.

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
Number of additional dwellings created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use.	7		
Percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority.	6%	2%	Lost significant amount of time due to Covid-19, therefore reducing the target.
The number of children and young people looked after.	375		

Priority Area: Better health and well-being

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rationale for target change
Percentage of completed TAF (Team Around the Family) support plans that close with a successful outcome.	73%	68%	There has been a marked drop in referrals during the Covid-19 pandemic period and the expected increase in coming months is anticipated to be far more complex in nature which require longer-term interventions
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in the community.	Establish baseline		
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in a care home setting.	Establish baseline		
Number of individuals engaged/supported in targeted programmes linked to leisure and cultural facilities and services.	Establish baseline		
Number of people who have improved access to leisure and cultural activities by reducing cost as a barrier to taking part.	Establish baseline		

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE 3 – Smarter use of resources

To transform the council's estate we will

REWORDED

Have fewer better buildings **by**:

- Disposing of or releasing surplus land and buildings to generate capital receipts and reduce our financial liabilities and improve those buildings which are retained.
- **Using digital transformation of services during COVID19 to identify service re-modelling to reduce demand on office accommodation across the Councils estate.**

Provide sufficient school places in the right areas by delivering 21st Century Schools' under the council's schools' modernisation programme

To support areas of corporate change we will

Work with the regional delivery group to identify and agree regional procurement frameworks fit for purpose to deliver economies of scale on common and repetitive spend.

Provide support to facilitate organisational and cultural change and develop, support and engage with our workforce to ensure that they are equipped to meet current and future challenges.

Implement the planned budget reductions identified in the MTFS, in particular for the 2020-21 financial year, set annual balanced budgets and establish long term financially sustainable solutions.

Embrace and invest in innovation and technology including improvements in connectivity and new and replacement classroom-based, end-user devices in our schools.

NEW - Identify opportunities for new ways of working and for service delivery

To support environmental sustainability we will

Invest £1.3 million to install energy and cost saving technologies to reduce our energy consumption and CO2 emissions

Implement a sustainable local area energy plan with a programme of work throughout the county borough to improve the carbon footprint for all residents, including schemes such as the:

- Caerau Minewater Heat Scheme,
- Bridgend Heat Network

Continue to exceed the national recycling targets and increase opportunities for reuse of materials by :

- building a new community recycling centre with a reuse centre,
- recycling street scene waste,
- raising public awareness of how to reduce, reuse and recycle by using public campaigns and publicity

To support environmental sustainability we will

Maintain and enhance the natural resources and biodiversity of Bridgend County Borough.

Measures :

Priority Area: Transforming the councils' estate

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rational for target change
Percentage surplus capacity in primary schools.	10%		
Percentage surplus capacity in secondary schools.	18%		
Realisation of capital receipts targets.	£600k		
Percentage of BCBC operational buildings achieve full statutory compliance.	100%		

Priority Area: Areas of corporate change

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rational for target change
Percentage of staff participating in the staff survey.	44.5%		
Percentage of managers attending the Managers Induction programme who rated it excellent or good.	80%		
Percentage budget reductions achieved (Overall BCBC budget).	100%		
Percentage of indoor learning space in primary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices.	100%	80%	Lost significant time due to Covid-19 to roll out to all schools.
Percentage of indoor learning space in secondary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices.	100%	80%	
NEW The percentage of staff working from home	Establish baseline		

Priority Area: Environmental sustainability

Success Indicators	Original Target 2020-21	Any Revised changes	Rational for target change
Annual gas consumption across the local authority - kWh	Establish baseline		
Annual electricity consumption across the local authority - kWh	Establish baseline		
Annual CO ₂ emissions related to gas consumption across the local authority - kWh	Establish baseline		
Annual CO ₂ emissions related to electricity consumption across the local authority - kWh	Establish baseline		
Kilograms of residual waste generated per person.	130kg	No target	Covid-19 impact makes increased outcome unpredictable.
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted a) reuse b) recycled c) composted	69% 4% 46% 21%	No target No target No target No target	Covid-19 impact with ceased garden service and closed Community Recycling Centres will negatively affect performance which is unpredictable.
Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling.	20%		
Undertake schemes to increase the County Borough's tree cover	3 schemes	1.5 schemes	We will have lost the best part of half the year so will need to halve the target.
Deliver community biodiversity schemes	3 schemes	1.5 schemes	
Undertake Local Nature Reserve Enhancement projects	4 projects	2 projects	

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Bridgend County Borough Council

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr



**One Council Working Together
to Improve Lives**

Corporate Plan 2018-2022 reviewed for 2020-2021 version 2

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Council's revised corporate plan for 2020-21 version 2

The Council delivers, or enables, many hundreds of services across all the diverse communities within the County Borough of Bridgend. Like all parts of the public sector across the UK, the Council is very much a people business. We are confronted with significant challenges, increased demand, such as meeting the needs of a growing number of older residents, new legislation as well as challenges such as Brexit and how best to embrace new technology in how we deliver services.

This corporate plan in no way attempts to include every service that the Council delivers or will deliver in the coming years. What it does, is set out our well-being objectives; the long-term outcomes that we want to achieve for the county borough and for the people we are privileged to serve. We want to contribute to a place where people love to live, work, study and do business, where people have the skills and qualifications they need to improve their life chances, enjoy good health and a sense of well-being and independence. One of the most significant changes in April 2019 was the transfer of all health services within Bridgend County Borough from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

We will need to prioritise where we spend our money if we are to make smarter use of our resources. It will mean investing in those things that make the most difference to outcomes for local people. Enhanced and intelligent collaboration with the private sector, other public sector partners and the third sector is crucial, as is ongoing engagement with our citizens. Against this backdrop we have to be honest with our communities and partners in saying that the Council can no longer deliver all of the services it once did or always to the same level as in previous years. However, we remain committed to making smarter use of our resources, in supporting and protecting the most vulnerable in our communities and building an economically sound county borough that meets the needs of our citizens in the future.

This plan represents our ambitions and commitments to our citizens and our contribution to Wales' seven well-being goals as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

In reviewing this plan for 2020-21, we further developed our well-being objectives and aims. We also reviewed the priority areas which are integral to us meeting our well-being objectives. A lot of the commitments listed in the plan are ambitious and some are in the early stages of development.

As a result of the recent Covid-19 pandemic we recognise that we are in unprecedented times and we have taken the decision to review our existing corporate plan, realign our commitments and success measures to ensure that we are focussing our efforts on supporting those most in need. We have therefore reassessed what we need to focus on for the remainder of 2020-21 to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and to work with our partners and the wider community to help restart the local economy, help children back into school and protect those most vulnerable in the safest way possible. This revised plan will continue to support and drive forward our sustainability principles but will also at this challenging time, help to focus our efforts on the most important areas to keep safe the communities we serve.

We welcome any comments and ways of providing feedback are found at the back of this report.



Councillor Huw David
Leader of the Council



Mark Shephard
Chief Executive



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A SNAPSHOT OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH

In Numbers



Population	144,876
Size	98.5 square miles
Households	64,766
Average House Price	£150,412 (UK HPI: April 2019)
Active Businesses	4,160
People in Employment	72.1% (June 2019)
Average (median) salary	£28,418 (Welsh average £26,468)

Representation

Wards	39
Councillors	54
Constituency AMs	2
Regional AMs	4
MPs	2

Education

Primary schools	39
Secondary schools	7
Faith schools	6
Special schools	2
Pupil referral unit	1
Welsh language schools	5

Homelessness

Homeless hostels	2
Domestic abuse refuges	2
Rough sleepers provision	2
Supported and temporary accommodation schemes	8

Leisure and Well-being

Swimming Pools	5
Life centres & sports facilities	9
Libraries	11

Social Care

Extra Care Homes	3
Reablement Unit	1
Resource Centre for people with complex needs	1

We develop, manage and maintain **280 hectares** of open spaces, including children's play areas, sports pitches, commons, highway verges, landscapes and horticultural features.



Total Council Income (2020-21)



Council Tax	£83.758m
Non-Domestic Rates	£49.685m
Revenue Support Grant (Welsh Government)	£153.442m
Other funding	£134.615m
Total Gross Income	£421.500m

We have **4,225** full-time equivalent staff delivering over **800** separate services that include:

Education and schools, social care, safeguarding our most vulnerable adults and children; youth justice, planning and building control, housing support, maintaining highways and public transport, refuse and recycling, street cleaning and safety, parks, environmental and natural resources protection, play areas, food hygiene, licensing, health and safety inspectors, collecting revenues and administering benefits, elections, sports, arts and libraries, supporting employment, business and tourism, special events and festivals.

OUR VISION, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

Our Vision

In formulating this corporate plan the Council has considered the type of organisation it wants to be. Our vision is to act as

“One Council working together to improve lives”.

We will do this by delivering our well-being objectives. Achieving this will improve the quality of life of all those living and working in the county borough. This plan represents our ambitions and commitments to our citizens and sets out our contribution to Wales’ seven well-being goals as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

This means that we will become a smaller, more flexible and innovative local authority that works with partners and local communities to create a future in which residents have access to a more responsive and tailored service. It will also mean that residents take greater responsibility for making that happen, to improve their own resilience and for that of the community as a whole.

Our Principles

A number of key principles underpin how we work. They highlight the importance of working in partnership with our citizens, our communities and with other organisations to develop and deliver sustainable services. Together, we will identify and meet local need as best we can:

- To support communities and people to create their own solutions and reduce dependency on the Council.
- To focus diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need.
- To use good information from service users and communities to inform its decisions.
- To encourage and develop capacity amongst the third sector to identify and respond to local needs.
- To not let uncertainty over the future of public services prevent meaningful and pragmatic collaboration with other public sector bodies.
- To work as one Council and discourage different parts of the organisation from developing multiple processes or unnecessarily different approaches.
- To transform the organisation and many of its services to deliver financial budget reductions as well as improvements.

These principles highlight the importance of other organisations in delivering services to meet local needs. The Council has a track record of working with the third sector, the not-for-profit sector and the private sector, each of which already provides some services for the Council. We will continue to build on this approach for the duration of this plan.

These principles, together with the Council’s values, support the principle of sustainable development defined by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Sustainable development is about improving the way in which we can achieve our economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being by focusing on the long term, prevention, integration collaboration and involvement. It will underpin everything we do and help us make the county borough a great place for people to live, work, study and visit.

Our Values

These represent what we stand for and shape how we work:

Fair - taking into account everyone's needs and situation

Ambitious - always trying to improve what we do and aiming for excellence

Citizen-focused - remembering that we are here to serve our local communities

Efficient - delivering services that are value for money

Our principles, together with our values, support the principle of sustainable development defined by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Sustainable development is about improving the way in which we can achieve our economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being by focusing on the long term, prevention, integration collaboration and involvement. It will underpin everything we do and help us make the county borough a great place for people to live, work, study and visit.

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES

The Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 has been put in place to make sure that public bodies are doing all they can to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

The Act introduces seven long-term well-being goals, puts in place a sustainable development principle, and defines five ways of working that public bodies will need to adopt to show they have applied the sustainable development principle.

This document sets out a small number of important long-term objectives we want to achieve. These are our well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. They are also our improvement objectives under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

In setting our well-being objectives we set out what we aim to achieve and why they are important. Our well-being objectives are integrated, which ensures we are working together to achieve shared outcomes. This plan sets out the steps we will take and identifies the priority areas to drive improvements. Details on how we have already made progress towards these objectives can be found in our Annual Report 2018-19.

Our well-being objectives



In this plan, we have laid out the Council's commitment to the well-being goals and embedded the sustainable development principles of the Act. We have made sure that, when we make decisions, we take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales both today and in the future.

Our contribution to the well-being goals

This report sets out the contribution our well-being objectives make to the seven well-being goals. These are set out below:

Well-being Goal	Well-being Objective		
	Supporting a successful sustainable economy	Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient	Smarter use of resources
A prosperous Wales	✓		✓
A resilient Wales			✓
A healthier Wales	✓	✓	✓
A more equal Wales	✓	✓	✓
A Wales of cohesive communities	✓	✓	✓
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	✓	✓	
A globally responsible Wales	✓		✓

How we are using the five ways of working

In addition to the seven well-being goals, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 puts in place the sustainable development principle, and defines the five ways of working that public bodies must adopt to demonstrate they have applied the sustainable development principle. The five ways of working are:

Long term – The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs.






























Prevention – We are being proactive in resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.

Integration - Considering how our well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, or on the objectives of other public bodies.

Collaboration - Acting in collaboration with any other person/organisation or different parts of the local authority to deliver our well-being objectives.

Involvement - The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the areas which we serve.

We have embedded the five ways of working, as expressed in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 into our principles.

5 Ways of Working	Long term	Prevention	Integration	collaboration	Involvement
					
Our Principles					
To support communities and people to create their own solutions and reduce dependency on the Council.					
To focus diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need.					
To use good information from service users and communities to inform its decisions.					
To encourage and develop capacity amongst the third sector to identify and respond to local needs.					
To not let uncertainty over the future of public services prevent meaningful and pragmatic collaboration with other public sector bodies.					
To work as one Council and discourage different parts of the organisation from developing multiple processes or unnecessarily different approaches.					
To transform the organisation and many of its services to deliver financial budget reductions as well as improvements.					

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE 1

SUPPORTING A SUCCESSFUL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

This means we will take steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.

Our well-being aims

- To support local people develop skills and take advantage of opportunities to succeed.
- To create conditions for growth and enterprise.
- To create town centres and communities that improve the quality of life for citizens.

Why these are important

Our citizens have told us that a local, vibrant economy is one of their top priorities. We want to build a county borough where people have more opportunities to secure a meaningful job, develop a career and improve their family income and circumstances.

Helping us to achieve our ambition of a successful sustainable economy, the Council, along with key partners, is working on a number of projects which will deliver the outcomes to help Bridgend thrive over the long term. These include:

- A Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP), which sets out our objectives for the development and use of land in the county borough up to 2033, including the need to build around 7,500 homes.
- The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, which the local authority is part of, with the aim of creating 25,000 jobs across the entire region and bringing in £4bn of private sector investment by 2036. The City Deal includes four strategic themes which will benefit the county borough - skills and employment, innovation, connecting the region and infrastructure.
- The Valley's task force programme, an initiative the local authority is committed to, along with other South East authorities, which includes supporting the Maesteg Town Hall project, along with grant programmes for housing and business and tourism investment across the valleys, including the £6.6m Valleys Regional Park programme.

We know that higher levels of prosperity boost health and well-being and create more resilient communities needing fewer services. For future prosperity and long-term resilience, our town centres and businesses need to thrive and be profitable to generate wealth, provide better jobs, attract investment, reduce economic inactivity and improve skills and encourage visitors.

We will work towards the principles of the foundation economy model – better jobs closer to home which will nurture and grow local economies by stimulating meaningful employment in communities with high levels of unemployment. We will seek to boost economic development throughout the County Borough through a range of activities including the development of enterprise hubs and direct business support packages.

We believe that education remains the most important lever for improving the life chances and resilience of young people. Our future long-term prosperity depends on the skills and knowledge of our communities.

Estyn (Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales) inspected the local authority in March 2019 under the new Local Government Education Services (LGES) Inspection framework, introduced in September 2018. The inspection identified many strengths that the local authority has in providing education to its learners, but also recognised some areas that we need to improve in.

We recognise that we must support the diverse needs of our young people and promote their well-being so they can fulfil their potential, through the medium of English and Welsh. We have prioritised the need to raise standards of achievement for all our young people. We also recognise that we need to improve education for key groups of learners to help them to achieve their full potential, focussing on numeracy, literacy, vulnerable young people, those currently in the care system as well as our more able and talented pupils. We know we will need to continue the focus on addressing inequality in achievement, participation and progression to further study or equipping young people with the skills to move into employment.

It is important to balance these long term projects with activities that address the short and medium term needs of Bridgend. To that end, we have identified two priority areas that will drive these forward over the duration of this corporate plan:

Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

- **Improve learner outcomes** – To inspire and support children, adults and families to achieve better outcomes; leading to prosperous, healthy, safe and happy communities.
- **Growth and prosperity** - Promote the conditions for growth and prosperity by supporting people and business to take advantage of the opportunities to help them succeed.

Who will help us?

Bridgend Business Forum; City Deal partners; Bridgend College and training providers; schools; Careers Wales; Job Centre Plus.

Steps we will take to support this well-being objective

To help improve learner outcomes we will

Sustain the current good performance of key stage 4.

Raise standards of literacy in primary schools.

Improve outcomes for post-16 learners in sixth forms.

Assess the impact of the COVID19 school closures on outcomes for learners and support schools to mitigate teaching and learning issues as a result of the pandemic

Support schools to provide safe learning environments for all learners and staff in schools

Identify the impact of blended learning and further its development and implementation

Deliver the priorities in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) to promote Welsh medium education and increase the number of Welsh speakers to support Cymraeg 2050.

To support growth and prosperity we will

As part of regeneration to support the growth and prosperity of the county borough two key developments are planned:

- Redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall providing improved community facilities to include the town library, performance spaces, offering improved accessibility for visitors and creating jobs.
- Complete on the sale of Salt Lake Development for food retail as part of an ambitious regeneration scheme in Porthcawl.

Create better town centres through improving property and the environment.

Through Employability Bridgend, work with individuals to improve their job opportunities and reduce economic inactivity.

Providing the right infrastructure and support for business to overcome the impact of the COVID19 situation by:

- Supporting business start ups
- Supporting resilience of businesses - (enterprise hubs)
- Developing procurement strategies to boost the foundational economy

Improving the visitor experience to boost tourism in the wake of the COVID19 crisis by:

- Enhancing the natural environment through Valleys Regional Park
- Deliver the Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus (PRIF) programme

How will we know we are successful?

By monitoring our measures of success, we will be able to keep track of performance to help drive improvements to achieve the following outcomes:

Priority area: Improve learner outcomes

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Average capped 9 score for pupils in Year 11.	357.2	Establish baseline	363.0
Percentage of pupils, at end of foundation phase, achieving Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessments for LLC-E and LLC-W (Language Literacy and Communication in English and Welsh).	84.7%	84.9%	85.1%
Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of key stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the expected outcome in English/Welsh first language, as determined by teacher assessment.	90.0%	90.0%	90.2%
Percentage of pupils at A level achieving 3 A*-C grades.	54.2%	Establish baseline	55.6%
Percentage of Year 1 learners being taught through the medium of Welsh.	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%

Priority area: Growth and prosperity

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
The number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment.	N/A	180	200
The number of vacant premises in town centres: a) Bridgend b) Maesteg c) Porthcawl d) Pencoed	a) 60 b) 10 c) 11 d) 6	a) 60 b) 10 c) 11 d) 6	No targets
The number of visitors to town centres- footfall for a) Bridgend b) Porthcawl	a) 2,160,100 b) 6,761,710	a) 2.5m b) 7.2m	No targets
Financial value of externally funded town centre regeneration projects underway/in development	£20.8m	£13m	£13m
The number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment.	N/A	180	200

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE 2

HELPING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO BE MORE HEALTHY AND RESILIENT

This means we will work with our partners, including the people who use our services to take steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. We will support individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.

Our well-being aims

- To give people more choice and control over what support they receive by providing early access to advice and information.
- To reduce demand through targeted early help and intervention programmes.
- To develop more active, healthy and resilient communities by working in partnership with the third sector, town and community councils and community groups.

Why these are important

Local authorities have a role to play in helping individuals and communities to develop social capital. There is growing recognition that although disadvantaged social groups and communities have a range of complex and inter-related needs, they also have assets at the social and community level that can help improve health, and strengthen resilience.

The Council is committed to taking asset-based approaches to improving health and building resilience for well-being. By intervening early and focusing on preventative services we can help people and communities to be more independent, less reliant on council services and more likely to achieve better outcomes. At the service delivery level, timely and appropriate interventions help reduce costs which helps safeguard the sustainability of services ensuring the Council can effectively support those with greatest need.

The prevention and well-being focus within the Council has allowed assets such as community centres to re-design the service model so that they now offer a wider range of services that support better physical health and emotional well-being.

The positive impact of housing on standards of health and overall well-being, means housing is increasingly seen as a primary preventative measure in building resilience. Empty properties are a wasted resource and a missed opportunity to improve well-being. The Council is committed to reducing the number of empty properties across the county borough and help contribute towards increasing the availability of quality affordable housing for sale or for rent. The additional wider

benefits include improving the aesthetic of the local environment, creating training and job opportunities. The Council will work collaboratively with external partners providing responsive, creative and innovative approaches to prevent and relieve homelessness, ensuring accessibility to suitable accommodation with the appropriate support.

Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

- **Developing and enhancing community support and services** – Ensuring there are high quality, seamless opportunities, support and services in place for those who need our help to enable them to remain independent for as long as possible.
- **Building resilient communities** – Working with our partners and communities we will develop through co-production new and innovative alternatives to improve well-being and to support and sustain delivery. New service models will be sustainable and less reliant on the Council and will reflect a positive shift in responsibility by empowering other organisations and local people.
- **Better health and well-being** – Improve the physical, mental and emotional well-being of children and young people and vulnerable citizens, to ensure they can thrive and fulfil their potential.

Who will help us?

We will work with partners to help achieve our aims, in particular the NHS, Police, Awen, Halo and the third sector. Similarly, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and private sector landlords are also essential partners.

We also work collaboratively on a regional basis as members of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Partnership Board. In addition, our key stakeholders, the people who use social care, play a vital role in helping design services that best meet need.

Steps we will take to support this well-being objective

To develop and enhance community support and services we will

Expand a range of integrated community services – over an extended day.

Target the use of early intervention services to reduce demand on statutory services.

To build resilient communities we will

Continue the safe reduction of looked after children to ensure young people are supported to live with their families and where this is not possible alternative permanence options are achieved at the earliest opportunity.

Work in partnership with town and community councils and community groups to complete community asset transfers and develop long-term sustainable solutions to manage and maintain facilities / services.

Work with households and partners to provide a range of accommodation options to prevent people from becoming homeless, and support vulnerable people to prevent homelessness and escalation into statutory services.

Work with landlords to return empty properties back into use helping to increase the availability of affordable housing for sale or rent.

To support better health and well-being we will

Improve the quality of care and support provided to individuals at home through a multidisciplinary team around people in our Community Cluster Networks, ensuring timely and responsive assessments that are people centred and meet need. This will also improve our ability to anticipate future need and ensure contingency plans are in place.

Rebuild participation in leisure and cultural activities by improving accessibility, removing barriers to involvement and creating age friendly communities.

How will we know we are successful?

By monitoring our measures of success, we will be able to keep track of performance to help drive improvements to achieve the following outcomes:

Priority Area: Developing and enhancing community support and services

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Number of people aged 65+ referred to Community Resource Team.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Number of referrals to Community Resource Team on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Percentage of reablement packages completed that: a) Reduced the need for support b) Maintained the same level of support c) Mitigated the need for support	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline

Priority Area: Building resilient communities

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Number of council owned assets transferred to the community for running.	4	5	15
Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless.	70.6%	70%	52%
Percentage of people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless, for whom the local authority has a final legal duty to secure suitable accommodation.	8.1%	11.85%	32%
Number of additional dwellings created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use.	N/A	5	7
Percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority.	8.41%	5%	2%
The number of children and young people looked after.	381	378	375

Priority Area: Better health and well-being

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Percentage of completed TAF (Team Around the Family) support plans that close with a successful outcome.	69%	72%	68%
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in the community.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in a care home setting.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Number of individuals engaged/supported in targeted programmes linked to leisure and cultural facilities and services.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Number of people who have improved access to leisure and cultural activities by reducing cost as a barrier to taking part.	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline

WELL-BEING OBJECTIVE 3

SMARTER USE OF RESOURCES

This means we will ensure that all of our resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

Our well-being aims

- To ensure that the council is financially sustainable over the longer term.
- To improve the efficiency of, and access to, services by redesigning our systems and processes.
- To work collaboratively to make the most of natural and physical assets.
- To develop the culture and skills required to meet the needs of a changing organisation.

Why these are important

We recognise we need to continue to make smarter use of our resources, looking at different ways of delivering services, embracing technology and working with partners and our communities to deliver financially sustainable services for the long term. In this way we can maximise our contribution to achieving our well-being objectives and improving well-being for our citizens while achieving those planned savings.

Over the past four years, we have made budgetary savings of more than £27 million. Some of the ways we have done this include:

- streamlining senior management and reducing our workforce by more than 400 employees
- relocating staff and closing some council premises
- developing more online services

Also, we have remodelled two children's homes, removed surplus properties and assets, and reorganised our back office services.

Despite the changes made to date, we still have to make a further £29 million saving by 2024, which is currently 10.8% of our net budget. Some big decisions will need to be made on what we will and will not provide as a Council. Our staff are integral to the delivery of services and we will need to increase the capabilities of our workforce as the organisation continues to change, making savings, whilst still improving the social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being of our citizens.

Over the longer term this well-being objective is essential for the sustainability of council services and for the local economy. The transition to decarbonisation outlined in the Local Area Energy

Strategy (up to 2025) is one of the largest economic development opportunities Bridgend County Borough will have in the next 30 years. Working with others we also need to better manage our natural resources, seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity as well as continuing to consider how best to dispose of waste, with an emphasis on reducing, reusing and recycling.

Through our Corporate Landlord model we are transforming the council's estate, with an on ongoing disposals programme to have fewer but better buildings, reducing maintenance backlogs and running costs, whilst also reducing our carbon footprint.

By generating capital receipts from our disposals programme, we will continue to build new schools and improve the conditions of our existing school buildings to provide better teaching and learning environments for our pupils whilst also maximising community usage of these facilities.

We recognise that having access to technology for online study can support positive outcomes for learners. As part of the Learning in Digital Wales Programme funded by Welsh Government, £2m will be invested in our schools to provide high speed and quality broadband, together with new and replacement classroom-based, end-user devices.

Over the short and medium term this corporate plan will focus on the following priority areas to help deliver improvements:

Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

- **Transforming the council's estate** - Ensure the Council's estate is appropriately developed and utilised to improve service delivery, reduce running costs, minimise our impact on the environment and provide the best possible setting to meet the needs of all users including citizens.
- **Areas of corporate change** - We will adapt our ways of working to ensure the effective delivery of our well-being objectives. Embracing innovation and technology, developing the skills and approaches of staff and adopting alternative ways of working will ensure the Council is equipped to respond to future challenges.
- **Environmental sustainability** - Programmes of work that protect and safeguard the environment for future generations by lowering the Council's carbon footprint, enhancing reduction, re-use and recycling of materials and promoting environmental awareness and responsibility with our communities.

Who will help us?

Employees; Schools; Contractors; Trade Unions

Steps we will take to achieve our well-being objective

To transform the council's estate we will

Fewer better buildings by:

Disposing of or releasing surplus land and buildings to generate capital receipts and reduce our financial liabilities and improve those buildings which are retained.

Using digital transformation of services during COVID19 to identify service re-modelling to reduce demand on office accommodation across the Councils estate.

Provide sufficient school places in the right areas by delivering 21st Century Schools' under the council's schools' modernisation programme

To support areas of corporate change we will

Work with the regional delivery group to identify and agree regional procurement frameworks fit for purpose to deliver economies of scale on common and repetitive spend.

Provide support to facilitate organisational and cultural change and develop, support and engage with our workforce to ensure that they are equipped to meet current and future challenges.

Implement the planned budget reductions identified in the MTFS, in particular for the 2020-21 financial year, set annual balanced budgets and establish long term financially sustainable solutions.

Embrace and invest in innovation and technology including improvements in connectivity and new and replacement classroom-based, end-user devices in our schools.

Identify opportunities for new ways of working and for service delivery

To support environmental sustainability we will

Invest £1.3 million to install energy and cost saving technologies to reduce our energy consumption and CO2 emissions

Implement a sustainable local area energy plan with a programme of work throughout the county borough to improve the carbon footprint for all residents, including schemes such as the:

- Caerau Minewater Heat Scheme,
- Bridgend Heat Network

Continue to exceed the national recycling targets and increase opportunities for reuse of materials by :

- building a new community recycling centre with a reuse centre,
- recycling street scene waste,
- raising public awareness of how to reduce, reuse and recycle by using public campaigns and publicity

Maintain and enhance the natural resources and biodiversity of Bridgend County Borough.

How will we know we are successful?

By monitoring our measures of success, we will be able to keep track of performance to help drive improvements to achieve the following outcomes:

Priority Area: Transforming the councils' estate

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Percentage surplus capacity in primary schools.	4.9%	10%	10%
Percentage surplus capacity in secondary schools.	22%	18%	18%
Realisation of capital receipts targets.	£1.821m	£2.8m	£600k
Percentage of BCBC operational buildings achieve full statutory compliance.	N/A	100%	100%

Priority Area: Areas of corporate change

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Percentage of staff participating in the staff survey.	41.5%	43%	44.5%
Percentage of managers attending the Managers Induction programme who rated it excellent or good.	N/A	N/A	80%
Percentage budget reductions achieved (Overall BCBC budget).	91.7%	100%	100%
Percentage of indoor learning space in primary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices.	N/A	N/A	80%
Percentage of indoor learning space in secondary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices.	N/A	N/A	80%
The percentage of staff working from home	n/a	n/a	Establish baseline

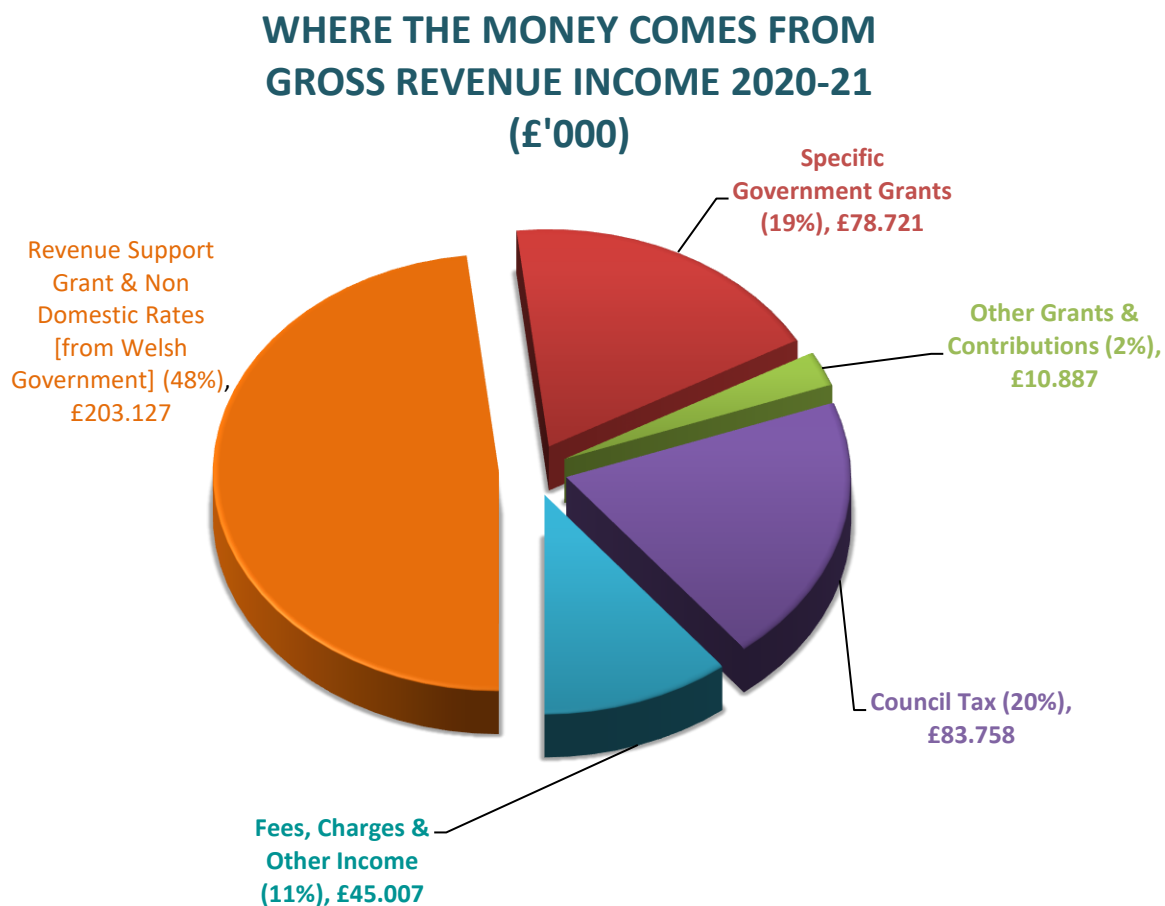
Priority Area: Environmental sustainability

Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Annual gas consumption across the local authority - kWh	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Annual electricity consumption across the local authority - kWh	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline

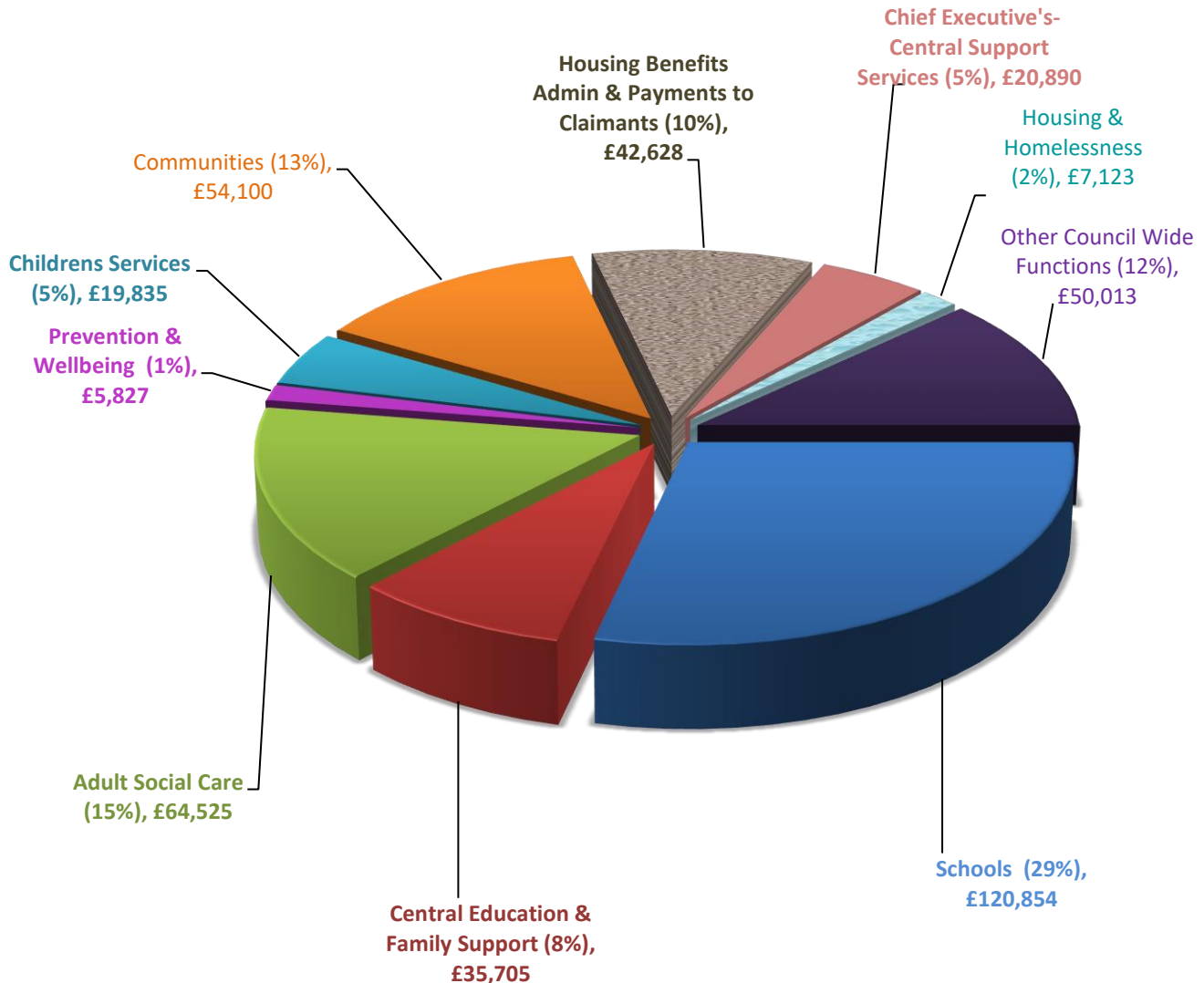
Success Indicators	Actual 2018-19	Target 2019-20	Target 2020-21
Annual CO2 emissions related to gas consumption across the local authority - kWh	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Annual CO2 emissions related to electricity consumption across the local authority - kWh	N/A	N/A	Establish baseline
Kilograms of residual waste generated per person.	122.95kg	130kg	130kg
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	69.39%	69%	No targets
a) reuse	2.56%	3%	
b) recycled	45.96%	46%	
c) composted	20.87%	21%	
Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling.	N/A	N/A	20%
Undertake schemes to increase the County Borough's tree cover	N/A	N/A	1.5 schemes
Deliver community biodiversity schemes	N/A	N/A	1.5 schemes
Undertake Local Nature Reserve Enhancement projects	N/A	N/A	2 projects

Managing our Budget

The charts below outline our income and spending plans for 2020-21. The Council's gross revenue income for 2020-21 is £421.5 million.



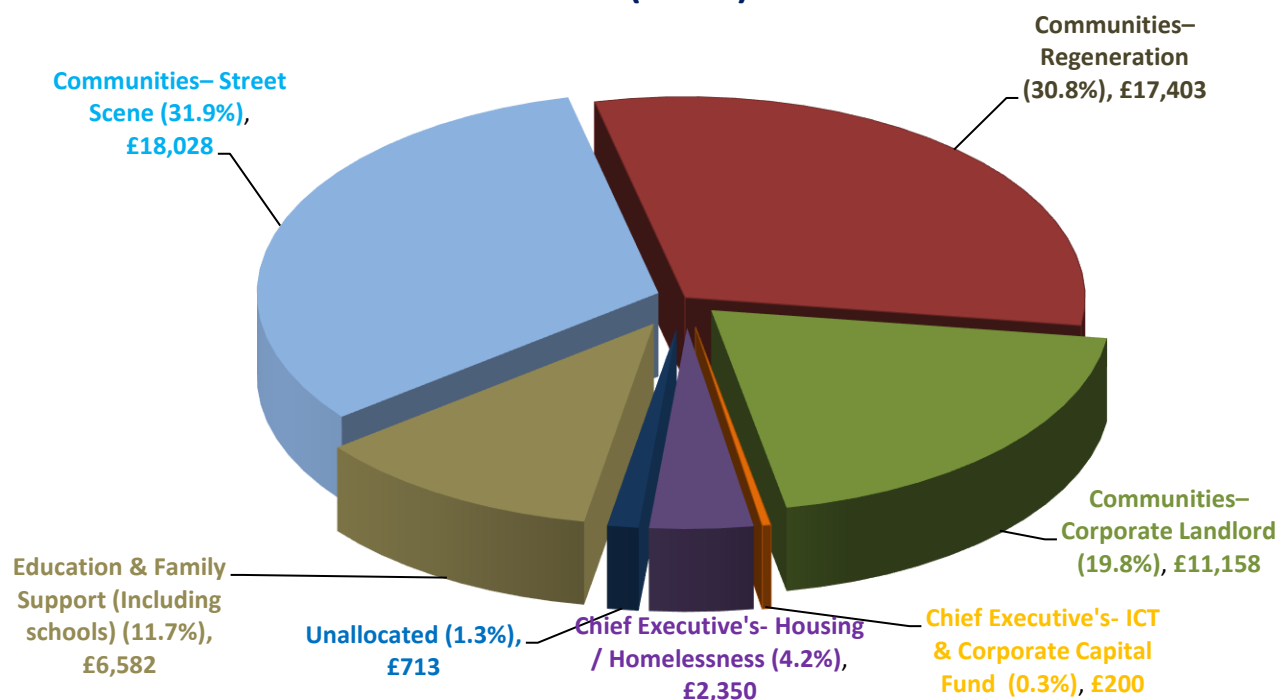
WHERE THE MONEY IS SPENT GROSS REVENUE EXPENDITURE 2020-21 (£'000)



Note: **Other Council Wide Functions** includes Capital Financing Costs, Precepts and Levies, Council Tax Reduction Scheme and corporate provision for pay and price. **Chief Executive's - Central Support Services** - includes :Finance, Audit, HR ,ICT, Legal & Democratic & Regulatory , Elections & Partnerships. **Communities** - includes Regeneration, Development, Streetworks, Highways & Fleet, Parks & Open Spaces, and Transport & Engineering .

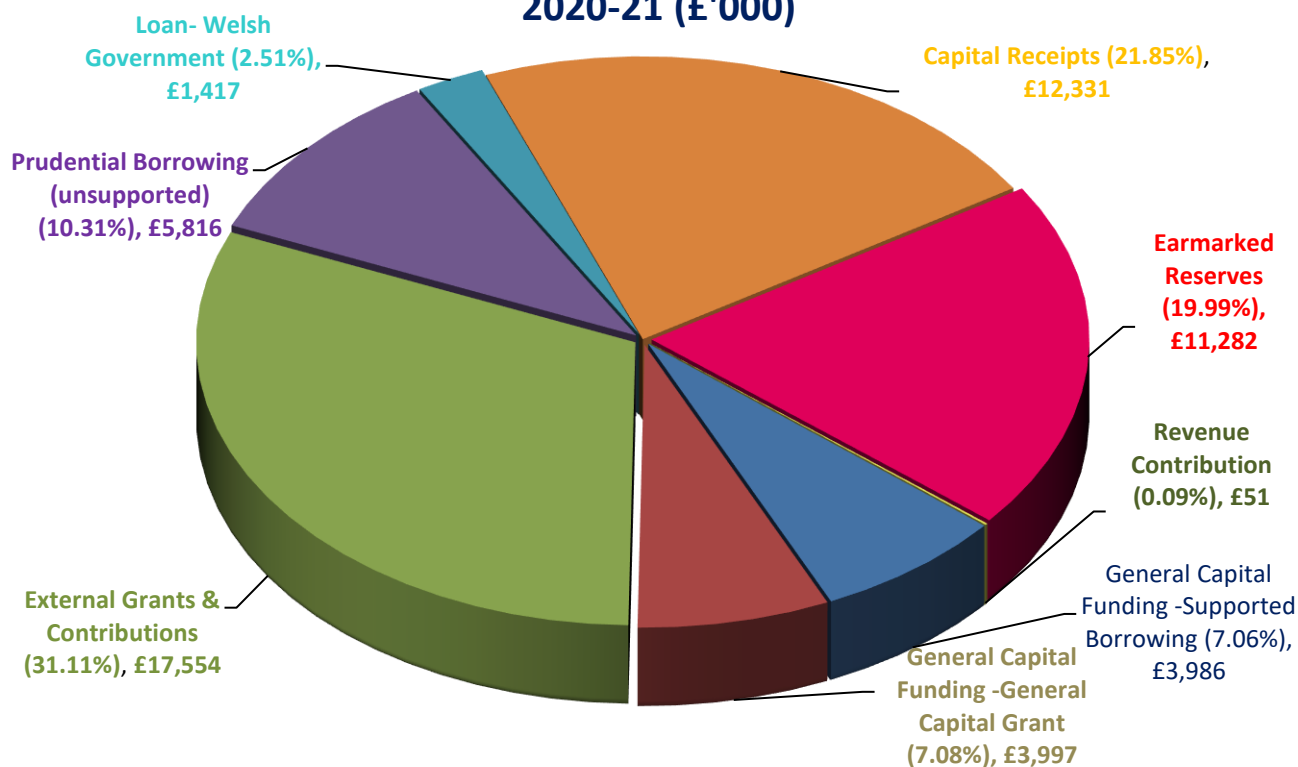
In addition to spending money on providing day-to-day services, the Council also spends money on providing new facilities, improving assets and the infrastructure, enhancing assets or providing capital grants to others. Planned capital expenditure for 2020-2021 amounts to £56.434 million.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE 2020-21 (£'000)

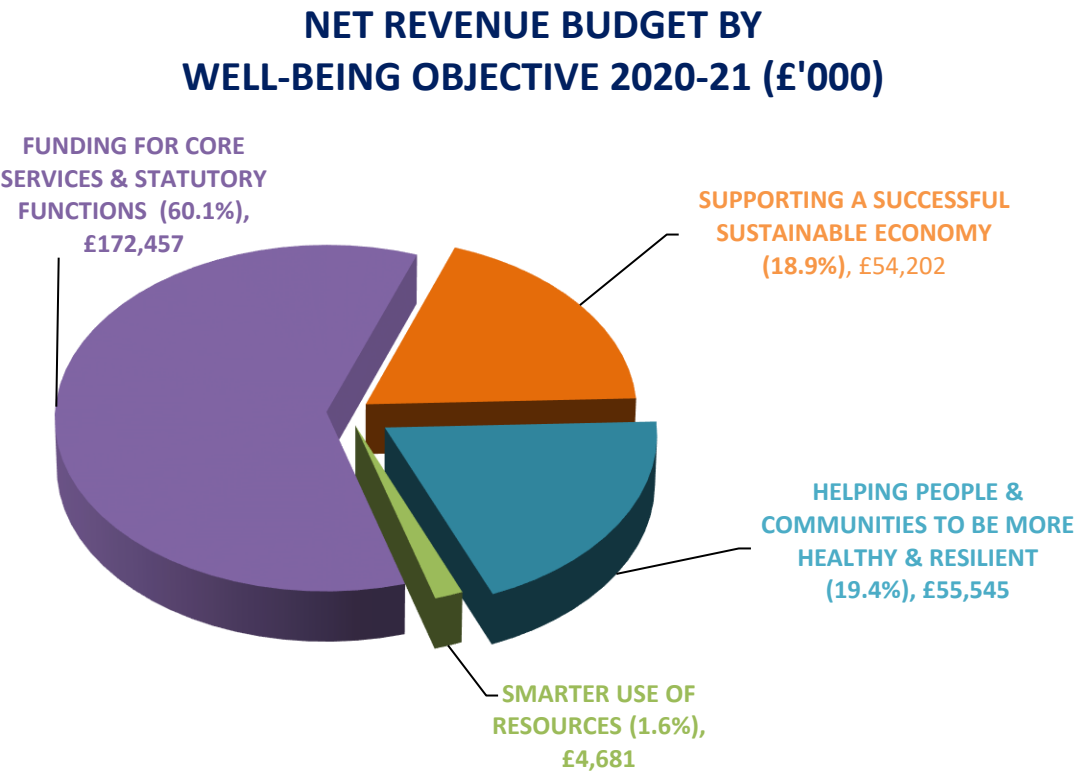


The chart (above) provides details of the service areas where capital expenditure is planned and (below) how the expenditure will be financed in the year.

SOURCES OF CAPITAL FINANCING 2020-21 (£'000)



The local authority has a net revenue budget of £286.885 million that supports the delivery of the Council’s corporate Well-Being Objectives, core services and statutory functions. The net budget is financed by the Revenue Support Grant, Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) and Council Tax income. It excludes income from other financing streams such as other government grants, customer and client receipts, and interest which finance the gross revenue expenditure. The chart below provides details of how the net revenue budget has been allocated for 2020-21.



Democracy and Partnership

How the Council Works

Council

Made up of 54 councillors representing 39 wards, the full Council meets to approve key strategic policies and set the Council corporate plan and budget. The rules for how the Council operates are written in the council's constitution.

Cabinet

Made up of six councillors and chaired by the Leader, the Cabinet is responsible for making major decisions and policies in Bridgend County Borough. Each councillor has a portfolio covering a specialist area.

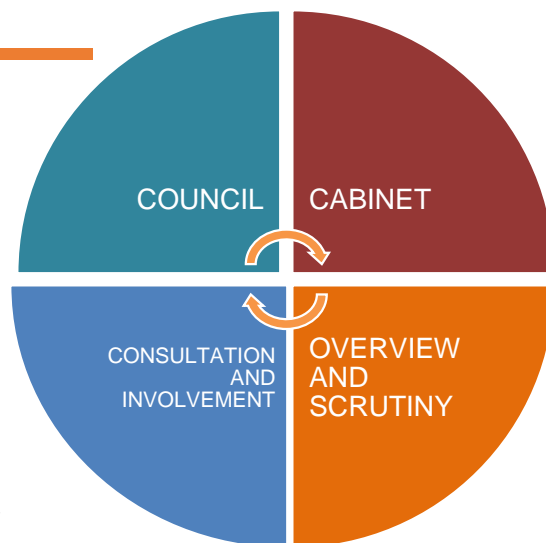
Overview and Scrutiny

Made up of four committees who look at decisions that the Council are making and make sure they have been examined properly.

Consultation and Involvement

Throughout the year we carry out a range of consultations to inform our decisions, including the 'Shaping Bridgend's Future' 2019 budget consultation. Building on our experience of previous consultations, we developed new ways for people to participate and get involved. Our methods included surveys, social media, community engagement stands, town and community council meetings, and community group meetings. In total there were 7,437 interactions across the different platforms which represents an increase of 40.6% (2,149) compared to the previous year.

Members of the Citizens' Panel receive up to three surveys per year on diverse service areas; topics have included play areas, grass cutting and potential increased charges for the use of sports fields and pavilions, adult community learning, the council budget, dog fouling and mental health provision. They also receive updates through our 'You said, we did' newsletter.



Our newly revised website: www.bridgend.gov.uk



Instagram at www.instagram.com/BridgendCBC/



Facebook www.facebook.com/BridendCBC



Twitter: [@BridgendCBC](https://twitter.com/BridgendCBC)



Email to talktous@bridgend.gov.uk

We also engage with specific groups of people, such as those who use our social care services, to ask for their views about the services they receive.

Working with Others

- The [Bridgend Public Services Board \(PSB\)](#) was created as part of a legal requirement for each local authority under [The Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#). The Council is one of a group of local health, education, social care and well-being organisations from the public sector and not for profit sectors who work together to create a better Bridgend County Borough. The work is based on collaboration and consultation with local people and communities.
- Following a Well-being Assessment, the Bridgend PSB has developed a [Well-being Plan](#) to address the issues that influence the long-term well-being of Bridgend.
- The [Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board \(RPB\)](#) brings together health, social services, housing, the third sector and other partners to deliver strategic approaches to deliver integrated Health and Social Care services as set out in [The Social Services and Well-being Act Wales \(2014\)](#)

The [Bridgend Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub](#) (MASH) brings together professionals to provide safeguarding services from both the council and our partners across the community, in one place. The Bridgend MASH is made up of people from:

- Children's and adult services
- South Wales Police public protection unit
- Education
- Housing
- Community drug and alcohol team
- Probation and community rehabilitation
- Health
- Early help services
- Mental health services

- [Shared Regulatory Services](#) is a partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff Councils to provide a more efficient services covering Trading Standards, Environmental Health, Licensing and Private Sector Housing.
- [Bridgend Community Safety Partnership](#) is a sub- board of the Bridgend PSB, which brings together public, private and voluntary agencies that work together to reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime.
- The Council's Internal Audit Service had been delivered under a formal collaborative agreement with the Vale of Glamorgan Council since 2013. From April 2019 a Regional Shared Internal Audit Service has been in existence bringing together Merthyr Tydfil CBC, Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC and the existing shared service. An efficient Internal Audit service provides independent assurance that the Council's risk management, governance and internal control processes are operating effectively.
- We have partnered with [GLL/Halo Leisure](#) to manage eight leisure centres and swimming pools. We have a long term partnership with [Awen](#) Cultural Trust to run our cultural venues and services for 20 years. This includes the Bridgend library service, Maesteg Town hall, Porthcawl Grand Pavilion, four community centres and Bryngarw House and Country Park.
- We are one of ten local authorities in South East Wales that are part of [The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal](#), which is a programme to bring about significant economic growth in the region.

Feedback

We welcome your comments on this Corporate Plan and your suggestions for improvement. You can give your feedback through



Our website: www.bridgend.gov.uk



Instagram at www.instagram.com/BridgendCBC/



Facebook at www.facebook.com/BridgendCBC



Twitter: [@BridgendCBC](https://twitter.com/BridgendCBC)



Email to talktous@bridgend.gov.uk



Or by writing to Corporate Performance Team, Bridgend County Borough Council,
Raven's Court, Brewery Lane, Bridgend CF31 4WB

This report is available in both Welsh and English. It is also available in another language or format on request.

Each year, the Welsh Government publishes a range of national performance indicators that enable citizens to compare how their local authority performed in comparison with the other 21 Welsh local authorities across a whole range of services. You can see more detail about how councils across Wales compare by clicking on

www.mylocalcouncil.info

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BRIDGEND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) – REVISED DELIVERY AGREEMENT

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the necessity to revise the Local Development Plan Delivery Agreement (DA), previously approved by the Welsh Government (WG) in June 2018 and to seek approval to make amendments to the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) for LDP preparation in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Development Control Committee has, at its meeting on 20 August 2020, agreed the recommendations in this report and referred the recommendations to Council for approval.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:-
1. **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
 2. **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.

3. Background

- 3.1 Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 places a duty on each local authority in Wales to prepare a LDP for its area. The LDP will set out the Council's land use strategy for the period 2018 – 2033 and the first stage of the process required the Council to prepare a DA for approval by WG.
- 3.2 The DA is a mandatory requirement of the LDP process and is considered to be a key tool for the speedier production of land use plans. It comprises the following two elements:
- **The Timetable** – this sets out how the Council will manage the programme for preparing the LDP. It identifies the key stages of the LDP process where the public and other interested parties will be given the opportunity to comment on the strategy, objectives and policies contained within the Plan.

- **The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)** – this sets out who, when and how the Council will consult and engage with various stakeholders, including the general public, during the production of the LDP.

- 3.3 Public consultation on the Council's Draft DA was undertaken during April and May 2018, with the results reported to Council on 20 June 2018. Council approved the document for submission to WG.
- 3.4 The Council's DA was approved by WG on the 25th June 2018. Since that date, Bridgend County Borough Council has made considerable progress on the preparation of the LDP, including the following:
- Prepared, consulted upon and finalised the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Appraisal Scoping Report which establishes the sustainability context and baseline for Bridgend County Borough and sets sustainability objectives against which the LDP will be assessed during its preparation.
 - Invited the submission of Candidate Sites in September – December 2018, and made available a Register of all those sites submitted. The Stage 1 Assessment has been completed and determined which sites have the potential to support the Preferred Strategy of the LDP.
 - Identified a clear vision and objectives for the Replacement LDP and assessed strategic growth and spatial strategy options to achieve the most sustainable form of development and address existing capacity issues in the County Borough.
 - Prepared and consulted upon the Preferred Strategy of the LDP in September – November 2019. The Preferred Strategy provides the strategic context for the preparation of more detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations that will subsequently be included in the Deposit LDP.
- 3.5 Progress towards the next key stage of the replacement LDP, the Deposit Plan Consultation Stage (originally scheduled for July/August 2020), has been delayed due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and this is the subject of the necessary changes to the DA set out below.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The Council received a letter from the WG on 7th July 2020 advising it to undertake an assessment of the technical evidence base underpinning the replacement LDP, alongside the preferred strategy and policies in terms of sensitivity to the consequences of the pandemic. Officers have completed this task and the findings are attached at Appendix 1 for noting. WG also advised that DA's should be adjusted to account for any necessary changes to the LDP timetable in light of delays caused by the pandemic. This should also include amendments to the CIS given the need to adjust to new patterns of working and consider alternative methods of stakeholder engagement brought about by the need to maintain social distancing.

4.2 The revised DA is attached at Appendix 2. This highlights at 2.3 the delays to LDP preparation as a result of the pandemic, namely:

- The inability of site promoters to carry out site-specific technical work to support their Candidate Site submissions;
- The closure of schools and workplaces resulting in new temporary patterns of movement preventing the assessment of accurate traffic impact of development proposals;
- Social distancing measures preventing physical meetings;
- Temporary suspension of council meetings and committees;
- Delays caused by adjustment to new ways of working; and
- The need to review the LDP Evidence Base in light of the pandemic

4.3 The proposed revisions to the Timetable are illustrated in Table 1 as follows:

KEY STAGE		TIMESCALE	
DEFINITIVE		FROM	TO
STAGE 1	Update Evidence Base & SA/SEA Baseline Framework & Assessments - Ongoing	April 2018	December 2020
STAGE 2	Delivery Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission to Welsh Government – June 2018 • Response to LPA to be received within 4 weeks 	April 2018	July 2018
STAGE 3	Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation - Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation (October – December 2019) 	August 2018	December 2020
STAGE 4	Deposit LDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation – <i>but allowance made for 8 weeks</i> 	January 2021	March 2021
INDICATIVE		FROM	TO
STAGE 5	Submission	Autumn 2021 (Sept)	-
STAGE 6	Examination	Autumn 2021 (Nov)	Winter 2022 (Feb)
STAGE 7	Inspectors Report & Adoption	Winter 2022 (Feb)	Spring 2022 (Mar)
STAGE 8	Adoption	Spring 2022 (Apr - May)	

- 4.4 Members will note that it is now anticipated that the Deposit Plan will be subject to consultation between January and March 2021 (previously July - August 2020). An allowance has also been made to extend the statutory consultation period of 6 weeks to 8 weeks to provide more time for people to provide their views whilst accounting for any further restrictions imposed due to the pandemic. The final adoption of the LDP is likely to be delayed by up to 6 months as a result, though the dates relating to the stages following submission of the plan to WG are indicative.
- 4.5 The CIS has been amended to account for the use of the following methods of Stakeholder Engagement in order to maintain the social distancing measures that are likely to be required for the foreseeable future:
- Engagement with Members and Community Councils through virtual meetings i.e. Skype / Microsoft teams;
 - Interaction with stakeholders through specific topic or area based surgery sessions on a pre-booked basis;
 - Consideration of the interactive use of social media / digital communication (i.e. Q&A sessions);
 - Greater emphasis on the use of web based technology;
 - One to one telephone conversations to engage those members of the community without Internet access;
 - Dissemination of hard copies of information to individuals where other sources of information have failed;
 - Use of larger venues for public exhibitions and meetings to accommodate social distancing measures – e.g. sports halls, school halls, outside space;
 - Appointment based drop-in sessions to manage the number of stakeholders present at any given time and to help manage officer time; and
 - The use of internal and external agencies to assist with community meetings and engagement (e.g. Planning Aid).

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and regulations of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales Regulations 2005) requires that a Local Planning Authority (LPA) must commence a full Review of its LDP every 4 years.
- 5.2 The LDP Manual (Edition 3, 2020) states that for the preparation of an LDP Revision, a revised DA is necessary, with the LPA undertaking engagement and/or consultation as it considers appropriate.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no direct implications associated with this report. However the policies contained within any Replacement LDP will require an equalities impact assessment to be carried out.

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

- 7.1 The Replacement LDP will be prepared in accordance with the 7 Wellbeing goals and the 5 ways of working as identified in the Act.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 The cost of the LDP Review will 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 resources required to prepare the replacement LDP are set out in detail in section 2.6 in the DA attached at Appendix 2.

9. Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 That Council approve the revisions to the timetable and Community Involvement Scheme and authorises the Group Manager Planning & Development Services to submit the revised Delivery Agreement (attached at Appendix 2) to Welsh Government; and
- 9.2 That Council provides delegated authority to the Group Manager Planning & Development Services to make any factual corrections or minor amendments to the Delivery Agreement as considered necessary.

Mark Shephard
Chief Executive

16 September 2020

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Strategic Planning Policy Team Leader
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Communities Directorate
Civic Offices, Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB

Background documents: Appendix 1 – Covid-19 Replacement LDP Review
Appendix 2 - Revised Delivery Agreement

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Covid-19 Replacement Local Development Plan Review



Covid-19 Replacement Local Development Plan Review

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a timely update and review on the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic. The report evaluates the foundations of the Plan's strategic direction to determine whether the Vision, Strategic Objectives, Strategic Policies and supporting technical studies remain appropriate given the emerging impacts of the pandemic. It also considers whether any updates and/or modifications are necessary to ensure the Replacement LDP remains sufficiently flexible to accommodate any potential eventualities.
- 1.2 The pandemic will cause a minor delay in Replacement LDP preparation, which will necessitate a revised Delivery Agreement in the coming months. This is primarily due to Candidate Site Promoters not being able to complete and submit supporting technical information within originally set timescales. However, the Council remains committed to plan preparation and this report demonstrates that the overall direction of the Replacement LDP still holds true, subject to minor flexibility amendments to ensure the Replacement LDP Policies can respond to changing circumstances over the plan period.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Council is statutorily required, under Section 69 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to undertake a full review of the adopted LDP at intervals not longer than every 4 years from the date of adoption. The Replacement LDP is now being prepared and will express, in land-use terms, the wellbeing objectives and priorities of the Bridgend Public Services Board's Well-being Plan. The Replacement LDP will cover the period 2018-2033 and is currently progressing towards Deposit Plan Consultation Stage (originally due to take place in July/August 2020).
- 2.2 The Council invited landowners, developers and the public to nominate Candidate Sites for future development from 14th September 2018 to 9th November 2018, which were later published in the Candidate Sites Register. As part of LDP preparation, it is necessary to consider potential sites that are suitable for allocation within the Replacement LDP and clearly document why certain sites have or haven't been included. A Candidate Site Assessment Methodology was therefore developed and applied to the Candidate Sites contained within the Register, including uncommitted and unimplemented sites allocated within the existing LDP that have been resubmitted as Candidate Sites. There are four stages to the methodology:

- Stage 1: Potential to Support the LDP Strategy

- Stage 2: Detailed Site Assessment – Deliverability, Sustainability and Suitability
- Stage 3: Consultation with Appropriate Specific Consultation Bodies
- Stage 4: Sites for Inclusion in the Deposit LDP

2.3 Stage 1 of the Assessment has already been completed and determined which sites have the potential to support the Preferred Strategy of the Replacement LDP ('Stage 2' Candidate Sites). The Council wrote to all Candidate Site promoters on 17th December 2019 to share the outcome of this initial Assessment and confirm which sites had progressed to Stage 2. In addition, all Stage 2 Candidate Site promoters were then invited to prepare and submit a number of technical studies by 30th April 2020 to demonstrate each site's deliverability.

2.4 Due to the lockdown, some candidate site promoters contacted the Council to confirm that certain technical studies couldn't be completed by the original deadline. For example, some consultants had not yet undertaken full traffic surveys, which would normally be used as a baseline to make judgements on the likely impacts from developments. Other site promoters had commissioned consultants who were unavailable or unable to carry out work during the lockdown. Some site promoters had also not yet commissioned consultants to carry out any work before the lockdown.

2.5 The Council wrote to all site promoters again on 3rd April 2020 confirming that an executive summary should be completed and submitted by the original deadline, outlining the evidence compiled thus far plus any outstanding evidence not completed as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak. Several site promoters indeed submitted a substantial body of work to the Council at that point, although there were gaps in some submissions and other site promoters provided holding responses. The remaining technical studies are expected to be completed in the coming months and a further submission date for outstanding technical evidence will be set by the Council when possible. This will be communicated to all site promoters to allow the outstanding technical evidence (not collected as a result of the Covid-19 situation) to be submitted. This will necessitate a minor amendment to the existing Delivery Agreement and result in a slight delay in Deposit Plan publication. It will also be necessary to update the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) to detail revised consultation and engagement arrangements that conform to safe social distancing practices.

3.0 Replacement LDP Issues, Vision and Objectives

3.1 The Replacement LDP Vision explains that the County Borough is undergoing incremental, long-term socio-economic renewal, such that the Bridgend Replacement LDP should support existing regeneration efforts plus further sustainable growth. The Vision appropriately addresses the key spatial challenges

and opportunities facing the County Borough, including existing economic strengths in advanced manufacturing and the need for improved infrastructure, new employment opportunities and the decarbonisation of key sectors, each of which will have spatial implications, to deliver sustainable economic growth. The proposed LDP Vision also calls for Bridgend, Porthcawl and Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley to accommodate the majority of growth and have distinct roles within a coherent network of settlements. In addition to supporting economic growth, the proposed LDP Vision recognises that this approach will maximise positive wellbeing outcomes and help to protect environmentally sensitive areas.

3.2 As a high-level statement focused around using placemaking to achieve regeneration and economic growth, the LDP Vision supports greater emphasis on the delivery of a refreshed spatial strategy and place-based policies within the emerging Replacement LDP than the existing adopted LDP. This will enhance local distinctiveness and the ability to meet the differential needs of communities. The proposed LDP Vision is therefore considered to be appropriate and compatible with achieving sustainable development. The Replacement LDP Vision is set out below:

Since the turn of the millennium, Bridgend and the wider County Borough has been on a journey to expand access to key services, enhance physical environmental quality and improve quality of life for residents, workers and visitors. This transformation will continue throughout the LDP period, resulting in the development of a safe, healthy and inclusive network of communities that connect more widely with the region to catalyse sustainable economic growth. The County Borough is already a major regional employment hub, with specific strengths in advanced manufacturing. These socio-economic assets will be enhanced to progressively improve the County Borough's economic competitiveness whilst significantly contributing to the success of the Cardiff Capital Region. Encouraging inward investment to improve infrastructure, employment provision and lifelong learning opportunities will attract and retain skilled workers that will in turn encourage businesses to bring further skilled employment into the area. Bridgend County Borough Council also has a vision to make Bridgend a decarbonised, digitally connected smart County Borough. In doing so it will transition to a low carbon, decentralised energy system that works for its individuals, communities and businesses. In achieving its vision of a decarbonised, digitally connected smart county borough, the Council aims to:

- decarbonise the energy sector,*
- stimulate economic growth,*
- provide new job opportunities, and*
- attract new and existing businesses to trial initiatives and grow within the county borough*

Specifically, Bridgend will remain the principal town, and supplementary growth will build on its success as a regional employment, commercial and service centre. Additional employment, commercial and residential development will be focussed around other established towns to achieve sustainable patterns of growth that support existing local services and facilities. Regeneration led growth will also be channelled towards

Porthcawl through redevelopment of its waterfront to capitalise on the town's role as a premier seaside and tourist destination. In addition, the valley settlements will be earmarked for sustainable regeneration, with a recognition that Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley has the largest potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth. This vision will be achieved through maintaining and developing strong, interdependent, connected and cohesive settlements, whilst also protecting and enhancing the County Borough's environmental and heritage assets. This will offer people:

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

3.3 The LDP Vision has been developed to take into account the Bridgend Local Well-being Plan with the specific characteristics and key issues affecting the County Borough. The Vision is still considered broadly appropriate and relevant in light of the emerging issues brought about by the current COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Strategic Objectives to deliver this vision need to be re-considered through a tangible evaluation of their derived Strategic Policies. This will determine their continued relevance for the County Borough, whilst identifying if any additional issues, challenges and/or opportunities should be addressed by the Replacement LDP.

3.4 Table 1 below provides a more detailed analysis of each Strategic Objective (through the derived Strategic Policies) and Table 2 evaluates the sensitivity of the existing evidence base to the impacts of the pandemic. Overall, it is considered that the Replacement LDP Issues, Vision and Objectives remain relevant to Bridgend County Borough, including those with increased emphasis in light of the current pandemic. The Replacement LDP strategy is therefore still considered appropriate to address and deliver them. However, some minor amendments are required to certain Strategic Policies to ensure they are flexible to respond to changing market conditions and can assist with delivery of the Vision and Objectives during uncertain times.

Table 1: Strategic Policy Assessment

Strategic Policy	Description	Sensitivity to the Consequences of the Pandemic	Action Required
Overarching Strategic Policies			
SP1: Regeneration and Sustainable Growth	Settlement Hierarchy	The Hierarchy is based on a robust Settlement Assessment, which considers the role and function of existing settlements to inform decisions as to where development should be spatially located to achieve a sustainable pattern of growth. The Hierarchy is still considered appropriate in light of the pandemic and is well placed to build on the positive modal transportation shifts witnessed during lockdown. The Hierarchy already considers which settlements are most sustainable and have capacity to deliver additional growth utilising principles of sustainable placemaking.	No action required.

	Spatial Strategy	A number of supply and demand factors influenced selection of the preferred spatial strategy and due reference was made to the Settlement Assessment, Local Housing Market Assessment and viability considerations. These factors shaped evaluation of four spatial options and proved critical in determining the optimal means of spatially accommodating growth over the Replacement LDP period. The Spatial Strategy is still considered the most sustainable and deliverable means of enabling development grounded in placemaking principles. As such, it is well placed to integrate development with existing communities, services and infrastructure, whilst facilitating easy access by sustainable travel modes.	No action required.
	Strategic Growth Strategy	Refer to SP7 and SP11	
SP2: Regeneration Growth Area and Sustainable	For key development sites (to be identified in the Replacement LDP), site promoters will be required to submit supporting technical information. This will	All sites key to the delivery of the LDP require detailed supporting technical information and a viability appraisal to demonstrate how they can be delivered in	The pandemic has caused a delay in submission of supporting technical information by site promoters (notably transport assessments). These studies will

Growth Area Strategic Allocations	include masterplans to ensure developments create sustainable, cohesive, well-designed places delivered through a strong place making approach.	principle. Site promoters have therefore been asked to submit this information, although the pandemic has resulted in a delay in submission of certain technical studies.	shortly be re-convened, although this will be dependent on (for example) representative traffic flows returning. The Council will continue to liaise with site promoters to establish a suitable deadline for submission of outstanding technical information.
SOBJ1: To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)			
SP3: Design and Sustainable Place Making	All development should contribute to creating high quality, attractive, sustainable places which enhance the community in which they are located, whilst having full regard to the natural, historic and built environment.	This is a criteria based policy, which establishes a tangible framework to deliver sustainable placemaking. The pandemic may result in changes to the way in which buildings and places are utilised, although the policy is considered flexible enough to respond to these impacts.	No action likely to be necessary, although the policy will be reviewed (prior to Deposit Plan Consultation) to ensure it is flexible and adaptable enough to overcome any future impact.
SP4: Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change	All development proposals will be required to make a positive contribution towards tackling the causes of, and adapting to the impacts of Climate Change.	This criteria based policy is still considered broadly relevant for the Replacement LDP to address the causes and impacts of climate change. The use of circular economy principles, promotion of active travel and directing development away from flood risk areas all remain pertinent considerations. Certain elements	No action likely to be necessary, although the policy will be reviewed (prior to Deposit Plan Consultation) to ensure it is flexible and adaptable enough to overcome any future impact.

		of the policy could prove more challenging to achieve (i.e. developing renewable and low/zero carbon energy generation) if other infrastructure requirements take priority as a result of the pandemic. However, the policy wording is considered flexible enough to adapt to such infrastructure priority and viability considerations.	
SP5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility	Development should be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development must also be supported by appropriate transport measures and infrastructure.	Active Travel and sustainable transit orientated development are already core elements of the Replacement LDP. The Settlement Hierarchy, Spatial Strategy and Growth Strategy have all been formulated to support and enhance sustainable forms of transport in the first instance. Close liaison with Highways will be maintained throughout the process to enable implementation of the policy, ultimately to support enhancement and provision of new transport infrastructure.	The policy already reflects the importance of active travel, sustainable transport and accessibility, which will prove key in overcoming issues presented by COVID-19.
SP6: Active Travel	Development must maximise walking and cycling access by prioritising the provision within the	This criteria based policy seeks to ensure development maximises walking and cycling access. The	The policy already reflects the importance of active travel, sustainable transport and

	site, and provide or make financial contributions towards the delivery offsite, as appropriate.	pandemic has demonstrated even greater reliance on active travel to access local services and enable recalibration of households' work/life balance. However, this policy already sought to engender a modal shift of this nature through improvements, connections or extensions to existing active travel routes and other facilitates that encourage the uptake of walking and cycling. The LDP will remain committed to this end.	accessibility, which will prove key in overcoming issues presented by COVID-19.
SOBJ2: To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities			
SP7: Sustainable Housing Strategy	Land is identified for an appropriately justified level of housing growth to promote the creation and enhancement of sustainable communities and provide affordable housing.	It is difficult to estimate the pandemic's impact on future economic growth, household formation and housing supply. By means of comparison, the socio-economic and demographic impacts of the 2008-2009 recession are only now properly understood. On this basis, the full impacts of the pandemic are unlikely to be known for several years. However, it is important for the Replacement LDP to remain capable of delivering sustainable	A refreshed analysis of the existing Demographic Forecasts and Analysis Paper is due to be completed, which will include a fact-check of the extant evidence base and an addendum that will consider the latest dwelling completions, mid-year household estimates and 2018-based household projections (when published). However, it will be of paramount importance to not sacrifice the principles of sustainable development and the aims and objectives of the Replacement LDP

		<p>levels of economic growth to best achieve an equilibrium between new homes and employment provision, balanced against other key infrastructure requirements. It is only possible to plan based on the evidence available, although this can be safeguarded through incorporation of an appropriate flexibility allowance and monitoring framework (incorporating a robust housing trajectory) to help overcome any issues that may arise. Equally, the plan can be reviewed at an appropriate point if uncertainties around COVID-19 demonstrate a significant change to the evidence upon which the Replacement LDP is based.</p>	<p>in the outright pursuit of economic recovery.</p>
<p>SP8: Health and Well-being</p>	<p>Health inequalities will be reduced and healthy lifestyles and choices encouraged.</p>	<p>This policy already seeks to minimise health inequalities by promoting and supporting healthy lifestyle choices (including development of active travel / green infrastructure networks, enhancement of social/community infrastructure and reduction in car dependency). The policy is still considered appropriate in these respects,</p>	<p>No action likely to be necessary, although refreshed discussions will be instigated with Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board regarding demand. The plan-wide Health Impact Assessment will also be reviewed to ensure it is still fit for purpose in light of the pandemic.</p>

		<p>unless there is a distinct change in national policy direction.</p> <p>Moreover, there may also be changes in demand for healthcare provision, although the policy is considered flexible enough to accommodate the spatial distribution of need arising from different services providers.</p>	
SP9: Social and Community Infrastructure	In order to maintain and improve the quality of life of residents, this policy safeguards and/or seeks to enhance a wide range of social and community uses and/or facilities.	There may be increased demand on certain social and/or community facilities due to the pandemic and social distancing (i.e. educational facilities, leisure centres, community buildings, outdoor sport and recreational space). However, the policy itself is considered flexible enough to deal with this changing landscape and also encourages the multi-use of recreational space and co-location of new social and community facilities.	No action necessary, although a refreshed Green Space Infrastructure Assessment will be completed to support the Replacement LDP.
SP10: Infrastructure	In order to mitigate likely adverse impacts and/or to integrate a development proposal with its surroundings, reasonable infrastructure provision or financial contributions to such	The thrust of the Replacement LDP has been to identify sites (in accordance with the spatial strategy) that are capable of delivering their own supporting	No action necessary, although site promoters will be required to demonstrate sites can provide all necessary supporting infrastructure before they can be considered for allocation.

	infrastructure should be provided by developers where necessary.	infrastructure where necessary. The pandemic may necessitate a change to certain infrastructure requirements (i.e. tele-communications). However, the policy is considered sufficiently flexible in scope to reflect infrastructure requirements at any given time, based on site-specific circumstances.	
SOBJ3: To Create Productive and Enterprising Places			
SP11: Employment Land Strategy	Opportunities for economic growth will be facilitated by directing employment generating development to the most appropriate and sustainable locations, supporting expansion of existing businesses and ensuring strong spatial alignment between housing and employment growth. This holistic employment land strategy will allocate new employment land by retaining and safeguarding strategic sites for employment purposes (B1, B2 & B8) alongside	Changes in working practices (i.e. additional home working) could reduce the need for B1 space provision, although this could equally be offset with additional need for B2/B8 provision (i.e. due to an increase in demand for storage and distribution). Whilst it is difficult for any forecast to predict the longer term impacts of the pandemic in these respects, it is vital for the Replacement LDP to allocate sufficient B space provision to plan for any eventuality. The existing evidence base has very carefully considered the link between	The Policy already allows for flexibility in changing circumstances and so no action is likely to be necessary. However, a refreshed Background Paper will be produced to consider the existing evidence base in light of COVID-19 and the refreshed Demographic Forecasts and Analysis Addendum that is also due to be completed shortly. A sense-check of policy wording will also be conducted to ensure the early release criterion is flexible enough.

	a portfolio of local employment allocations.	economic growth, dwellings, employment, jobs and employment land. However, the planned level of housing growth is neither constrained in a manner that could frustrate economic development or promoted in such a way as to encourage inward commuting. Therefore, this Policy does contain a 'release' criterion, which provides flexibility to respond to changing market conditions and prevent sites (that cannot viably be utilised for employment purposes) being discounted for more appropriate uses to contribute to other identified needs. This will ensure the Replacement LDP can respond to changing circumstances. Equally, the LDP can be reviewed every 2 years if necessary, underpinned by appropriate monitoring to help mitigate such uncertainties.	
SP12: Retail Centres and Development	New retail, commercial, leisure and appropriate employment developments (B1) will be focused according to the specified retail hierarchy within the County Borough, having regard to the	The demand/supply for larger convenience retailing is likely to be less sensitive to the impacts of the pandemic. However, use of sequential tests alongside careful management of out-of-centre	The Policy is already considered flexible to accommodate changes in demand/supply. However, a further review will be conducted to ensure the supporting Development Management policies are adaptable

	<p>nature, scale and location of the proposed development.</p>	<p>locations will remain key to avoid promotion of unsustainable travel patterns.</p> <p>High streets will continue to change especially in the short-term due to the increase in online shopping associated with COVID-19. The pandemic may serve to further accelerate changes in town centres and high streets if longer-term consumer spending habits continue to alter. The 2019 Retail Study already identified this trend and highlighted a need for more flexible planning policies and retail boundaries within town centres, recognising their changing roles and functions. The Replacement LDP will respond to this evidence base in light of the pandemic in an effort to support local businesses and retailers, including local independents. It will be increasingly important for traditional town centres to accommodate a wider array of uses than just retail, including community, health, leisure, residential and flexible co-working spaces alongside areas of open space.</p>	<p>enough to enable retail and commercial centres to evolve and respond to changing situations. This will be accompanied with designation of realistic and sensible boundaries that enable a variety of uses and flexible co-working spaces within town and commercial centres.</p>
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		This Strategic Policy is supported by several Development Management Policies which already contain flexible criteria that can adapt to changing situations and promote a wider range of retail uses within retail boundaries. It will be necessary to review these policies to ensure there is scope to allow the traditional role and function of established retail centres to evolve and adapt appropriately.	
SP 13: Decarbonisation and Renewable Energy	Development proposals which contribute to meeting national renewable and low carbon energy and energy efficiency targets will be encouraged.	This policy is still currently in line with relevant guidance and is therefore considered up to date. However, application of this policy will be subject to infrastructure priority and viability.	No action required.
SP14: Sustainable Development of Mineral Resources	The efficient and appropriate use of minerals within the County will be encouraged, including the re-use and recycling of suitable minerals as an alternative to primary won aggregates.	This policy is still currently in line with relevant guidance and is therefore considered up to date.	No action required.
SP 15: Sustainable	The LDP will facilitate the sustainable management of waste. Proposals should conform	This policy is still currently in line with relevant guidance and is therefore considered up to date.	No action required.

Waste Management	to the principles of the waste hierarchy and have regard to the nearest appropriate installation concept and self-sufficiency principles where necessary. The co-location of waste management facilities to enable the development of heat networks will be supported, subject to the above criteria.	Proposals must be supported by an appropriate Waste Management Assessment.	
SP 16: Tourism	Appropriate sustainable tourism developments which promote high quality accommodation, upgrade facilities and foster activity based, business, events and cultural tourism will be permitted.	The importance of enhancing the prospects of the County Borough as a visitor destination is likely to increase even further. There may be an increased demand in 'staycations', and, therefore, enabling a desirable tourism-led offer will remain important. The Policy may need to incorporate greater flexibility to assist the industry during uncertain times.	Review the policy wording to ensure it incorporates sufficient flexibility to assist the industry during uncertain times.
SOBJ4: To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places			
SP17: Conservation and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	The County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Development which will conserve and, wherever possible, enhance	The pandemic has served to highlight the importance of the natural environment in terms of both conservation and accessibility. This Policy remains relevant and will be supported	No action required.

	the natural environment of the County Borough will be favoured.	through complementary policies promoting active travel of development of green infrastructure networks.	
SP 18: Conservation of the Historic Environment	The County Borough has a rich built heritage and historic environment. Development proposals should protect, conserve, promote or enhance the significance of historic assets, including their settings.	This policy is still currently in line with relevant guidance and is therefore considered up to date.	No action required.

Table 2: Supporting Technical Study Assessment

Supporting Document	Purpose	Sensitivity to the Consequences of the Pandemic
Existing LDP (2013) Review Report	To set out the proposed extent of likely changes to the existing LDP (2006-2021) and to confirm the revision procedure to be followed in preparing the Replacement LDP.	No impact.
Replacement LDP Delivery Agreement	To provide a project plan for preparing the LDP and to set out the measures within the Community Involvement Scheme in terms of consultation and engagement.	The pandemic will necessitate a small extension to the existing DA and alterations to the CIS. These could include a longer consultation period with enhanced online participation methods, telephone appointments and socially distanced gatherings in appropriate settings.
SA/SEA Scoping Report	To outline the proposed approach to the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment. This report is the first stage of a SA process to identify, assess and address any likely significant effects on the environment from the emerging Bridgend LDP Review.	No impact.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) - Initial SA Report	To identify, from an assessment of reasonable alternatives, whether the LDP will have any significant impacts on the environment and also determine whether the Plan will deliver sustainable development. The Initial Report includes a proportionate assessment of candidate sites. The SA and Habitats Regulations Assessment Reports	No impact.

	are being consulted on in tandem with the LDP Deposit Plan.	
The Full Sustainability Appraisal of the Preferred Strategy	The full Sustainability Appraisal of the Preferred Strategy is provided in a separate document accompanying the Preferred Strategy consultation document.	No impact.
Candidate Site Register	A record of sites submitted by land-owners, developers and the public, which will be used as a reference point to assess each site against the Strategy for possible inclusion within the Replacement LDP.	No impact.
Candidate Sites Assessment Report	A proportionate assessment of sites with regards to their compatibility with the Replacement LDP. This document is informed by, but functionally separate from, the SA of Candidate Sites.	The pandemic has caused a delay in submission of supporting technical information by site promoters (notably transport assessments). It is hoped that these studies will shortly be re-convened, although this will be dependent on (for example) representative traffic flows returning. The Council will continue to liaise with site promoters to establish a suitable deadline for submission of outstanding technical information. This will delay technical assessment of Stage 2 Candidate Sites.
Draft Economic Evidence Base Study (2019)	To provide evidence-based recommendations on the scale and distribution of employment need and the land best suited to meet that need, whilst also making policy / land allocation recommendations to inform emerging policies and site allocations.	<p>The existing evidence base has very carefully considered the link between economic growth, dwellings, employment, jobs and employment land.</p> <p>Changes in working practices (i.e. additional home working) coupled with rises in unemployment could reduce the need for B1 space provision, although this could equally be offset with additional need for B2/B8 provision (i.e. with increased demand for storage and distribution).</p>

		<p>It is difficult for any forecast to predict the longer term impacts of the pandemic in these respects. However, the planned level of growth is neither constrained in a manner that could frustrate economic development or promoted in such a way as to encourage inward commuting.</p> <p>As such, the Replacement LDP can plan for any eventuality through initially allocating the B space provision deemed necessary by the Study, whilst incorporating an 'early release' criterion. This will provide flexibility to respond to changing market conditions and prevent sites (that cannot viably be utilised for employment purposes) being discounted for more appropriate uses to contribute to other identified needs. This will ensure the Replacement LDP can be flexible in responding to changing circumstances, whilst maintaining an adequate employment land supply that is fit for the future. This will render the Replacement Plan resilient in its efforts to achieve an equilibrium between new homes and employment provision, balanced against other key infrastructure requirements.</p>
Retail Study (2019)	To set out evidence-based recommendations on retail need, the distribution of need and the definition of primary shopping areas to inform emerging policies and site allocations.	The pandemic may serve to further accelerate changes in town centres and high streets, with consumer spending habits moving increasingly online. The 2019 study already identified this trend and highlighted a need for more flexible planning policies and retail boundaries within town centres, recognising their

		<p>changing roles and functions. The Replacement LDP will respond to this evidence base in light of the pandemic in an effort to support local businesses and retailers, including local independents. It will be increasingly important for traditional town centres to accommodate a wider array of uses than just retail, including community, health, leisure, residential and flexible co-working spaces alongside key areas of open space.</p> <p>Therefore, the Replacement LDP can build on this evidence base by incorporating flexible criteria that can adapt to changing situations and promote a wider range of retail uses within retail boundaries. It will be necessary to review these policies to ensure there is scope to allow the traditional role and function of established retail centres to evolve and adapt appropriately.</p>
Renewable Energy Assessment (2019)	To provide a robust renewable energy evidence base which will inform LDP production and set out a baseline for future monitoring of renewable energy in the County Borough.	No impact.
Bridgend Smart Energy Plan (2019)	To provide a roadmap of projects and activities that will enable Bridgend County Borough to respond to the challenge of decarbonising heat within the wider energy system.	No impact.
Settlement Assessment Study (2019)	To establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy that can inform the Replacement LDP. This will identify the most appropriate locations to accommodate future development in order to achieve a sustainable	No impact, although the pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of directing growth towards sustainable settlements capable of expanding in

	pattern of growth, minimise unsustainable patterns of movement and support local services and facilities.	a manner conducive to placemaking principles.
Demographic Analysis and Forecasts Report (2019)	To provide a summary of demographic evidence, including a suite of population, housing and economic growth outcomes to inform the Strategic Growth Options paper for consideration in the formulation of the LDP.	A refreshed study is due to be completed to incorporate the latest 2018-based household projections (when published) in the context of delivering the Replacement LDP's Aims and Objectives. It will be of paramount importance to not sacrifice the principles of sustainable development in the outright pursuit of economic recovery. Rather, the thrust of the Replacement LDP must still be to facilitate delivery of sustainable levels of economic growth to best achieve an equilibrium between new homes and employment provision, balanced against other key infrastructure requirements.
Green Infrastructure Assessment 2020	An assessment of natural and semi-natural features, green spaces and corridors that intersperse and connect places. This includes a refreshed audit of existing outdoor sport and playing space provision in the County Borough, compared to Fields in Trust Standards, to identify shortfalls in provision and inform related strategies and LDP policies.	The pandemic has further served to emphasise the importance of having locally accessible open/green spaces for health, well-being and recreation. This will continue to remain a key element of sustainable placemaking. A refreshed and holistic Green Infrastructure Assessment will be completed to contribute to development of the Replacement LDP's evidence base in this respect.
Local Housing Market Assessment (2019)	To provide detailed insights into the mechanics of the local residential property markets across the County Borough. The Assessment includes a quantitative assessment of housing need that will be used to inform the housing policies of the LDP in terms	Affordability is likely to remain a significant issue across the County Borough and the need for certain tenures could even be exacerbated by the impacts of the pandemic (i.e. higher unemployment could generate higher levels of

	of affordable housing provision, tenures and types of accommodation required across the County Borough.	homelessness and place even more pressure on social housing stock). Short term reductions in house prices are also unlikely to address first time buyer affordability issues if accompanied with tighter lending criteria and mortgage inaccessibility. An updated LHMA will be completed to re-assess local trends, housing register waiting lists and the latest set of 2018 based household projections (when published).
Special Landscape Designations (2010)	To carry out a review of the Special Landscape Areas designation within the County Borough. The methodology uses a structured, iterative approach to identify areas considered worthy of being retained as a Special Landscape Area designations in the LDP.	No impact.
Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough (2013)	This document provides a sound evidence base for developers to consider the character and sensitivity of the different landscapes of the County Borough when considering new developments. It also promotes an understanding of how the landscapes of the County Borough are changing (as a result of a combination of natural, economic and human factors), and how they can be strengthened in response.	No impact.
Background Technical, Topic Reports and Papers	These provide supporting information and a rationale for the Replacement LDP. These focus in more detail on the main issues relevant to Bridgend County Borough and the LDP.	All background, technical and topic papers will be updated to take into account the latest evidence based studies.

Health and Equalities Impact Assessments	To assess the likely impacts of the Replacement LDP on health and equality considerations.	Assessing health and equality impacts is essential to the LDP's core purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities. The likely increase in home/agile working will only serve to further enhance the link between sustainable development, quality of life and environmental characteristics. Health and Equalities Impact Assessments will therefore continue to be undertaken as the LDP progresses.
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2020)	To assess the future accommodation needs of the Gypsy Traveller and Travelling Show People Communities and determine whether there is a requirement for additional site provision within Bridgend County Borough. This will inform any related site allocations and criteria based policies in the LDP.	All survey work was completed immediately prior to the lockdown and therefore a very snapshot of need has been recorded for analysis. This information is still considered robust and current, although criteria based policy development will ensure any changing needs can continue to be met over the life of the Replacement LDP.
Bridgend's Active Travel Integrated Network Map	This document details plans for a network of Active Travel routes and facilities over the next 15 years. These are found in the Integrated Network Maps (INMs). The proposals aim to: enhance access to key services and facilities including town centres, transport hubs, as well as employment and retail areas; develop access to education facilities such as schools and colleges; and improve and expand the existing strategic network in Bridgend County Borough.	The pandemic has demonstrated even greater reliance on active travel to access local services and recalibration of households' work/life. The LDP will remain committed to enhancing the access travel network to this end.
Bridgend Destination Management Plan 2018-2022	A statement of intent to manage the County Borough in the interests of tourism, taking account of the needs of visitors, local residents, businesses and the environment. It is	The importance of enhancing the prospects of the County Borough as a visitor destination is likely to increase even further. Enabling a desirable tourism-led offer will

	a systematic and holistic approach to making Bridgend County Borough work as a visitor destination. It embraces the idea of sustainability, focusing on tourism which brings economic benefit, whilst setting out the ways in which different stakeholders may work together to achieve a positive impact.	remain a key aspect of the Replacement LDP.
Bridgend Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment (2010)	The SFCA creates a strategic framework for the consideration of flood risk when making planning decisions. It has been developed in accordance with Technical Advice Note 15 – Development & Flood Risk (TAN15), as well as additional guidance provided by the Environment Agency. This document will be updated as part of the Replacement LDP process.	No impact
Strategic Transport Assessment	An assessment to consider the transport implications of forecasted development and associated traffic impact upon the strategic highway network.	<p>The pandemic has demonstrated even greater reliance on active travel to access local services and to enable recalibration of households' work/life balance. However, the Replacement LDP already reflects the importance of active travel, sustainable transport and accessibility, which will prove key in overcoming issues presented by COVID-19.</p> <p>The pandemic is also likely to lead to modal shifts and different patterns of vehicle movements throughout the day (i.e. longer-term commuting patterns may change). It has not been possible to complete traffic surveys during the lockdown and future transport assessments will be</p>

		dependent on (for example) representative traffic flows returning.
Urban Capacity Study 2020	A Study that analyses the potential urban capacity of the County Boroughs' settlements for housing to evidence the expected small and windfall site allowance rate.	No impact.
Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2020	A Plan that identifies the infrastructure required to support delivery of development during the plan period.	No Impact.
Plan-Wide Viability Study 2020	A high-level study which assesses broad levels of development viability across the eight Housing Market Areas within the County Borough.	The study has been prepared during the lockdown and informed by detailed discussions with a representative steering group. As such, it is considered up-to-date and relevant in light of the pandemic.
Agricultural Land Review 2020	An assessment of agricultural land classifications to demonstrate how the spatial strategy and site selection process has considered the impact on Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land.	No Impact.

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August 2020



Bridgend County Borough Local Development Plan 2018-2033

Revised Delivery Agreement



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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Revised Delivery Agreement

1.1.1 The BCBC Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Delivery Agreement was approved by Welsh Government (WG) on 25th June 2018. Work has subsequently commenced at pace on the RLDP which has included key pre-deposit preparation and engagement on the County's key Issues, Vision and Objectives and Growth and Spatial Options, a call for candidate sites and the continued development of a robust evidence base. Most notably, consultation on the RLDP Preferred Strategy was held in October – November 2019 and reported to Council in January 2020. Progress towards the next key stage of the RLDP, consultation on the Deposit Plan, has not proceeded as quickly as envisaged in the original Delivery Agreement for a number of reasons resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, as set out in further detail in Section 2 below. As the original timetable will now slip beyond the 3 months tolerance allowed by WG, a revision of the Delivery Agreement timetable is required. Consequently, a Revised Delivery Agreement with an amended timetable has been prepared and is set out in Section 2 and Appendix 2.

1.2 Purpose of a Delivery Agreement

1.2.1 The Replacement LDP will cover the period 2018-2033. Preparation of a Delivery Agreement¹ is a key requirement in preparing a Replacement LDP. This document provides details of the various stages involved in the Plan-making process and the time each part of the process is likely to take, as well as the resources that the Council will commit to Plan preparation. It also sets out the way in which the Council proposes to involve the local community and other stakeholders in the preparation of the Replacement LDP. The Replacement LDP will be examined by an independent Inspector to test whether the Plan is sound and has been prepared in accordance with its Delivery Agreement.

1.2.2 The Delivery Agreement is divided into two key sections:

- **The Timetable for producing the revised LDP.** This provides a clear indication of when each of the different stages of plan preparation will take place. Definitive dates are provided up to the deposit stage and indicative dates for later stages. This is an example of a project management approach to ensure that the plan is adequately resourced and delivered on time. The timetable is included in 'Section 2' of this Delivery Agreement; and
- **The Community Involvement Scheme** – this outlines the Authority's principles of community engagement; its approach in relation to who, how and when it intends to engage with the community and stakeholders, how it will respond to representations and how these representations will inform later stages of plan preparation. This is included in 'Section 3' of this Delivery Agreement.

1.2.3 A glossary of terms can be found in Appendix 5.

¹ Section 62 (9) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended Planning (Wales) Act 2015) & Section 63 (1) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 & Regulations 5 – 10 LDP (Wales) Regulations (as amended 2015)

1.3 Delivery Agreement Preparation and Consultation

1.3.1 A number of key steps in the preparation of the Delivery Agreement have been undertaken to date. This Delivery Agreement (DA) has been consulted upon with specific consultation bodies to seek views on the timetable and community involvement scheme². The consultation responses are summarised in Appendix 3. The key stages in preparing a Delivery Agreement include:

- Report the updated DA to Council for approval;
- Submit DA to Welsh Government for agreement;
- Publish DA on Council website and place in Planning Reception and Community Hubs/Libraries across the County where possible; and
- Review DA on a regular basis (quarterly).

1.4 Preparation of the Replacement LDP

1.4.1 In preparing the revised LDP the Council will aim to achieve the following key objectives:

- Facilitate Sustainable Development by fully integrating a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) into the plan making process. A Well-being Assessment and Health Impact Assessment will also be produced;
- Ensure early and effective community involvement in order to consider a wide range of views, with the aim of building a broad consensus on the strategy and policies for the revised LDP;
- Enable policy integration by producing a revised LDP that is internally consistent with other corporate priorities and other policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, appreciating the need to avoid unnecessary repetition;
- Deliver a fast and responsive approach to plan-making;
- Produce a revised LDP that is strategic, concise and distinctive in setting out how Bridgend will develop and change, with particular regard to the well-being of future generations whilst also addressing key issues collaboratively with adjacent local planning authorities; and
- Deliver sustainable development, with full consideration of infrastructure requirements, availability of resources, viability and market factors.

1.4.2 The revised LDP will be prepared with regard to a wide range of legislation, policies and other initiatives at the European, national, regional and local level. The emerging Local Well-Being Plan (LWBP) will be critical during the replacement LDP process. The LWBP relates to the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Bridgend and will have clear links with the LDP where it relates to land use planning.

² Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, March 2020)

1.5 Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)

- 1.5.1** A Sustainability Appraisal, (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment³ (SEA) is a statutory requirement of LDP preparation, in order to assess the environmental, social and economic implications of the plans strategy and policies. The SA/SEA process is utilised to ensure that policies in the LDP reflect sustainable development principles and take into account the significant effects of the plan on the environment. SA, incorporating SEA, was an iterative process throughout the preparation of the adopted LDP and is reflected in the Plan's proposals and policies.
- 1.5.2** The Council will continue to adopt an integrated approach to the SA/SEA of the revised LDP, ensuring that the revised plan is internally consistent, with economic and social issues considered alongside other matters. The appraisal process will run concurrently with the plan making process and forms an iterative part of plan preparation. The SA, incorporating SEA, will therefore draw upon the Bridgend Local Well-being Plan (produced in accordance with the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act – refer to Section 1.9) and will integrate where possible with a Wellbeing Assessment, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) that will also be prepared to support the Bridgend LDP Review.
- 1.5.3** The SA, incorporating the SEA will be undertaken as follows:
- **A Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, Scoping Report.** This report will identify the need to undertake a SA, incorporating SEA, of the LDP Review and set out the proposed SA methodology and consultation arrangements. In doing so it will provide an overview of sustainability baseline data conditions and issues relevant to the Bridgend area, together with a review of other plans, policies, programmes and strategies which are likely to influence the LDP Review. The existing SA Framework adopted for the first Bridgend LDP will also be reviewed and updated as necessary to provide a robust mechanism for undertaking the SA, incorporating SEA, of new LDP proposals and policy options as they emerge. This report will be subject to consultation with the SEA Consultation Bodies before any substantive proposals or policy options are subject to consultation;
 - **The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report:** All substantive proposals and policy options for a replacement LDP will be subject to a proportionate level of SA, incorporating SEA. This will include assessment reasonable alternatives to preferred options and the SA will be carried out in accordance with the SA Framework and methodology defined through SA/SEA Screening and Scoping.
 - The SA process will be reported within iterative SA Reports which will accompany

³ European Union Directive 2001/42/EC & Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004

the Preferred Strategy (LDP Pre-Deposit) and Pre-Deposit Documents, with the SA Report updated between these stages to reflect changes to the emerging LDP:

- The SA Report for the Preferred Strategy will focus on assessing likely significant effects from the proposed LDP options, spatial strategy and strategic policies; and
 - The SA Report for the LDP Pre-Deposit Document will assess likely significant effects from all substantive components of the LDP Deposit Document, including all proposed site allocations and policies.
 - Following the completion of an Examination regarding the LDP, all binding recommendations made by the Examination Inspector will be subject to SA, incorporating SEA, Screening, to determine whether they would give rise to any new or different likely significant effects not previously reported within the SA Report for the LDP Deposit Document. This SEA Screening will be documented within an SA Addendum.
- **A Sustainability Appraisal Post Adoption Statement** will be published after the revised LDP is adopted. This will explain how sustainability considerations and the Sustainability Assessment, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, have been taken into consideration in the production of the revised LDP.

1.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

1.6.1 The requirement for Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) comes from the Habitats Directive⁴, specifically Article 6(3), which requires that land use plans, including LDPs, are subject to a HRA Screening to determine whether any plan [or project] is likely to have a significant effect upon a European site, either alone, or in combination with other projects. In Wales, requirements for HRA, including for proposed modifications to existing plans, are set out within Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and Part 2 of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

1.6.2 The HRA process follows a series of Stages; these will be undertaken for the LDP Review, as necessary, to meet with the requirements of the Regulations:

- **Stage 1 - HRA Screening:** to determine whether the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects on European Sites;
- **Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment:** If the HRA Screening indicates that the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects, a further level of assessment is needed to consider whether the LDP Review could adversely affect the integrity of one or more European site(s), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of their established conservation objectives and conservation status. If the potential for adverse effects on site integrity are identified, the Appropriate Assessment should also consider mitigation measures to control the identified impacts, to avoid adverse effects on site integrity; and
- **Stage 3 and 4 – Consideration of Alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest:** Only where significant effects remain at the end of

⁴ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

Stage 2 in the HRA process is there a need to consider alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest.

- 1.6.3** The HRA process will be undertaken in conjunction with the SA (incorporating SEA) to ensure an integrated approach to assessment. It is intended that the process will run concurrently with the plan making process and form an iterative part of the LDP Review, involving the consideration of all emerging policy and site options. Natural Resources Wales will be consulted throughout the HRA process.

1.7 Evidence Base Assessments

- 1.7.1** To inform the review of the LDP there will be a need to update various elements of the evidence base that informed the current Local Development Plan which expires in 2021 as well as taking into account any contextual or policy changes that have occurred since adoption of the plan. A sample of the evidence base studies required to inform the LDP are provided below:

- **Demographic Forecasts and Analysis** – to provide estimates of the future numbers of households and of the numbers of people who live in them, which will inform the LDP's dwelling requirement;
- **Local Housing Market Assessment** - to identify how many homes are required of each tenure: open market housing and 'affordable housing' (e.g. intermediate or social rented housing);
- **Settlement Assessment Study** – to provide analysis on the role and function of settlements in Bridgend County Borough;
- **Settlement Boundary Review** – to define clear, defensible boundaries around settlements in the form of 'settlement boundaries';
- **Economic Evidence Base Study** – to identify the county borough's employment land requirements for the LDP period and to assess the quality of the main employment areas for continued use, and identify potential new land to meet future requirements for all employment sectors;
- **Plan-Wide Viability Assessment** – to assess the broad levels of development viability across housing market areas and identify the contribution sites can make to the delivery of infrastructure, affordable housing and any other policy requirements;
- **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment** – to calculate up-to-date local need and inform identification of deliverable allocation(s) if a need is identified;
- **Bridgend Town Centre Flood Risk Assessment** – to identify areas at risk of flooding;
- **Retail Study** – to identify the requirements of retail need, including the need for more land and floorspace;
- **Green Infrastructure Assessment** – to assess natural and semi-natural features, green spaces and corridors that intersperse and connect places, including a refreshed audit of outdoor sport and playing space provision;
- **Landscape Character Assessment** - to describe the characteristics of the local landscape and which may include guidelines for development;
- **Renewable Energy Assessment** – to provide a robust Renewable Energy

evidence base;

- **Transport Assessment** – to assess the impact of the scale and distribution of development detailed in the emerging Local Development Plan;
- **Urban Capacity Study** – to assess the potential urban capacity of the county borough's settlements to inform the expected small and windfall housing allowance rate; and
- **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** – to identify the infrastructure required to support delivery of development proposed over the LDP plan period.

1.7.2 The above is not a definitive list and additional evidence base update requirements may emerge as plan revision progresses. There are number authorities in South-East Wales that are currently in the process of considering reviewing their Local Development Plans on the basis that their current plans expire at the end of 2021. This presents an opportunity for collaboration including the preparation of a shared evidence base.

1.8 Well-being of Future Generations Act

1.8.1 The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (WBFG) gained Royal Assent in April 2015. The Act aims to make a difference to lives of people in Wales in relation to seven well-being goals and also sets out five ways of working. The seven well-being goals relate to:

- a prosperous Wales;
- a resilient Wales;
- a healthier Wales;
- a more equal Wales;
- a Wales of cohesive communities;
- a Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh language; and
- a globally responsible Wales.

1.8.2 The five ways of working are long-term, integration, involvement, collaboration and prevention. Given that sustainable development is the core underlying principle of the LDP (and SEA); there are clear associations between both the LDP and the WBFG Act. As a requirement of the Act a Local Well-being Plan (LWBP) must be produced (Bridgend's LWBP is currently in the process of being finalised). This plan will look at the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county and will have clear links with the LDP. Both the WBFG Act and the LWBP will be considered fully throughout the preparation of the revised LDP, which will follow the five ways of working.

1.9 Tests of Soundness

1.9.1 'Soundness' is an integral part of the LDP system and is an important principle by which it may be demonstrated as to whether the LDP shows good judgement and is able to be trusted. If the revised LDP is found not to be sound then the Welsh Government could require the Council to take necessary action to remedy the situation. This may involve returning to the very early stages of plan preparation thereby causing considerable delay in the preparation of the plan.

1.9.2 The Council must submit the replacement LDP to the Welsh Government for examination. An independent Inspector is appointed by the WG to undertake this examination to determine whether the LDP is fundamentally sound. The Inspector will assess whether the preparation of the plan has been undertaken in accordance with legal and regulatory procedural requirements, and, complies with the Community Involvement Scheme. The Inspector must also determine whether the Plan meets the three soundness tests⁵:

- Test 1 – Does the plan fit? (i.e. is it clear that the LDP is consistent with other plans?);
- Test 2 – Is the plan appropriate? (i.e. is the plan appropriate for the area in the light of the evidence?);
- Test 3 – Will the plan deliver? (i.e. is it likely to be effective?).

1.9.3 The conclusions reached by the Inspector will be binding and, unless the Welsh Government intervenes, the Council must accept the changes required by the Inspector and adopt the revised LDP.

⁵ Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, March 2020)

2 Timetable

- 2.1** The Council has prepared a timetable summarising the key stages in plan preparation (Table 1), which while challenging, provides a realistic timeframe for preparation of the replacement LDP having regard to the resources available. In preparing the timetable, regard has been given to the WG's expectation that a revised plan can be prepared in considerably less than 4 years, taking into account the resources available and the extent of changes required (Planning Policy Wales Edition 10, December 2018. Furthermore, it has regard to the fact that the current LDP expires in December 2021 and it is imperative to maintain Development Plan coverage.
- 2.2** Work has commenced at pace on the RLDP since the approval of the original Delivery Agreement in June 2018, with consultation on the Preferred Strategy held in October – November 2019. However the preparation of the Deposit Plan has not proceeded as quickly as envisaged. The original Delivery Agreement stated that the Deposit Plan would be subject to consultation and community engagement during July and August 2020. This timescale has slipped to January, February and March 2021.
- 2.3** The delay in progress on the Preferred Strategy is due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In March 2020, the UK Government imposed a UK wide lockdown resulting in offices and businesses closing down, many employees being furloughed by employers and BCBC staff adjusting to new working arrangements. Whilst the replacement LDP was not at a consultation stage at this time, the restrictions prevented progress being made on the preparation of the Deposit Plan in the following ways:
- Inability of site promoters to carry out site-specific technical work to support their Candidate Site submissions;
 - The closure of schools and workplaces resulting in new temporary patterns of movement preventing the assessment of accurate traffic impact of development proposals;
 - Social distancing measures preventing physical meetings;
 - Temporary suspension of Council meetings and committees;
 - Delays caused by adjustment to new ways of working; and
 - The need to review the LDP Evidence Base in light of the pandemic.
- 2.4** In addition to the above, account has been made in the revised timetable to allow for a longer period of consultation on the Deposit Plan to account for the alternative methods of consultation necessitated by the pandemic, which are detailed in Part 3. This will extend the statutory consultation period of 6 weeks to 8 weeks. This also enables an element of flexibility to account for any further temporary restrictions imposed due to the pandemic, although significant further delays would necessitate a further revision of this Delivery Agreement.
- 2.5** Table 1 is divided into definitive and indicative stages:
- **Definitive Stages** – This part of the timetable provides information up to and inclusive of the statutory Deposit stage. The progress of the Plan over this period is under the direct control of the Council and therefore target dates, are considered realistic and every effort will be made to adhere to these dates.

- **Indicative Stages** – This part of the timetable provides for the stages of plan preparation beyond the statutory Deposit stage. These stages are increasingly dependent on a wide range of external factors (e.g. the number of representations received, number of examination hearing sessions, time taken to receive Inspector's Report) over which the Council has far less control. Those dates will be reconsidered after reaching the Deposit stage when definitive timings for the remaining stages will be prepared and submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement and publication.

Table 1 - Key stages in the Replacement LDP Process (as revised July 2020)

KEY STAGE		TIMESCALE	
DEFINITIVE		FROM	TO
STAGE 1	Update Evidence Base & SA/SEA Baseline Framework & Assessments	April 2018	December 2020
STAGE 2	Delivery Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission to Welsh Government – June 2018 • Response to LPA to be received within 4 weeks 	April 2018	July 2018
STAGE 3	Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation (Oct – Dec 2019) 	August 2018	December 2020
STAGE 4	Deposit LDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation 	January 2021	March 2021
INDICATIVE		FROM	TO
STAGE 5	Submission	Autumn 2021 (Sept)	-
STAGE 6	Examination	Autumn 2021 (November)	Winter 2022 (February)
STAGE 7	Inspectors Report & Adoption	Winter 2022 (February)	Spring 2022 (March)
STAGE 8	Adoption	Spring 2022 (April – May)	

A detailed project timetable outlining the timescale for each of the stages of plan preparation is included in Appendix 2.

2.6 Resources

- 2.6.1** The Head of Regeneration, Development and Property Services, and the Group Manager of Development will be responsible for the overall delivery of the revised LDP, with the Development Planning Manager responsible for the day- to-day project management. The Development Planning Team will lead in the preparation and delivery of the revised LDP with Member engagement and political reporting at appropriate stages. The existing staff resources are set out in Table 2 below, approximately 80% of officer time will be dedicated to the LDP to account for day to day involvement in liaison with colleagues in development management and also to account for regional working. Additional time will be dedicated by the Group Manager of Development to the efficient delivery of the replacement LDP. It will also be necessary to call upon staff resources from other internal departments to assist in undertaking various evidence base updates/assessments. This is likely to include officer support from; Development Management, Heritage, Housing, Highways, Economic Development, Property, Countryside Management, Education, Democratic Services and Legal Services. (The structure as set out below is in the process of being implemented by BCBC).

Table 2 – Development Planning Staff Resources

Officer Job Title	Number of posts
Development Planning Manager	1
Development Planning Team Leader	1
Principal Planning Officer	1
Senior Planning Officer	1
Planning Officer	1
Technical Officers	2

- 2.6.2** While it is anticipated that a considerable amount of evidence base work will be undertaken by Bridgend County Borough Council officers, predominately Development Planning (Planning Policy), the use of external consultants is likely to be necessary, particularly in relation to highly technical/specialist elements of the evidence base. An initial assessment has been carried out of the elements of plan preparation that are likely to require external consultant input and financial resources have been secured accordingly.
- 2.6.3** The Delivery Agreement has been prepared on the basis of a revised Bridgend Local Development Plan only. However, it is important to recognise that work is being undertaken on a regional basis that will require future resourcing. It is considered that collaboration with neighbouring authorities will be fundamental to the preparation of the revised LDP, particularly with regard to a joint evidence base, where appropriate. The South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG) is working towards a set of regionally agreed methodologies for key topic areas to ensure a consistent evidence base throughout the Cardiff Capital Region. In addition, Bridgend and RCT LPAs identified a number of topic areas where an evidence base could be prepared jointly; however, the decision taken by

RCT to review their LDP was made at too late a date for this to be a realistic proposition. Both authorities are however committed to share findings of technical studies and to maintain an open dialogue on issues of cross boundary relevance.

- 2.6.4** A sufficient budget is available to progress the revised LDP to adoption within the prescribed timetable. It is anticipated that this will cover expenditure relating to all elements of preparation of the revised LDP and the Independent Examination.

2.7 Risk Management and Analysis

- 2.7.1** Having regard to the resources which it is putting into the LDP process, the Council considers that the proposed timetable is realistic, robust, and achievable. Notwithstanding this conviction, the Council has identified certain areas of risk that could result in some departures from the proposed timetable. Any deviations from the approved timetable will therefore be monitored for slippage and/or other impacts arising from the risks identified below or other causes.

- 2.7.2** In this respect, the Council considers it is reasonable to make allowance for slippage of up to 3 months in the timetable without formally amending the Delivery Agreement. If there is a slippage of more than 3 months in the definitive part of the timetable, the Council will seek the agreement of the Welsh Government in amending the timetable following approval of such an amendment by the Authority.

- 2.7.3** The possible risk areas are identified in Appendix 4.

2.8 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

- 2.8.1** The replacement LDP will contain sufficient policies to provide the basis for determining planning applications. However, SPG has an important supporting role in providing more detailed or site specific guidance on the way in which LDP policies will be applied. While SPG does not form part of a development plan it should be derived from and be consistent with the relevant LDP. The SPG should also be clearly cross referenced to the policies and proposals it supplements.

- 2.8.2** Following the LDP's adoption a number of supplementary planning guidance documents have been prepared to support existing LDP policies:

- SPG 12 – Sustainable Energy (May 2014);
- SPG 13 – Affordable Housing (October 2015);
- SPG 19 – Biodiversity and Development (July 2014);
- SPG 20 – Renewables in the Landscape (2014); and
- SPG21 – Safeguarding Employment Sites (June 2015)

- 2.8.3** A review of the existing SPG including ones recently amended and adopted will be undertaken as part of the LDP Revision process with amendments to a number of these likely to be required.

2.9 Monitoring and Review

2.9.1 The Council will monitor and regularly review progress of the replacement LDP against the requirements of the Delivery Agreement to ensure the timetable is being kept to and the public engagement as set out in the CIS is being met. The timetable allows for a marginal degree of flexibility, however, any amendments to the DA will require approval by the Council prior to Welsh Government agreement. The DA may need to be amended if the following circumstances, which are beyond the LPA's control, occur during the preparation of the revised LDP:

- Significant change to the resources available to undertake preparation of the revised LDP;
- Preparation of the revised LDP falls behind schedule i.e. more than 3 months;
- Significant changes to European, UK or Welsh legislation directly affecting the revised LDP preparation process;
- Any other change in circumstances that will materially affect the delivery of the revised LDP in accordance with the DA; and
- Significant changes to the Community Involvement Scheme.

2.9.2 An updated timetable will be submitted to the Welsh Government following the Deposit stage. This will provide certainty of the timescales for the remaining stages (i.e. replacing indicative stages with definitive stages). The indicative timetable will be redefined within 3 months of the close of the formal Deposit period and submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.

3 Community Involvement Scheme

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The Community Involvement Scheme sets out how the Council proposes to proactively involve the community and stakeholders in the preparation of the replacement LDP.

3.1.2 Bridgend County Borough Council is committed to improving the quality of stakeholder and community involvement in plan making. Early and continued community involvement should help in addressing contentious issues, and assist in resolving conflicts throughout plan preparation. It can also help in identifying common ground, and shared goals.

3.1.3 By engaging people and organisations in planning the future of Bridgend, the CIS will, therefore, seek to:

- detail how the LDP will be prepared, developed, monitored and reviewed in partnership with the community and other stakeholders in a structured, effective, and inclusive way;
- improve the process of plan preparation by engaging with the public, involving them fully, effectively and inclusively in the preparation of the LDP;
- seek to establish a consensus between stakeholders on the Plan's aims and objectives and in its options and preferred strategy;
- provide a transparent and structured process of engagement with the community, at all stages of the LDP;
- incorporate into the process best practice regarding sustainable development, and the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive; and
- use these processes to produce a 'sound' plan.

3.1.4 While ultimately it is the Council that is responsible for the content of the LDP should it not be possible to achieve consensus, one of the aims of the LDP system is that plan production is based on effective community involvement in order that a range of views can be considered as part of a process of building a wide consensus on the plan's strategy and policies.

3.1.5 The five ways of working specified by the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act are integral to the CIS, namely long-term, integration, involvement, collaboration and prevention. The CIS describes the ways in which the community can influence the LDP at the different stages of the plan preparation process. The Council has also prepared a timetable for the production of the LDP (Appendix 2), which should be read in connection with the CIS.

3.1.6 The Council is a caring and customer focused organisation. The overall aim of the Council is to "to deliver the best local services in Wales" which is underpinned by our core FACE values:

- **Fair:** taking everyone's needs into account;
- **Ambitious:** always trying to improve what we do and aiming for excellence;
- **Customer Focused:** remembering that we're here to serve our local communities,

and

- **Efficient:** delivering services that are value for money.

3.1.7 Therefore, it will seek to understand and respond to customer needs through the consultation process on the LDP; the objective being to forge and maintain effective links and structures with all stakeholders.

3.1.8 The CIS will provide the framework for everyone with an interest in the future planning of Bridgend County Borough, and consequently the LDP process, to have an opportunity to become actively involved in plan preparation.

3.1.9 To ensure the process is inclusive, an important part of the CIS is to establish measures and procedures that will enable every person or group, regardless of their background, to realise that opportunity in the plan process and the decisions which will affect them. To enable full community involvement the Council will:

- Encourage, support and empower disadvantaged and hard-to-reach groups and individuals to fully participate through forums, focus groups, and local partnerships in line with the Council's agreed Equalities Agenda; and
- Encourage and support other organisations that work in partnership with the Council, or receive funding from the Council, to pursue similar policies on equality of opportunity; and Target resources accordingly.

3.1.10 Bridgend County Borough Council is also committed to utilising the ten national principles for public engagement in Wales. Public engagement in the preparation of the LDP will take place in accordance with the guidelines set out in the CIS. The Council recognise that engagement must be designed to make a difference, the main objectives for involving the community in the LDP preparation process can be identified as:

- To involve people at the earliest opportunity, in time to shape plan preparation work;
- That consultation takes place before decisions are made and that such decisions are made in an open and transparent manner;
- To provide an accessible consultation process and adapt this as necessary to account for individual needs;
- To encourage and enable everyone with the opportunity to be involved, if they so choose;
- Adopt alternative approaches to ensure hard to reach groups are involved from the outset (this will involve liaising with BAVO);
- Draw on local knowledge to improve decision making and help the realistic implementation of decisions;
- That the planning system should help implement the community's vision for the area;
- To seek consensus and strengthen community involvement;
- To engage as full a spectrum of the community as possible in strategic issues; and
- To provide two way dialogue by responding to comments received and publishing

responses in a report of consultation.

3.2 Welsh Language and Bilingual engagement

3.2.1 The Welsh Language Standards place a legal duty on Councils to make it easier for people to use services through the medium of Welsh. The Council has published a Welsh Language Strategy for 2017 – 2022; the requirements of both the corporate strategy and Welsh Language Standards will be maintained at each stage of the revised LDP. Bilingual engagement will be carried out in the following ways:

- We welcome correspondence in both Welsh and English. Where correspondence is received in Welsh and a reply is necessary, this will be sent in Welsh;
- All consultation letters, comments forms, public notices (including site notices) and newsletters will be bilingual;
- Any pages on the Local Development Plan website and social media posts published on twitter will be bilingual;
- Any public meetings will be conducted bilingually where a request has been made ahead of time. Prior notification is required in order to provide a translation service;
- Draft LDP documents can be made available in Welsh if requested and where timescales allow; and
- The revised LDP once adopted will be available in both Welsh and English Format.

3.3 How will we involve our communities and key stakeholders

3.3.1 We will seek to publicise the LDP revision process at every stage and reach as much of the community as possible, as well as other stakeholders to advise people about the revised LDP and how they can get involved. This will be achieved by:

- Direct contact (i.e. by letter or e-mail, the preference of which as indicated by the stakeholder through consultation);
- Through use of Twitter, by utilising the corporate Bridgend Council Twitter account @BridgendCBC) to advertise the LDP webpage;
- Via Facebook on the Bridgend County Borough Council page;
- Engagement with Members and Community Councils through specific workshops, training events, Member drop-in sessions and in reports to appropriate Council meetings;
- Making use of Bridgend's Citizens Panel;
- All LDP information and documents will be made available on the Council's website, which will be updated regularly;
- Deposit of documents at the Council's Civic Offices, libraries, Life Centres and Community Hubs;
- Press releases for the local media, where appropriate;
- Producing a regular newsletter that describes progress on the revised LDP;
- Public information exhibitions, drop in sessions and or meetings in accessible locations; and
- Advertising each stage of participation/consultation on Bridgend Council's magazine

‘Bridgenders’.

3.3.2 Whilst the above methods of engagement have proved effective in communicating with stakeholders in Key Stages 1-3 of the LDP preparation, and will remain relevant, the reasons given for the need to revise this Delivery Agreement will necessitate greater use of the following to progress through Key Stage 4 and beyond:

- Engagement with Members and Community Councils through virtual meetings i.e. Skype / Microsoft teams;
- Interaction with stakeholders through specific topic or area based surgery sessions on a pre-booked basis;
- Consideration of the interactive use of social media / digital communication (i.e. Q&A sessions);
- Greater emphasis on the use of web based technology;
- One to one telephone conversations to engage those members of the community without Internet access;
- Dissemination of hard copies of information to individuals where other sources of information have failed;
- Use of larger venues for public exhibitions and meetings to accommodate social distancing measures if necessary (and available) – e.g. sports halls, school halls, outside space;
- Appointment based drop-in sessions to manage the number of stakeholders present at any given time and to help manage officer time; and
- The use of internal and external agencies to assist with community meetings and engagement (e.g. Planning Aid).

3.4 Methods of Engaging the Community

3.4.1 A range of methods to facilitate community involvement will be used throughout the Plan preparation process, and these will be designed to ensure efficient and effective consultation and participation, tailored when necessary to focus upon particular issues. The methods of engaging the community at each stage of plan preparation are set out in the ‘Replacement LDP Preparation Process’ table.

3.4.2 Council officers will also be utilised to run structured community involvement mechanisms such as targeted discussions, workshops, and focus groups. Also, the extensive past expertise of planning officers in the more traditional consultation methods for Plan preparation will be used to facilitate greater joined up engagement in the wider consultation process necessary for LDP preparation.

Citizen’s Panel

3.4.3 The Council has established a Citizens Panel of 1,700 residents of the County Borough, selected to be statistically representative of the population, who help to inform decision-making on a wide range of issues. The results of previous and future surveys may be used to inform the evidence base of the LDP.

Individuals who have registered an interest through the Revised LDP Database

3.4.4 An ‘LDP Consultee Database’ has been maintained to include members of the public,

interested persons and any individual organisations who have requested to be kept informed at each stage of the LDP revision process. The primary purpose of this database is to allow for those who are not included on the Welsh Government list of consultees for Local Development Plans to be involved and informed throughout the LDP revision process. However, on 25th May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force, placing new restrictions on how organisations can hold and use your personal data and defining your rights with regard to that data. The GDPR will apply to our 'LDP Consultee Database' and as such members of the public will be required to give their consent in writing if they wish to remain or be added to the LDP database.

- 3.4.5** If you wish for your details to be added to the revised LDP database, please contact the Development Section by email, phone or in writing.

Bridgend County Borough Councillors

- 3.4.6** It is recognised that the involvement of elected Members of Bridgend County Borough Council throughout the LDP review will be extremely important to the process. Elected Members have a unique position as not only do they represent the communities within their individual ward, they also represent public interest and are involved in decisions for the wider benefit of the County Borough as a whole. Accordingly, Elected Members will play an essential role in the revised LDP process by providing information to local residents, informing us of issues/opportunities within their local area and more fundamentally making decisions on matters affecting the County Borough area as a whole.
- 3.4.7** The Cabinet Member for 'Communities' has responsibility for 'Development Planning' (Planning Policy), including the revised LDP. Liaison with the Cabinet Member and all other elected Members is essential throughout the process. All Member liaison's will consequently be undertaken as and when deemed necessary, particularly at key stages of the revised LDP including but not limited to; the Preferred Strategy, Deposit LDP and at Adoption. Members will be fully informed throughout the process and notified prior to every participation/consultation stage.

LDP Steering Group

- 3.4.8** It is imperative that there is political input into the production of the replacement Bridgend Local Development Plan. As such Development Control Committee will also take on the role of 'LDP Steering Group' to oversee the review of the Local Development Plan through from start to completion. The Steering Committee's main role will be to act as a 'critical friend' providing advice, scrutinising and making decisions on key aspects and stage of the LDP as it develops.

Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) Cabinet

- 3.4.9** The Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet, comprising the ten Leaders of Blaenau Gwent; Bridgend; Caerphilly; Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taff; Torfaen; and Vale of Glamorgan was established in 2017 to oversee the delivery of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal. The City Deal provides local partners with the powers

and the resources to unlock significant economic growth across the Cardiff Capital Region. The City Deal also provides an opportunity to continue tackling the area's barriers to economic growth by: improving transport connectivity; increasing skill levels; supporting people into work; and giving businesses the support they need to innovate and grow. The deal will also develop stronger and more effective leadership across the Cardiff Capital Region.

Town and Community Councils

- 3.4.10** Town and Community Councils also play a key role in disseminating information to the residents within their area on matters of local importance and will be a key link to communities across Bridgend's. Town and Community Councils will be consulted at every stage of the LDP revision process.

Town and Community Council's Forum

- 3.4.11** The Development Planning Team will engage with the Town and Community Council's Forum. The forum will provide an additional opportunity for Town and Community Councils to voice their views on the revised LDP.

Partnership Groups

- 3.4.12** Existing partnership groups are seen as an important means of engaging the wider community in the preparation of the revised LDP, particularly in the early stages of public participation when structured discussion is desirable. Liaison with the Bridgend's Public Service Board and partners will be of particular importance to ensure the revised LDP aligns.

Members of the Public, Businesses, Land Owners, Developers and Agents

- 3.4.13** The Development Planning Section will engage with the business community at an early stage which could be achieved through liaison with the individual chambers' of commerce across the County Borough. We will also engage with planning agents who are regular customers of Bridgend County Borough Council's planning service. Members of the public, Landowners, agents and prospective developers who wish to put land forward to be considered for development will therefore also be included on the LDP revision database.
- 3.4.14** The Candidate Site process will provide the opportunity for those who have an interest in land to submit sites to be considered for development. A common methodology is being established across the South East Wales region for local planning authorities to utilise for their respective revised LDPs (where appropriate). A Call for Candidate Sites will be undertaken and all candidate sites will need to be submitted via a standardised form. The form will contain the criteria required to assist in the assessment of the suitability of sites for inclusion as potential allocations in the revised LDP. A threshold for accepting candidate sites will be set in order to ensure the plan remains strategically focused. This threshold will be provided up front in order to provide clarity of the process and avoid unnecessary work being undertaken for sites that will be immediately rejected.

Bridgend Business Forum

- 3.4.15** The Development Planning Team will engage with the Bridgend Business Forum. Membership is made up of established and new start businesses within a wide variety of business sectors. Sole traders, micro, small and medium sized businesses as well as large international companies are all present within the membership. The forum will provide an opportunity for the business community to voice their views on the revised LDP. Awareness of the LDP process will be promoted through the Business Forum newsletter which is produced on a monthly basis.

Business in Focus

- 3.4.16** The Development Planning Team will liaise with 'Business in Focus'. This organisation focuses on business start-ups and assisting existing businesses to grow.

Additional Consultation Bodies

- 3.4.17** Appendix 1 provides a list of the specific and general consultation bodies along with UK Government departments and other consultees. The specific consultees⁸ comprise of the Welsh Government and those bodies with specific functions that apply to the revised Plan area, for example the Health Board who cover the Bridgend area and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, the local water undertaker. The Authority must also consult UK Government Departments where aspects of the plan appear to affect their interests. These consultation bodies will be engaged throughout the LDP revision process at each of the formal stages and informally, as appropriate.

Hard to Reach Groups

- 3.4.18** Efforts will be made to engage with 'hard to reach' groups which are rarely heard and who have not taken part traditionally in the plan preparation process. A flexible approach will need to be undertaken in relation to engagement with these groups, albeit within the parameters of the specified participation/consultation periods. Engagement with these groups may be achieved by using existing partnerships and the voluntary organisation BAVO may be able to assist in this process. The following groups identified below will be actively encouraged to participate in the LDP revision process:

- Young People – the established Bridgend's Youth Council will be invited to participate as appropriate in the LDP revision process. This will ensure the voices of young people are heard and enable young people to share their views on a wide range of issues that they consider important to them and their local area. This may also extend to engagement and consultation events at various schools in the County Borough where appropriate;
- Disabled People – engagement with Bridgend's 'Coalition of Disabled People' will be of importance in order to gain the views of those living with disabilities in the County Borough; and
- Gypsy and Travellers – the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Stakeholder Group will be utilised at relevant stages to ensure the gypsy and travelling community are appropriately engaged.

3.4.19 In addition to the above hard to reach groups there are other seldom heard voices who are considered to have been under-represented previously in LDP preparation. This includes (but is not exclusive to) those seeking affordable housing in the County Borough, small house-builders and small and medium-sized enterprises. Accordingly, we will endeavor to reach out to these groups by utilising existing mutual points of contact wherever possible.

3.5 What we expect from you

3.5.1 In order to ensure any comments and representations on the revised LDP are considered, they must be submitted within the prescribed timescales. The Delivery Agreement sets out the timetable of relevant stages and provides a guideline of when we will seek your involvement. This will ensure that individual views are considered and taken into account throughout the LDP revision preparation process.

3.5.2 It is also of importance that you notify the Development Planning Section should your contact details change during the LDP revision process in order for us to keep you fully informed of progress. With regard to Candidate Sites it is noted that land ownership changes may also occur during the process and it is imperative that these are communicated to the Development Planning Section in order to ensure progress is not delayed.

3.6 Building Consensus

3.6.1 The Council will seek to build consensus through the various engagement and consultation methods set out within the CIS. Consensus building can only be achieved if the community and other interested parties are kept fully informed and effectively engaged throughout the preparation of the revised LDP, which will be of particular importance in the early stages of plan preparation. It is nevertheless recognised that there will be occasions where consensus cannot be achieved and a difference in opinion between certain parties occurs. A clear audit trail of decisions will be maintained in order to ensure that there is transparency in the decision making process, and, to provide assurances to those that disagree that the decisions have been made in an informed and balanced way. However, decisions made will not be revisited via subsequent consultation opportunities, so participants are requested to focus their input on the matter being considered at that stage.

3.7 Late representations

3.7.1 Consultation responses are required by the specified deadline of the specific consultation period in order for them to be considered. Any late comments/representations will not be logged as 'duly made' as they were not made in accordance with the published timescales. There may be exceptional circumstances where a representation is submitted late, it will be at the Council's discretion as to whether such late representations can be accepted. Evidence will be required to highlight why the representation was delayed and that a genuine attempt was made to submit within the prescribed deadline. The timescale to produce the revised LDP is already challenging, the acceptance of late representations could result in further delay which would not be acceptable.

3.8 Document Availability and Deposit Locations

3.8.1 At various stages of Plan preparation, documentation must be made available for public inspection and comment. All such documentation will also be made available electronically on the Council's web site at www.bridgend.gov.uk

3.8.2 In addition, hard copies will be made available for inspection at the Council's Civic Offices in Bridgend and at the Authority's public libraries (provided they remain open to the public):

- BCBC, Reception, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB Mobile Library – (2 copies);
- Aberkenfig Library, Heol y Llyfrau, Aberkenfig, CF32 9PT;
- Betws Library, Betws Life Centre, Betws Road, Betws, CF32 8PT;
- Bridgend Library, Bridgend Life Centre, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AH
- Maesteg Library, North's Lane, Maesteg, CF34 9AA;
- Ogmore Vale Library, Ogmore Valley Life Centre, Aber Road, Ogmore Vale, CF32 7AJ
- Pencoed Library, Penybont Road, Pencoed, CF35 5RA;
- Pontycymmer Library, Garw Valley Life Centre, Old Station Yard, Pontycymmer, CF32 8ES;
- Porthcawl Library, Church Place, Porthcawl, CF36 3AG;
- Pyle Library, Pyle Life Centre, Helig Fan, Pyle, CF33 6BS;
- Sarn Library, Sarn Life Long Learning Centre, Merfield Close, Sarn, CF32 9SW;
- Ty'r Ardd Library, Local and Family History Centre, Ty'r Ardd, Sunnyside, CF31 4AR; and
- Y Llynfi Library, Maesteg Sports Centre, Old Forge Site, Nant-y-Crynwyd, Maesteg, CF34 9EB

3.8.3 All documentation will be available to view on the Council's web site where appropriate.

3.8.4 Electronic representation forms will also be made available during periods of consultation.

3.8.5 Paper copies of documents will not be sent out during the LDP process as they will be made publicly available in the locations listed above, as well as being made available electronically. In exceptional circumstances paper copies may be offered, however this will be assessed on a case by case basis depending on the specific needs of the relevant individual.

3.9 Replacement Local Development Plan Preparation Process

3.9.1 The following table sets out the detailed timetable for community engagement and the proposed engagement methods for the key stages in the LDP preparation process. The list is not exhaustive and may need to be adapted to ensure the community and stakeholders are suitably involved at each stage. The proposed methods of engagement will vary dependent on the stage of plan preparation, subject matter, preference of those involved and the resources available at the time, recognising that the proposed timetable and methods should not hinder plan preparation.

Definitive Stage

Stage 1: Update Evidence Base & SA/SEA Baseline Framework & Assessments

The Council has a statutory obligation under Section 61 of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to keep all matters under review that are expected to affect the development of its area.

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Update Evidence Base & SA/SEA Baseline Framework & Assessments	The Council is required to prepare and maintain an up-to date information base on all aspects of the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the Borough, to enable the preparation of a 'sound' development plan. This will be ongoing up until the submission of the Deposit Plan. To scope the SA/SEA process of the preparation of the LDP incorporating the legal requirements of the SA/SEA.	April 2018 – December 2020	Development Planning Team Other Council Officers Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) External Consultants where necessary	LDP Monitoring Specialist Surveys / Data Collection Analysis LDP Officers / Members Group LDP Steering Group / PSB	LDP Monitoring Reports Publish findings on Council Website where appropriate.	Development Planning Team Other Council Staff Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) External Consultants if necessary ICT Support Printing Costs

Stage 2: Delivery Agreement (DA)

Regulations: The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 9 & 10 (2004) and Regulation 2(5) (2015)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Preparation of Draft DA	To inform stakeholders that the Council is preparing a LDP and seek community involvement.	April 2018	Development Planning Team Other Council Officers	Report to: LDP Steering Group Council	A realistic timeframe for the preparation of the revised LDP. Details of risk management Community Involvement proposals specified Collaborative working	Development Planning Team Other Council Staff ICT Support
Political Reporting - Draft DA	To seek authorisation from Council to undertake targeted consultation on the Draft DA.	April 2018	Development Planning Team LDP Steering Group / PSB Council	Consultation with Members Consultation with Members via Council meeting	Authorisation from Council to undertake targeted consultation on the Draft DA.	Development Planning Team

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Targeted Consultation on Draft DA	To seek views of stakeholders and consultees on the content of the Draft Delivery Agreement.	April 2018 – May 2018	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Other Council Officers</p> <p>LDP Steering Group / PSB</p> <p>Council</p> <p>All Specific consultation Bodies</p> <p>UK Government Departments</p> <p>General Consultation Bodies</p> <p>Other Consultees Bodies (Including General Public and consult Planning Inspectorate (PINS))</p>	<p>Consultation with Members via LDP Steering Group / PSB members.</p> <p>Consultation with Members via Council meeting.</p> <p>Targeted consultation with specific consultation bodies via direct correspondence.</p> <p>Information by letter or e-mail.</p> <p>Website</p>	Any comments will be considered and Draft Delivery Agreement amended if required.	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Printing Costs</p> <p>Postage Costs</p> <p>Press / Advertisement Costs</p>

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Political Reporting following consultation on DA (agreement to submit to WG)	<p>To inform LDP Steering Committee and Council. To report views of stakeholders and consultees on the content of the Draft Delivery Agreement to the LDP Steering Group and Council.</p> <p>Council resolution will be requested to approve the (revised) Delivery Agreement for submission to Welsh Government.</p>	June 2018	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>LDP Steering Group / PSB members</p> <p>Council</p>	Committee Reports	<p>A summary of comments received with Delivery Agreement presented to LDP Steering Group.</p> <p>A summary of comments received with Delivery Agreement presented to Council.</p>	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Printing Costs</p>
Submission to Welsh Government following Council approval.	To seek formal agreement of the Delivery Agreement.	June 2018	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Welsh Government</p>		Council resolution will be requested to approve the Delivery Agreement for submission to Welsh Government.	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Printing Costs</p>
DA agreed by Welsh Government.	Formal commencement of Replacement LDP	July 2018	Welsh Government		<p>Formal agreement from Welsh Government & Report to Council advising of Welsh Governments approval.</p> <p>Publish Delivery Agreement.</p>	Development Planning Team

Stage 3: Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulation 14 (2004) and Regulation 2 (10) (2015); Regulations 15 & 16 (2004) and Regulation 16a (2015)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Consultation on Draft SA/SEA Scoping Report (5 weeks consultation) *statutory 5 week consultation to be undertaken at an appropriate juncture between July – September 2018	To seek views of consultees on the content of the SA/SEA Scoping Report.	July 2018 – Sept 2018	Development Planning Team Appropriate SA/SEA consultation bodies	Written Information dissemination via post and email Notices, Website Press Facebook & Twitter	Officer consideration of comments on SA/SEA Scoping Report and recommendation of amendments if required. A summary of comments received with SA/SEA Scoping Report presented to LDP Steering Group. A summary of comments received with SA/SEA Scoping Report presented to Council.	Development Planning Team

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Call for Candidate Sites (8 week consultation) **statutory 8 week consultation to be undertaken at an appropriate juncture between September – December 2018.	As part of developing the evidence base, the Council will engage with stakeholders and the public in identifying candidate sites to produce a Site Register.	Sept 2018 – Dec 2018	Development Planning Team All Specific Consultation Bodies UK Government Departments General Consultation Bodies Other Consultees (Including general public)	Written Information dissemination via post and email Notices, Website Press Facebook & Twitter Bridgend's Magazine	Develop and produce a site register to inform the Visioning and Strategic Options	Development Planning Team ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Candidate Sites Assessments	Identify candidate sites. Assessment criteria will be provided to facilitate this. The Site Register will be used to inform the Visioning and Strategic Options.	Sept 2018 – Dec 2020	Development Planning Team		See above.	See above.

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Identification & assessment of options (growth levels and spatial distribution) with SA / SEA input	To engage with consultees to develop consensus on options, including, growth levels and spatial distribution	Nov 2018 – Feb 2019	Development Planning Team LDP Officers / Members Group, LDP Steering Group / PSB Members Council Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA)	Meetings Workshops Written Information dissemination via post and e-mail.	Seek consensus on options, including, growth levels and distribution All Documentation placed on the Council Website and at Deposit locations.	Development Planning Team

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Preparation of Preferred Strategy, SA/SEA Report & HRA	To agree a Preferred Strategy for the LDP and express its Spatial implications in the Pre-Deposit Proposals.	May 2019 – Sep 2019	Development Planning Team LDP Officers / Members Group LDP Steering Group / PSB Members Council Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) All Specific consultation Bodies UK Government Departments General Consultation Bodies Other Consultees (Including General Public)	Meetings Workshops Written Information dissemination via post and e-mail.	Obtain Council approval for Preferred Strategy consultation. Council to approve Pre-Deposit Proposals and place on the Council Website and at all Deposit locations for at least 6 weeks. Deposit SA / SEA Report simultaneously with Pre-Deposit Proposals.	Development Planning Team

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Consultation on Preferred Strategy & Initial SA/SEA Report (6 Weeks Consultation)	To provide Consultees, stakeholders and others, with an opportunity to view and propose changes to the Pre-Deposit Proposals.	Oct 2019 – Nov 2019	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>LDP Officers / Members Group</p> <p>LDP Steering Group / PSB Members</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA)</p> <p>All Specific consultation Bodies</p> <p>UK Government Departments</p> <p>General Consultation Bodies</p> <p>Other Consultees (Including General Public)</p>	<p>Meetings</p> <p>Exhibitions</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Written Information dissemination via post and e-mail.</p> <p>Letters and Pre-Deposit Proposals sent to Specific Consultation Bodies.</p> <p>Letters sent to all other consultees.</p> <p>Copies of Pre-Deposit Proposals and associated documents published on Council Web Site and placed at Deposit locations.</p> <p>Local Advertisement. Facebook & Twitter</p> <p>Bridgend Magazine</p>	<p>Council to approve Pre-Deposit Proposals and place on the Council Website and at all Deposit locations for at least 6 weeks.</p> <p>Deposit SA / SEA Report simultaneously with Pre-Deposit Proposals.</p>	Development Planning Team

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Analyse consultation responses and prepare Initial Consultation Report	<p>Enable the Council to consider the response to the Pre-Deposit Proposals and amend if appropriate.</p> <p>SA/SEA of amended Pre-Deposit Proposals ready for Deposit.</p>	Dec 2019 – Jan 2020	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>LDP Steering Group / PSB Members</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Other Council Officers</p>	<p>Written Information dissemination via post and e-mail</p> <p>Meetings</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Copies of relevant documentation placed on Council Web Site and at all Deposit locations. Local Advertisement.</p>	<p>Assess Responses received and produce 'Initial Consultation Report'.</p> <p>Approval of Initial Consultation Report by Council</p> <p>Advise all Stakeholders of availability of Initial Consultation report.</p> <p>Initial Consultation Report published on Council Web Site and placed at Deposit Locations.</p>	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>Other Council Staff</p> <p>Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA)</p> <p>ICT support</p> <p>Printing Costs</p> <p>Postage Costs</p> <p>Advertisement Costs</p>
Prepare Deposit Plan, update SA/SEA/HRA	The Deposit Plan will have developed out of the preceding stages of the LDP process.	Feb 2020 – Dec 2020	<p>Development Planning Team</p> <p>LDP Officers / Members Working Group</p> <p>LDP Steering Group / PSB Members</p> <p>Council</p>	<p>Formal Reports</p> <p>Meetings</p> <p>Workshops</p>	Obtain Council approval to formally consult on the Deposit LDP.	Development Planning Team

Stage 4: Deposit LDP

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 17, 18 & 19 (2004)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Consultation on Deposit Plan, SA/SEA Report and HRA (6 week statutory consultation but allowance for 8 weeks)	This stage of the process will enable all stakeholders to make representations on the Deposit Plan and associated documents.	Jan 2021 – Mar 2021	Development Planning Team LDP Officers / Member Working Group LDP Steering Group / PSB Members Council Members All Specific Consultation Bodies UK Government Departments General Consultation Bodies Other Consultees (Including General Public)	Formal Reports Meetings (incl. virtual web-based meetings) Workshops Copies of Deposit Plan and associated documents placed on Council Website and at all Deposit locations (where possible). All Deposited documentation & Deposit LDP sent to Specific Consultation Bodies. Letters sent to all other consultees. Local Advertisement. Public Exhibitions and the use of drop-in & surgery sessions where appropriate One to one appointments & phone calls	Acknowledge receipt of duly made representations in writing or by email. Publish representations on Council Website where practicable and copies made available for inspection at Council Offices.	Development Planning Team Other Council Staff External Consultants where necessary ICT support Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs

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Indicative Stage

Stage 5: Submission

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulation 22(2004) and Regulation 2 (17) (2015)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Submission of LDP and associated Documents to Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deposit LDP • Final Sustainability Appraisal Report • Supporting Evidence-base Material • Copy of the CIS • Consultation Report • Copy of all representations made to the deposit Plan • A statement of suggested main issues for consideration at examination 	To submit LDP and Associated documents to Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate for Examination.	Sept 2021	Development Planning Team Programme Officer Welsh Government Planning Inspectorate	Formal Submission of LDP and Associated documents.	Service Level Agreement with Planning Inspectorate for conduct of the Examination.	Development Planning Team Appointment of Programme Officer for Independent Examination ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs

Stage 6 Examination

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulation 23(2004)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Pre-examination meeting	The Independent Planning Inspector will advise on examination procedures and format.	Nov 2021 – Feb 2022	Planning Inspectorate Development Planning Team Programme Officer All Representors All Stakeholders	Direct Contact with Representors at Pre-Examination Meeting Press Release Information on Council Web Site and at Deposit Locations Facebook & Twitter	Unknown	Development Planning Team Other Council Staff Programme Officer ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs
Notification of Independent Examination	To ensure that stakeholders and representors are advised that an Independent Examination into the LDP will be taking place.	Nov 2021 – Feb 2022	Planning Inspectorate Development Planning Team Programme Officer All Representors All Stakeholders	Written dissemination via post and e-mail regarding Examination Facebook & Twitter	Unknown	See above

Independent Examination	The examination will determine whether the LDP is “sound” and consider the representations made in respect of it.	Nov 2021 – Feb 2022	Planning Inspectorate All Representatives Other Consultees and Stakeholders (including the general public) Development Planning Team Other Council Staff Programme Officer Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) External Consultants / Legal Representation appointed if necessary		Unknown	Service Level Agreement with Planning Inspectorate. Development Planning Team Other Council Staff Independent Appraisers for SA(SEA) as advisors External Consultants / Legal Representation if necessary ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs
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Stage 7 Inspectors Report

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulation 24 (2004)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Receive Inspectors Report	After the examination, the Inspector will produce a binding report identifying proposed changes to the LDP. The authority will have the opportunity before the Inspectors report is finalised, to request the correction of factual errors.	Feb – Mar 2022	Development Planning Team LDP Officers / Members Group LDP Steering Group / PSB Council	Written dissemination via post and e-mail. Meetings	Advise Council of receipt of Inspectors Report. Council is required to adopt the final LDP incorporating the Inspector's recommendations within 8 weeks and agree its 'Adoption Statement'.	Service Level Agreement with Planning Inspectorate. Development Planning Team Other Council Staff ICT Support Printing Costs
Publication of Final Inspectors Report	The authority will make copies of the Inspector report and its suggested changes available for public inspection within 4 weeks of its receipt.	Feb – Mar 2022	Development Planning Team Council	Letters sent to all consultees advising availability of Inspectors Report. Copies of Inspectors Report placed on Council Web Site and at all deposit locations. Facebook & Twitter Bridgend Magazine	Council to notify its intention to adopt the LDP as soon as possible (or in any event within a further 4 weeks).	Development Planning Team ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs

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Stage 8 Adoption

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulation 25 (2004) and 2(19) (2015)

Stage in the LDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanisms	Resources
Formal adoption of the Bridgend LDP as the Development Plan for Bridgend County Borough.	To advise of the adoption of the Bridgend Local Development Plan.	April 2022 – May 2022	Development Planning Team LDP Steering Group / PSB Council All Stakeholders	Send copy of adoption statement to all stakeholders. Bridgend LDP published on Council Web and placed at original Deposit locations. Send 4no. copies of the adopted LDP and adoption statement to Welsh Government. As soon as practicably possible after adoption, final LDP sent to Specific Consultation Bodies & letters sent to all other consultees.	LDP adopted by resolution of Council. Publish Adoption Statement and Final SA Report	Development Planning Team ICT Support Printing Costs Postage Costs Advertisement Costs

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Contact details

You can contact the Development Planning Team using any of the following methods:

Email: ldp@bridgend.gov.uk

Telephone: 01656 643162

Post: Development Planning Team, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

Appendix 1 – List of Consultation Bodies

The Council will consult the following consultation bodies at all stages in the preparation of the LDP.

Specific Consultation Bodies (including UK Government Departments)

- Welsh Government (including Planning division)
- Natural Resources Wales
- Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
- British Telecom
- CADW
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Telecommunication Operators - O2 Airwave Service, Arqiva, O2 Plc, Three (Hutchinson), EE, T Mobile, Vodafone, NTL Communications, Virgin Media
- Gas and Electricity – Transco, Western Power Distribution, National Grid Wireless, National Grid Company Plc
- Sewerage of Water undertakers - Welsh Water Dwr Cymru
- Network Rail
- Secretary of State for Wales
- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
- Department for Transport
- Home Office
- Ministry of Defence
- Awen Cultural Trust

Neighbouring Local Authorities

- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
- Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council
- Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet and Other Local Authorities in the Cardiff Capital Region

- Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet
- Newport City Council
- City of Cardiff Council
- Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
- Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
- Torfaen County Borough Council
- Monmouthshire County Council
- Caerphilly County Borough Council

Town and Community Councils in the Bridgend County Area (including neighbouring Town and Community Councils)

- Brackla Community Council
- Bridgend Town Council
- Cefn Cribwr Community Council

- Coity Higher Community Council
- Cornelly Community Council
- Coychurch Higher Community Council
- Coychurch Lower Community Council
- Garw Valley Community Council
- Laleston Community Council
- Llangynwyd Lower Community Council
- Llangynwyd Middle Community Council
- Maesteg Town Council
- Merthyr Mawr Community Council
- Newcastle Higher Community Council
- Ogmore Valley Community Council
- Pencoed Town Council
- Porthcawl Town Council
- Pyle Community Council
- St Brides Minor Community Council
- Ynysawdre Community Council
- Colwinston Community Council
- Ewenny Community Council
- Llangan Community Council
- St Brides Major Community Council
- Llanharan Community Council
- Gilfach Goch Community Council

Other Consultees

- Action on Hearing Loss
- Active Travel Cymru
- Barratt David Wilson Homes
- Bellway
- Bovis Homes
- Bridgend and District YMCA
- Bridgend Civic Trust
- Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People
- Bridgend College
- Bridgend County Allotment Association
- Bridgend County Borough Councillors
- Bridgend Designer Outlet
- Bridgend District Local History and Museum Society
- Bridgend Equality Forum
- Bridgend Friends of the Earth
- Bridgend Public Services Board – Bridgend County Borough Council, ABMU Health Board, South Wales Fire & Rescue, Natural Resources Wales, Public Health Wales, South Wales Police, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations, Valleys to Coast, Housing Welsh Government, South Wales Police & Crime Commissioner's Office, Bridgend College, Awen, Bridgend Business Forum
- Bridgend Women's Aid
- Bridgend Youth Council & Forum
- British Aggregates Association
- British Astronomical Association (Campaign for Dark Skies)

- British Gas Wales
- British Geological Society
- Business in Focus
- Cardiff International Airport
- CBI
- Celtic Energy
- Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Coal Authority
- Coastal Housing Group
- Coed Cymru (Welsh Woodland Organisation)
- Coity Walia Commoners Association
- Compute (Bridgend) Ltd
- Crown Estates Commissioners
- Davies Bros
- Design Commission for Wales
- Disability Wales
- Federation of Master Builders
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Fields in Trust
- Ford Motor Company
- Freight Transport Association
- Glamorgan Muslim Community Association
- Gofal Housing Trust
- Groundwork Bridgend
- Gypsy and Travellers Wales
- Hafod Housing Association
- Hale Homes
- Hanson Aggregates
- Health and Safety Executive
- Hendre Housing Association
- Home Builders Federation
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Jehu
- Kier Living
- Linc – Cymru Housing Association
- Llamau Ltd
- Llanmoor Homes
- Llynfi Valley Forum
- Local and Regional Assembly Members representing Bridgend County Borough
- Local Members of European Parliament
- Local Members of Parliament
- Lovells
- Merthyr Mawr Estate Office
- National Air Traffic Services Ltd (NSL)
- National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
- Network Rail
- NFU Cymru
- Ogmore Angling Association

- Ogwr DASH
- Persimmon Homes
- Planning Aid Wales
- Planning Inspectorate Wales
- Play Wales
- Porthcawl Civic Trust Society
- Quarry Products Association
- Ramblers
- Redrow Homes
- Religious Society of Friends – Quakers
- Representative Body of the Church in Wales (The)
- Riparian Owners of River Ogmore
- Road Safety Wales
- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Wales
- Royal Mail Property Holding
- Royal National Institute for the Blind
- Royal Society of Architects in Wales
- RSPB Cymru
- RTPI Wales
- Shelter Cymru
- Showmen's Guild of Great Britain South Wales and Northern Ireland
- Sports Wales
- Sustrans Cymru
- Tarmac
- Taylor Wimpey
- The Equality & Human Rights Commission
- The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales
- United Welsh Housing Association
- Wales and West Housing Association
- Wallich (The)
- Welsh Ambulance Service
- Welsh Health Estates
- Welsh Local Government Association
- Yellow Wales

- **Chambers of Trade:-**
- CF31 Bid
- Maesteg Chamber of Trade
- Porthcawl Chamber of Trade

- **Local Transport Operators: -**
- Arriva Trains Wales
- First Cymru
- Great Western Trains Company Ltd

Appendix 2 – Timetable for Revised LDP

	2018										2019										2020										2021																	
Key Stage - Definitive	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D			
Stage 1 - Update Evidence Base																																																
Review Evidence Base (including review of SA/SEA Framework)																																																
Stage 2 - Delivery Agreement (DA)																																																
Preparation of Draft DA																																																
Political Reporting - Draft DA																																																
Targeted Consultation on Draft DA																																																
Political Reporting following consultation on DA (agreement to submit to WG)																																																
Submission to Welsh Government																																																
DA agreed by Welsh Government																																																
Stage 3 - Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation																																																
Consultation on Draft SA Scoping Report (5 weeks)*																																																
Call for Candidate Sites (8 week consultation)**																																																
Candidate Sites Assessments																																																
Identification & assessment of vision, issues and objectives																																																
Identification & assessment of options (growth levels and spatial distribution) & SA/SEA																																																
Preparation of Preferred Strategy, SA Report & HRA																																																

*statutory 5 week consultation to be undertaken between July –September 2018

**statutory 8 week consultation to be undertaken between September – December 2018

	2019												2020												2021												2022				
Key Stage - Definitive	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Stage 3 - Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation (Continued)																																									
Consultation on Preferred Strategy																																									
Consultation on Initial SA/SEA Report																																									
Analyse consultation responses and prepare Initial Consultation Report																																									
Prepare Deposit Plan, update SA/HRA																																									
Stage 4 - Deposit LDP																																									
Consultation on Deposit Plan, SA/SEA Report and HRA																																									
Analyse consultation responses and prepare Consultation Report																																									
Key Stage - Indicative	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Stage 5 - Submission of LDP to Welsh Government																																									
Stage 6 - Examination																																									
Stage 7 - Inspector's Report - Preparation																																									
Stage 7 - Inspector's Report - Publication																																									
Stage 8 - Adoption																																									

Appendix 3 – Bridgend Replacement LDP: Draft Delivery Agreement Consultation Report – Summary of Key Issues Raised

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A statutory review of the Bridgend Local Development Plan (LDP) commenced in 2017, an important stage being the publication of the Draft Review Report which was subject to a four week stakeholder consultation period commencing Monday 30 April 2018 until 5pm Friday 25 May 2018. The Delivery Agreement sets out how and when the local community and other stakeholders can contribute to the preparation of the Replacement Plan and a timetable for its preparation. It is proposed that the Replacement LDP will cover a plan period up to 2033.

The LPA received 8 consultation responses. A summary of the key issues raised in relation to the questions on the Draft Delivery Agreement is provided in the table below:

Representor	Comment	LPA Response	Recommendation
The Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd	The historic environment is an important part of Bridgend CBC's area, and includes statutorily designated historic assets of both areas and structures, as well as non-designated historic assets. The range of these includes areas such as the Mesolithic flint scatters at Merthyr Mawr Warren, shrunken Medieval villages, and the historic core of Bridgend, with its Medieval bridge, castle and church, industrial minerals extractive and transporting landscapes, RAF Stormy Down, as well as information on isolated finds of all periods, all of which contribute to the distinctive heritage and current form of the area. We are also able to provide information on the policies and procedures that have been adopted for development in other local authorities: for Bridgend, eleven areas have been delineated as Archaeologically Sensitive Areas in an Archaeology and Archaeologically Sensitive Areas SPG which has been supplied to you in draft in 2017 and is awaiting approval. The historic environment should not be seen as any constraint to development, but viewed with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, contribute substantially to the well-being goals relating to culture and community, and by understanding and enhancement to the remaining goals. The Draft Review Report notes in 2.2.11 that the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 has become law, giving more effective protection to the historic environment in Wales. There is a suite of relevant supporting policy (Planning Policy Wales 9, 2016 Chapter 6: The Historic Environment, technical advice notes (TAN24: The Historic Environment) and best practice guidance, some of which is still emerging. Inclusion of these in a revised Plan would acknowledge current legislation and support current professional standards.	The comments received from the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd are noted.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
Natural Resources Wales	Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales on the above LDP draft deliver agreement, which we received on 24 April 2018.	The comments received from Natural Resources Wales are noted.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.

	We welcome the consultation, and we acknowledge the delivery agreement timescales. We would like to take the opportunity to offer our support, including informal engagement throughout the LDP review process.		
National Grid	National Grid has appointed Amec Foster Wheeler to review and respond to development plan consultations on its behalf. We have reviewed the above consultation document and can confirm that National Grid has no comments to make in response to this consultation.	The comments received from National Grid are noted.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
Merthyr Mawr Community Council	Thank you for providing the information regarding Bridgend Local Development Plan (2013) - Consultation on Draft Review Report & Draft Replacement Local Development Plan Delivery Agreement. This was noted by Merthyr Mawr Community Council during their meeting on Monday 14th May 2018. Merthyr Mawr Community Council are satisfied with the way the review is being undertaken at present.	The comments received from Merthyr Mawr Community Council are noted.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
Welsh Water	Thank you for consulting Welsh Water on the Draft Review Report. We have no specific comments to make on the content but are keen to be involved in the early stages of the Replacement LDP.	The comments received from Welsh Water are noted. The LPA will liaise with Welsh Water as part of the Replacement LDP process.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
South Wales Police, Designing Out Crime Officer	In respect of the above, I would like to pass comment at the appropriate time, as the Designing out Crime Officer for the Bridgend County Borough Council Area, to strengthen the subject topic of Community Safety within the Local Development Plan.	The comments received from South Wales Police (Designing Out Crime Officer) are noted. The LPA will liaise with South Wales Police on this issue as part of the Replacement LDP process.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
Mrs M C Wilkins	Bridgend County Borough is suffering from over intensification of large housing developments; this is putting a strain on our communities and causing the highway structure to become grid locked. The LDP is against over intensification of houses and this is adopted by Bridgend County Borough Council.	The comments received from Mrs M C Wilkins are noted. The Spatial Strategy will be reviewed as part of the Replacement LDP process.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.
Land Promotion			
Mr Stephen Blackwell	Possible inclusion of land at Pentre Beili Farm.	The draft DA consultation is not the appropriate stage in the Replacement LDP process for the submission of land for inclusion in the LDP.	No change required to the Delivery Agreement.

		There will be a formal 'Call for Candidate Sites' consultation (8 weeks) during Stage 3 (Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation) of the Replacement LDP Process.	
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Officer Amendments	
1.	<p>Paragraph 1.4.2 has been amended to show a degree of linkage between the SA (SEA), the Bridgend Well-being Plan (in accordance with the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).</p> <p><i>The SA, incorporating SEA, will therefore draw upon the Bridgend Local Well-being Plan (produced in accordance with the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act – refer to Section 1.9) and will integrate where possible with a Wellbeing Assessment, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) that will also be prepared to support the Bridgend LDP Review.</i></p>
2.	<p>Paragraph 1.4.3 amended to read:</p> <p>a) The first bullet point regarding SA Scoping has been expanded to reference the statutory requirement to undertake SEA screening (as this is an LDP Review rather than a first LDP). The following amendment has been made so that this bullet point reads:</p> <p><i>A Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, Scoping Report.</i> <i>This report will identify the need to undertake a SA, incorporating SEA, of the LDP Review and set out the proposed SA methodology and consultation arrangements. In doing so it will provide an overview of sustainability baseline data conditions and issues relevant to the Bridgend area, together with a review of other plans, policies, programmes and strategies which are likely to influence the LDP Review. The existing SA Framework adopted for the first Bridgend LDP will also be reviewed and updated as necessary to provide a robust mechanism for undertaking the SA, incorporating SEA, of new LDP proposals and policy options as they emerge. This report will be subject to consultation with the SEA Consultation Bodies before any substantive proposals or policy options are subject to consultation.</i></p> <p>b) For clarity the second and third has been combined into a single bullet point as follows:</p> <p><i>The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report:</i> <i>All substantive proposals and policy options for a replacement LDP will be subject to a proportionate level of SA, incorporating SEA. This will include assessment reasonable alternatives to preferred options and the SA will be carried out in accordance with the SA Framework and methodology defined through SA/SEA Screening and Scoping. The SA process will be reported within iterative SA Reports which will accompany the Preferred Strategy (LDP Pre-Deposit) and Pre-Deposit Documents, with the SA Report updated between these stages to reflect changes to the emerging LDP:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>o The SA Report for the Preferred Strategy will focus on assessing likely significant effects from the proposed LDP options, spatial strategy and strategic policies; and,</i> <i>o The SA Report for the LDP Pre-Deposit Document will assess likely significant effects from all substantive components of the LDP Deposit Document, including all proposed site allocations and policies.</i>

	<p><i>o Following the completion of an Examination regarding the LDP, all binding recommendations made by the Examination Inspector will be subject to SA, incorporating SEA, Screening, to determine whether they would give rise to any new or different likely significant effects not previously reported within the SA Report for the LDP Deposit Document. This SEA Screening will be documented within an SA Addendum.</i></p> <p><i>c) The final bullet point has been amended to make clear that the SA Adoption Statement will be published after the adoption of the revised LDP:</i></p> <p><i>A Sustainability Appraisal Post Adoption Statement will be published after the revised LDP is adopted. This will explain how sustainability considerations and the Sustainability Assessment, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, have been taken into consideration in the production of the revised LDP.</i></p>
3.	<p>Amendment to Section 1.5 - the recommended changes outline the requirement for HRA with reference to the relevant EU Directive and the relevant Regulations for Wales. The Stages for HRA are set out in full but make it clear that there are particular circumstances for progression through the Stages for the LDP Review. In addition the revised text draws together the SA/SEA and HRA elements to state that these will take place concurrently.</p> <p><i>The requirement for Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) comes from the Habitats Directive, specifically Article 6(3), which requires that land use plans, including LDPs, are subject to a HRA Screening to determine whether any plan [or project] is likely to have a significant effect upon a European site, either alone, or in combination with other projects. In Wales, requirements for HRA, including for proposed modifications to existing plans, are set out within Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and Part 2 of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.</i></p> <p><i>The HRA process follows a series of Stages; these will be undertaken for the LDP Review, as necessary, to meet with the requirements of the Regulations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Stage 1 - HRA Screening:</i> <i>to determine whether the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects on European Sites;</i> <i>Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment:</i> <i>If the HRA Screening indicates that the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects, a further level of assessment is needed to consider whether the LDP Review could adversely affect the integrity of one or more European site(s), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of their established conservation objectives and conservation status. If the potential for adverse effects on site integrity are identified, the Appropriate Assessment should also consider mitigation measures to control the identified impacts, to avoid adverse effects on site integrity; and</i> <i>Stage 3 and 4 – Consideration of Alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest:</i> <i>Only where significant effects remain at the end of Stage 2 in the HRA process, is there a need to consider alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest.</i> <p><i>The HRA process will be undertaken in conjunction with the SA (incorporating SEA) to ensure an integrated approach to assessment. It is intended that the process will run concurrently with the plan making process and form an iterative part of the LDP Review, involving the consideration of all emerging policy and site options. Natural Resources Wales will be consulted throughout the HRA process.</i></p>

Appendix 4 – Risk Assessment

Risk	Potential Impact	Probability	Mitigation Measures
Change in staff resources available to undertake revised LDP preparation.	Programme slippage	Medium	Consider additional resources (including support from other sections within the Council) and ensure robust structure. Ensure that the replacement LDP remains a top corporate priority.
Timetable proves too ambitious due to greater than anticipated workload.	Programme Slippage.	Medium/High	Consider additional resources.
Reduction and lack of financial resources.	Programme slippage. Delay in securing information required to progress plan.	Medium	Sufficient funds are allocated in the LDP budget in addition to a contingency budget to address unforeseen costs.
Corporate reorganisation of structures.	Programme slippage	Medium	Ensure that the replacement LDP remains a top corporate priority.
Delays caused by Welsh translation and/or the printing process.	Programme slippage	Low/Medium	Consider additional resources.
Significant levels of objections from statutory consultation bodies.	LDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant additional work.	Low/Medium	Ensure close liaison with, and early involvement of statutory bodies as stakeholders in the process.
Large volume and /or highly significant levels of objection to proposals e.g. site allocations.	Programme slippage. Plan cannot be submitted for examination without significant work.	Medium	Ensure close liaison and early/continued involvement of the community, statutory bodies & stakeholders throughout the plan preparation process.
Lack of consensus throughout the organisation and/ or lack of support from officers/other	Programme slippage	Low/Medium	Ensure close liaison with, and early involvement of key Members and Officers.

departments in production of the evidence base.			
Challenging timetable to prepare revised LDP within 3.5 years due to greater than anticipated workload (e.g. greater number of representations received or SA/SEA/HRA requirements).	Programme slippage	Medium	Realistic timetabling for each stage of plan preparation, adequate resources and careful project management with adequate contingencies/flexibility.
Planning Inspectorate fail to meet their timescales per the Service Level Agreement	Examination delayed.	Low/Medium	Maintain close liaison with the PI to ensure that early warning of any problems, e.g. consultation on the LDP.
LDP fails 'test of soundness'	LDP cannot be adopted without considerable additional work.	Low	Ensure LDP is sound, founded on a robust evidence base.
Additional requirements arising from the issue of new legislation and/or national guidance.e.g. revised LDP alignment with revised Planning Policy Wales and LDP Manual.	Programme slippage	Medium/High	Monitor emerging legislation/guidance; report and respond early to changes as necessary.
Involvement in preparation of Strategic Development Plan (SDP)	Programme slippage. Resource implications, extent of input to the SDP currently unknown.	Medium/High	Ensure sufficient resources are available and corporate support of SDP process and timetable from outset.
Review of revised Plan resulting from a requirement to align with a Strategic Development Plan.	Programme slippage	Low	Ensure involvement in progress of regional work. Continued liaison with Welsh Government
Direction from Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary to prepare a Joint Plan.	Work on individual LDP to date would be abortive.	Low	Ensure close liaison with Welsh Government.
Insufficient information to undertake SA/SEA.	Programme slippage.	Low/Medium	Identify expectations of consultation bodies in DA.

			Consider additional resources.
Legal challenge.	Adopted LDP may be quashed in whole or in part by the Courts.	Medium	Ensure procedures, Act, Regulations etc. are complied with.

Appendix 5 – Glossary of terms

Adopted Plan	The final version of the Local Development Plan.
Adoption	The final stage of Local Development Plan preparation where the LDP becomes the statutory development plan for the area it covers.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	A yearly report to monitor the effectiveness of the LDP and ultimately determines whether any revisions to the Plan are necessary. It assesses the extent to which the LDP strategy and objectives are being achieved and whether the LDP policies are functioning effectively.
Candidate Site	A site nominated by an individual with an interest in land (i.e. landowner, developer, agent or member of the public) to be considered for inclusion in the LDP. All Candidate Sites will be assessed for suitability for inclusion as potential allocations.
Community	People living in a defined geographical area, or who share other interests and therefore form communities of interest.
Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)	The Community Involvement Scheme forms part of the Delivery Agreement. It outlines the principles of engagement and provides detail on how the Local Planning Authority will involve communities and stakeholders (including businesses and developers) in the preparation of the Local Development Plan.
Consensus Building	A process of dialogue with the community and other interested parties to understand relevant viewpoints and to seek agreement where possible.

Consultation	A formal process in which comments are invited on a particular topic or draft document usually within a defined time period.
Council	Bridgend County Borough Council
Delivery Agreement (DA)	A document comprising the local planning authority's timetable for the preparation of a Local Development Plan, together with its Community Involvement Scheme, submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.
Deposit	A formal six week stage in which individuals and organisations can make representations on the Local Development Plan. Representations that relate to whether the plan is 'sound' can then be examined by an Inspector.
Deposit Plan	This is a full draft of the LDP which undergoes a formal consultation period prior to it being submitted to the Welsh Government for public examination.
Duly Made	Representations to the development plan which are made in the correct manner and within the specified consultation time period.
Engagement	A proactive process that seeks to encourage the involvement and participation of the community and other groups in the decision making process.
Evidence Base	Information and data that provides the basis for the preparation of the LDP vision, objectives, policies and proposals and justifies the soundness of the policy approach of the LDP.
Examination	The examination involves public examination of the Deposit LDP, the Deposit representations, the report of consultation, evidence base/background documents and the Sustainability

	Appraisal Report. This is carried out by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Welsh Government.
Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)	Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) relates to the assessment of the impacts of a plan (or project) against the nature conservation objectives of European designated sites for any likely significant effects. HRA also ascertains whether the proposed plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site.
Indicator	A measure of variables over time, often used to measure progress in the achievement of objectives, targets and policies.
Inspector's Report	The Report prepared by an independent Inspector who examines the LDP. The Inspector's Report contains recommendations on the content of the final LDP and is binding upon the Council. The Council must adopt the LDP in the manner directed by the Inspector.
Involvement	Generic term relating to community involvement that includes both participation and consultation techniques.
Local Development Plan (LDP)	A land use plan which includes a vision, strategy, area wide policies for development types, land allocations, and policies and proposals for key areas of change and protection. Allocations and certain policies are shown geographically on the Proposals Map forming part of the Plan. The LDP is a statutory development plan that each local planning authority area is required to produce in Wales.
LDP Officer / Member Group	A group of officers and Members of BCBC established to consider issues relating to the LDP which reports to the LDP Steering Group.
LDP Steering Group	The LDP Steering Group is a group of Members whose purpose is to oversee the preparation of the LDP. The

	Council's Development Control Committee will undertake this role.
Local Planning Authority (LPA)	In the case of Bridgend County Borough, this is Bridgend County Borough Council.
Objective	A statement of what is intended, specifying the desired direction of change in trends.
Participation	A process rather than a single event that provides opportunity for direct engagement with the community and stakeholders to input into decision making.
Planning Inspectorate	The Wales branch of the Planning Inspectorate is an independent body that will be responsible for the formal examination of the LDP.
Planning Policy Wales (PPW)	Planning policy guidance for Wales produced by the Welsh Government is set out in this document
Pre-Deposit	Stages of preparation and consultation of the LDP before the Deposit Plan is finalised and approved by the Council.
Preferred Strategy	This sets out the broad strategic direction for the LDP. This includes the preferred level of growth along with the spatial strategy for distributing the growth. It also includes the vision, issues and objectives of the plan.
Press Releases	Sent to Welsh media, including newspapers, radio and television news stations as appropriate. Media may choose not to print or broadcast an item.
Regulation	Regulations are set out in Welsh Statutory Instruments. They provide the framework for the preparation of the LDP.
Report of Consultation	A Consultation Report is one of the documents required to be submitted for independent examination. An initial consultation report is also required for the pre-deposit stage.

Representations	Comments received in relation to the LDP, either in support of, or in opposition to.
Review Report	The Review Report provides an overview of the issues that have been considered as part of the full review process and identifies changes that are likely to be needed to the LDP, based on evidence. It also sets out the type of revision procedure to be followed in revising the LDP.
Scoping	The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of a sustainability appraisal (SA), including the sustainability effects and options which need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used and the structure and contents of the SA Report.
Soundness Tests	In order to adopt a LDP it must be determined to be 'sound' by the Planning Inspector. The Tests of Soundness are set out in PPW. There are three tests to make that judgement in relation to the plan as a whole. A framework for assessing the soundness of LDPs has been developed by the Planning Inspectorate.
Stakeholders	People whose interests are directly affected by a LDP (and/or Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment) and whose involvement is generally through representative bodies.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Generic term used internationally to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The European Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) requires a formal "environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use".

Strategic Development Plan (SDP)	A Strategic Development Plan is a tool for regional planning to cover cross- boundary issues such as housing and transport. It will be prepared by a Strategic Planning Panel across a region. LPA's must have regard to the SDP when developing their LDPs.
Submission	When the LDP, SAR and HRA are formally submitted to the Welsh Government for independent examination by a Welsh Government appointed Inspector.
Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)	Provide more detailed or site specific guidance on the application of LDP Policies. They provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in a LDP. SPG does not form part of the LDP and is not subject to independent examination.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Tool for appraising policies, including LDPs, to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors). Each LPA is required by Section 62(6) of the Act to undertake SA of their Local Development Plan. This form of sustainability appraisal fully incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive.
Sustainability Appraisal Report (SAR)	A document required to be produced as part of the Sustainability Appraisal process to describe and appraise the likely significant effects on sustainability of implementing a LDP, which meets the requirements for the Environmental Report under the SEA Directive. Section 62(6) of the Act requires each LPA to prepare a report of the findings of the SA of the LDP. It is an integral part of the development plan making process.
Timetable	Sets out the dates by which key stages and processes of LDP preparation are expected to be completed. These are

	definitive for stages up to the deposit of the LDP and indicative for the remaining stages after.
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)	The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is legislation that requires public bodies, such as local authorities, to put long term sustainability at the forefront of their thinking to make a difference to lives of people in Wales. Local authorities must work towards the seven well-being goals and enact the five ways of working set out in the Act.
Workshop	Where members of the public have the opportunity to engage in group debates and practical exercises with a written or drawn 'output'.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER LEGAL, HR AND REGULATORY SERVICES

INFORMATION REPORTS FOR NOTING

1. Purpose of Report .

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the Information Reports for noting which have been published since its last scheduled meeting.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities.

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-

- 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 At a previous meeting of Council, it was resolved to approve a revised procedure for the presentation to Council of Information Reports for noting.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 Information Reports

The following information reports have been published since the last meeting of Council:-

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Published</u>
Urgent Delegated Decisions	10 September 2020
Final Statement of Accounts 2019-20	10 September 2020

4.2 Availability of Documents

The documents have been circulated to Elected Members electronically via Email and placed on the BCBC website. They are also available from the date of publication.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

- 5.1 This procedure has been adopted within the procedure rules of the Constitution.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

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

7. Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Implications

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial Implications.

8.1 There are no financial implications regarding this report.

9. Recommendation.

9.1 That Council acknowledges the publication of the documents listed in this report.

K Watson
Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer
September 2020

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Background documents: None.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER LEGAL, HR AND REGULATORY SERVICES

URGENT DELEGATED DECISIONS

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 To report to Council three delegated decisions executed as a matter of urgency under Scheme A1.1 of the Scheme of Delegation of Functions.

2. Connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities.

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-
1. **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
 2. **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
 3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of Council in accordance with Paragraph 18 of the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules which are to be found at Part 4 of the Constitution.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1 The urgent decisions taken and therefore by-passing the call-in procedure (as set out in paragraph 19 of Part 4 Rules of Procedure within the Constitution), are summarised below:-

Scheme A 1.1

CE-LEG-20-409 – To award short term Contracts in relation to Families First Parenting and Disability Support services, hence suspending the Council's Contract

Procedure Rules (CPR's) for the requirement as to the Re-Tendering of existing Contracts.

CE-HHA-20-381 – To waiver the Council's Contract procedure Rules (CPR's) in order to modify the existing Contract for the provision of Housing Related Support and Out of Hours on-call Homelessness Duty, at Brynmenyn Hostel with The Wallich (ie by extending this for a further 12 months).

EFS-EDSU-20-131 - To seek approval to temporarily suspend the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) (rule 7.2.3) for a number of home-to-school transport contracts to ensure the ongoing continuity of transport for learners.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 This report has no effect on the Council's Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

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

7. Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial Implications.

8.1 There are no financial implications relating to the report.

9. Recommendation.

9.1 It is recommended that Council notes the report.

K Watson

Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer
September 2020

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Background documents: The Council's Scheme of Delegation

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE

FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2019-20

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the audited final Statement of Accounts for 2019-20.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**

1. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

- 2.2 The Council's financial performance is an important element in determining the extent to which the Council's well-being objectives can be delivered.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's audited Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2020 is attached at **Appendix A**. The preparation of the statement is a requirement of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended 2018) and its content is defined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's '*Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom*' (the Code).

- 3.2 The audited Statement of Accounts are signed by the Chief Financial Officer as presenting a true and fair view of the financial position of the council at 31 March 2020 and are approved by Audit Committee, following which the Auditor General for Wales signs the audit certification.

- 3.3 The Auditor General for Wales' Report to Members is included at page 81 of **Appendix A**, which states that the accounting statements and related notes have been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council. There is also the certification of completion of the audit as required by the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2014.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The Statement of Accounts set out the Council's financial position as at 31 March 2020 and the income and expenditure for the year to 31 March 2020. The Council

Fund balance as at 31 March 2020 presented in the pre-audited Statement of Accounts was £9.340 million. There were no adjustments that impacted on this position.

- 4.2 A signed version of the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 will be published on the Council's website, no later than 15 September 2020, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended 2018).

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 There are no implications upon policy framework or procedural rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 Whilst the production of the Statement of Accounts does not itself raise any equality issues, it does summarise the financial consequences of the budget reductions and service reconfigurations identified in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. When these proposals were being developed consideration was given to their potential impact on protected groups within the community.

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

- 7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. The Statement of Accounts 2019-20 presents a positive picture in respect of both the 2019-20 revenue position and the accumulated reserves as at 31 March 2020. As the report is for information it is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of wellbeing goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 These are reflected in the body of the report.

9. Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- Note the audited Statement of Accounts 2019-20 (**Appendix A**)

Gill Lewis CPFA
Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
September 2020

Contact officer: Nigel Smith
Interim Group Manager – Chief Accountant

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Email: nigel.smith@bridgend.gov.uk

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CF31 4AP

Background documents: None

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Statement of Accounts

Bridgend County Borough Council • 2019-20

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol



**Bridgend County Borough Council
Civic Offices
Angel Street
BRIDGEND
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(01656) 643643**

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Narrative Report

“ One council, working together to improve lives ”

Introduction

This report presents the 2019-20 Statement of Accounts for Bridgend County Borough Council (the Council). It sets out the Council's financial performance for the past year and is prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019-20.

Over the past 10 years the Council has cumulatively made around £68 million of savings and further efficiencies and savings are required moving forward. The process of identification of savings, changing the way the Council works to ensure modern, improved and resilient services, is on-going. The continued need to achieve savings in a difficult financial year will need to continue at least in the short- and medium-term. Given significant economic uncertainty, not least the potential impact of the exit from the European Union, and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council will continue to face financial challenges as it strives to deliver its vast array of services to the communities it supports. It needs to do so whilst remaining financially resilient.

Bridgend as a Council

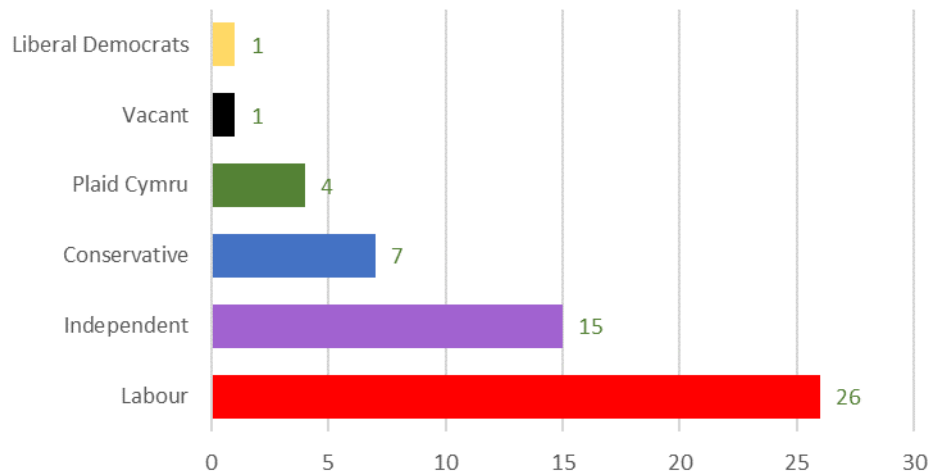
Bridgend is conveniently situated between Wales' capital city, Cardiff, to the east and the city of Swansea to the west, approximately 20 miles from each. Nestled just south of the M4 corridor, with easy access from both major cities, bounded by the Bristol Channel to the south, it is at the heart of the South Wales industrial and coastal belt. Bridgend as a County Borough is home to over 140,000 residents and continues to grow. The County Borough's towns are undergoing redevelopment and a number of historic buildings and the town centres have been rejuvenated over recent years. To the north is the residential town of Maesteg, to the south west is the coastal town of Porthcawl and to the east is Pencoed. Bridgend is one of 22 Councils in Wales, and accounts for approximately 4.5% of the country's population.



Population	144,876
Land area	98.5 square miles
Households	64,766
Council employees	4,159 (full time equivalent)
Businesses	4,160
Councillors	54

- The Council manages an asset base, excluding the road network, of £530 million to deliver its services.
- The Council employs over 5,800 staff both full- and part-time, to deliver a wide range of services including education, social care, highways maintenance and economic development.
- The Council has 54 elected Councillors who represent the people of Bridgend and set the overall Council strategy and budget framework.

Bridgend Councillors Political Party Representation



The constitution sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures to be followed to ensure decisions are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Council elects a Mayor annually to perform a civic role and promote the county. Council also appoint a leader of the Council who appoints Cabinet Members, each with a responsibility for a specific portfolio of services.

The role of the Cabinet is to be responsible for most major decisions; provide leadership; and propose the budget framework and budget.

Scrutiny Committees support the work of the Cabinet and Council by:

- Monitoring decisions of the Cabinet
- Allowing all Councillors, citizens and stakeholders to have a say in matters concerning the Council
- Producing reports and recommendations to support the development of policies and decisions
- Having the ability to review a decision which has been made but not yet implemented.

Regulatory and other committees support delivery of Council services. Council has given Audit Committee the responsibility to review and approve the Financial Statements of the Council.

The Council's Corporate Management Board is led by the Chief Executive and includes the 3 Corporate Directors, the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer.

The Council has agreed a principle of focusing diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need. It has identified three priorities that are intended to improve the quality of life of people in the county borough while significantly changing the nature of the Council:

These three priorities are the Council's well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and set out the Council's contribution towards meeting the Act's seven national goals:

Our well-being objectives**Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act's seven goals:**

- *A prosperous Wales*
- *A resilient Wales*
- *A healthier Wales*
- *A more equal Wales*
- *A Wales of cohesive communities*
- *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language*
- *A globally responsible Wales.*

Governance

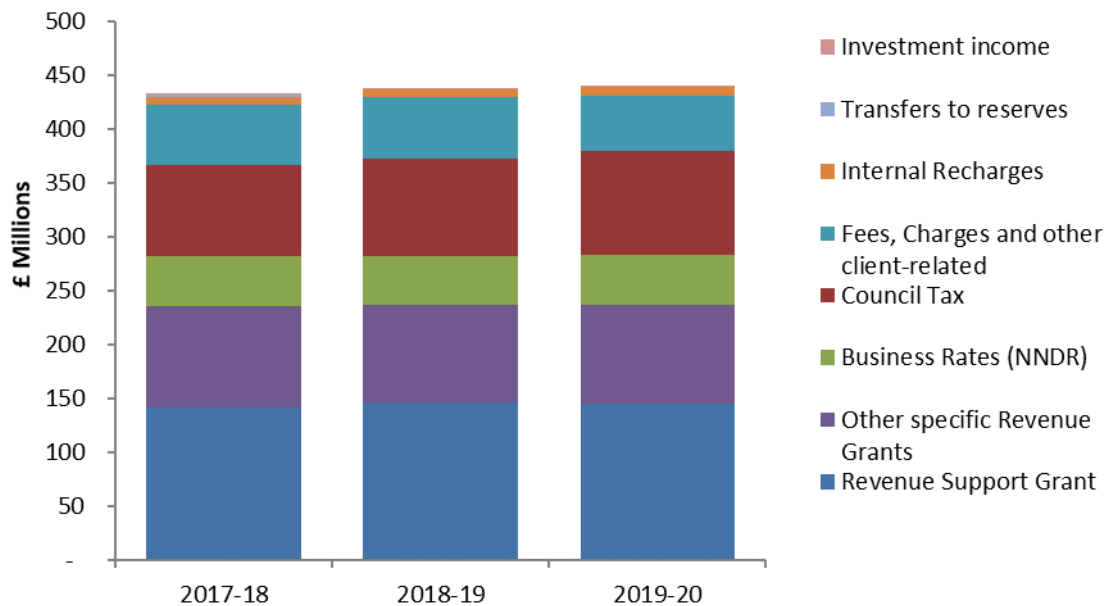
The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards. This includes ensuring that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in delivering its functions in terms of strategic effectiveness, service quality, service availability, fairness, sustainability, efficiency and innovation. The Annual Governance Statement included within the Statement of Accounts sets, out in detail the Council's governance arrangements.

COVID-19

The UK was put into lockdown on 23 March 2020 in an unprecedented step to attempt to limit the spread of coronavirus. This followed similar action in other countries across the World. The UK Government put into place a limited number of reasons for people to be allowed to leave their homes and the Welsh Government put in place measures under the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) Wales Regulations 2020. As a consequence, many non-essential shops and businesses had to close, schools were closed and all non-key workers were required to work from home where possible. The initial 3-week lockdown has been extended a number of times, and as at 30 June had been in place some 15 weeks, though there have been some slight easing of restrictions from 1 June. The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has, and will continue to have, an unprecedented impact upon society as a whole. This has led to significant changes to the day-to-day management of the Council, and the nature and delivery of its operations. Moving forward the Council will have to re-organise the way some of its services and staff work, making sure that it puts in place the necessary social distancing measures to keep both its staff and users of Council services safe.

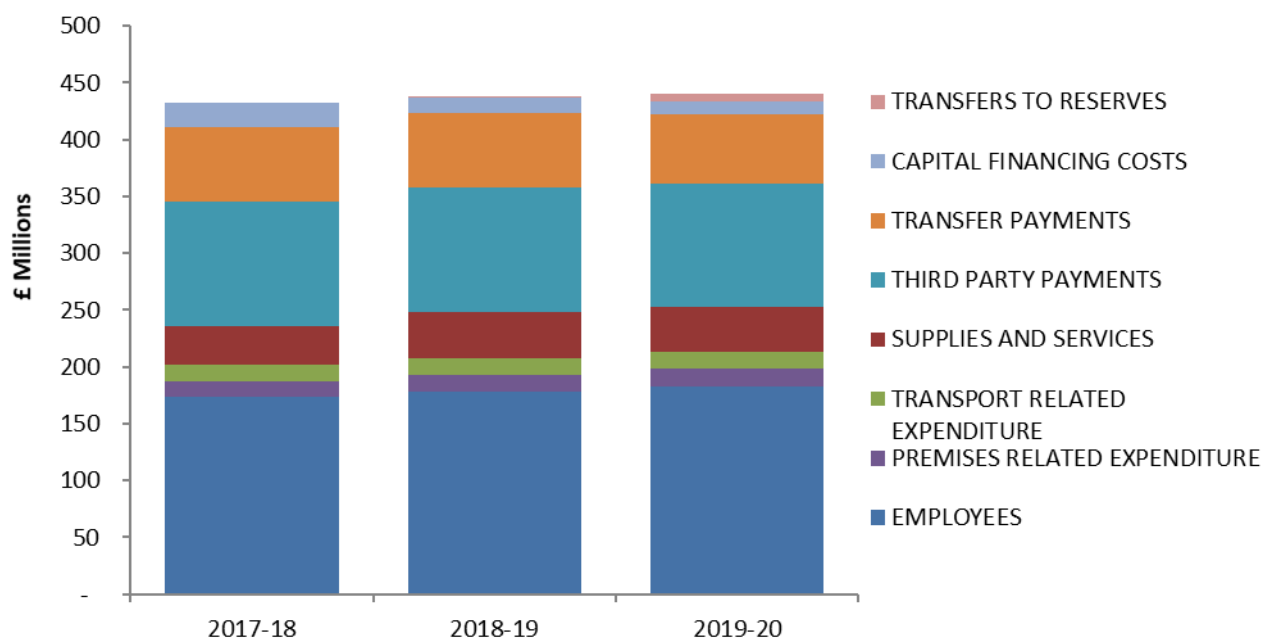
Financial Performance

Over the last 10 years the Council has made around £68 million of budget reductions. This represents 30% of the Council's 2009-10 budget. Taking into account expenditure and services which are funded by specific grants, fees or charges, the Council's gross budget for 2019-20 was £438 million. This covers the day-to-day running costs of the Council including staff, waste collection, schools, care workers, foster carers and leisure services. The Council receives revenue funding from the Welsh Government (Revenue Support Grant), specific grants, business rates (NNDR), Council Tax, fees and charges and from its investments as shown below.



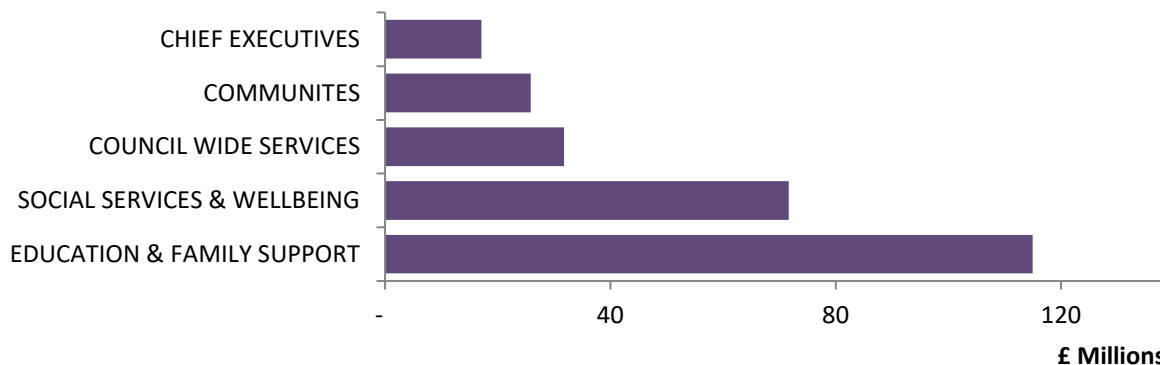
The majority of the Council's funding is from the Welsh Government via the Revenue Support Grant (33%) with other Government Grants (including specific grants from Welsh Government) making up just over another quarter of the Council's income (32%). Council tax accounts for approximately 22% of income. The Council is able to charge for a number of services including social care, car parking and licensing, which makes up just 8% of the total Council income.

The Council spends its money on employees, premises related expenditure, transport costs, supplies and payments to 3rd party providers. The Council also has to meet capital financing costs (interest) as part of its long-term borrowing arrangements. At the end of 2019-20 the Council created a COVID-19 reserve to provide for unknown future costs in relation to the pandemic. As such the Council was able to make a net contribution to reserves for the year. The Council's expenditure is analysed below.



Directorate Spending

Council spending by Directorate was within 99.76% of budget for all departments reflecting sound financial management and budgetary control. The table below shows the net spend by service Directorate.



The Council achieved an underspend in the year of £0.564 million, or 0.21% of its net budget. This demonstrates its sound financial management throughout the year and its commitment to ensuring it does not spend beyond its means. The table below shows the closing position for each Directorate and also for the non-Directorate specific government and other funding to the Council. The Council's outturn report for the year can be found on the Council's website [here](#).

DIRECTORATE	Net Budget £'000	Net Expenditure £'000	(Under)/over spend £'000
Education & Family Support	114,843	115,059	216
Social Services and Well-being	71,587	71,651	64
Communities	26,284	25,746	(538)
Chief Executives	18,622	17,115	(1,507)
Council Wide Services	39,473	31,551	(7,922)
Funding and financing	(270,809)	(261,686)	9,123
Total	-	(564)	(564)

Addressing future challenges

The Council faces significant challenges moving forward. These include demographic pressures, such as an ageing population and an increasing number of young people with complex disabilities living into adulthood and adding progressively to the demand for care. In addition to this there are inflationary pressures arising from specific contractual commitments and significant increases in staffing costs arising not only from the above inflation increases in the national living wage, and calls to implement the real living wage, but also any pay claims for local government workers and recent increases in employers' contributions for teachers' pensions. Whilst the published Welsh Government settlement for Bridgend for 2020-21 is an increase of 4.7%, the real increase is much less as it includes a significant number of transfers into the Revenue Support Grant towards the increased costs of teachers' pay and pensions. As a result of the Chancellor's one-year spending round in September 2019, and the subsequent UK General Election in December 2019, followed by the departure from the European Union and the Covid-19 pandemic at the beginning of 2020, no indications have been provided by the Welsh Government in respect of the settlement for Councils in 2021-22 which makes forward planning very difficult.

Whilst the Council continues to face increasing pressures on its budget, it had approved a balanced budget for 2020-21. However, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will have an inevitable impact on the Council's income, costs and 2020-21 budget. The Council will need to review its priorities and budgets in light of the impact of the pandemic in the County Borough, and re-focus these to enable them to move towards a more stable recovery phase as we move out of lockdown.

On 29 March 2017 the UK Government submitted its notification to leave the EU in accordance with Article 50. The triggering of Article 50 started a two-year negotiation process between the UK and the EU. On 31 January 2020 the United Kingdom left the European Union and the Withdrawal Agreement concluded with the EU entered into force. On 31 December 2020, at the end of the transition period, the UK will revert to its economic and political independence, and will no longer be part of the EU Single Market or Customs Union. The uncertainty regarding the impact of the UK's exit from Europe will inevitably create challenges for the Council and the communities it supports over the forthcoming months and years. The Council continues to work with its partners to prepare as best it can for Brexit and the UK's departure from the European Union and has maintained a project board, chaired by the Chief Executive, with representatives from each Council department, to review all council services, maintain and update a 'risk register' and to ensure that contingency plans are in place. Businesses, residents, staff and elected members are regularly updated, and the council is raising awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme. The Council will continue to work alongside partners to obtain answers on important issues such as how post-Brexit funding will be delivered.

Financial position

The Council manages significant assets and cash flows. During the year the Council:

- Held £530 million of long-term assets, including £522 million of operational assets for delivering services, £5 million investment properties and £3 million of intangible assets
- Generated £37 million of fees and charges and other service income used to deliver services

The Council maintains a strong balance sheet despite the financial challenges.



Borrowing

The Council has long term borrowing outstanding as at 31 March 2020 of £97.401 million. This is a mixture of Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) of £77.617 million and Lender Option Borrower Options (LOBOs) of £19.784 million, to finance capital expenditure. More detail in relation to borrowing is provided in note 31. The borrowing should be seen in the context of the total value of the Council's long-term assets, which are shown in the Balance Sheet at £530 million. Borrowing is permitted in line with the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities as long as, in the opinion of the Chief Finance Officer, the revenue costs are capable of being met and are in keeping with prudential

indicators and guidelines. Given the strength of the Balance Sheet, the Council's borrowing levels are reasonable. Should the opportunity arise for the Council to repay its LOBOs at a benefit to the Council, then it will look to do so. However, given current low interest rates it is unlikely that the opportunity will arise in the near future.

Pensions Liability: £289 million

The requirements of International Accounting Standards 19 (IAS19) in relation to post-employment benefits – i.e. pensions, have been fully incorporated into the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, with actuarial gains and losses being recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, as note 30 explains in detail.



A pensions reserve and a pension liability are incorporated within the Council's accounts, reflecting the amount by which the Bridgend element of the Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council pension fund is under-funded compared with the assessed payment liabilities to pensioners now and in the future. The overall pensions' liability of the Council at 31 March 2020 was £289.19 million (£263.51 million at 31 March 2019). The liability at 31 March 2019 took into account a potential 'underpin' liability as a result of the McCloud/Sargeant case in relation to the Court of Appeal's finding that transitional protection arrangements put in place when firefighters' and judges' pension schemes were reformed were age discriminatory. On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied permission for Government to appeal this judgement, and on 15 July 2019 the Government issued a ministerial statement saying they would expect to compensate members across all public-sector schemes which contained transitional protection arrangements, which includes the Local Government Pension Scheme. The calculation of the liability incorporates the impact of the 'McCloud' judgement.

Capital

The Council's original Capital Programme for 2019-20, approved by Council on 20 February 2019, was £36.157 million. During the year a number of schemes have commenced but not been completed during the year, or have been moved wholly into 2020-21. These include the refurbishment of Waterton Depot, Bridge Strengthening at the A4061 Ogmore Valley, City Deal and regeneration works at Llynfi Valley. Slippage has arisen due to a number of reasons including delays in starting projects due to the need to undertake more detailed survey works, ongoing discussions with funding bodies and other general programme delays. In February 2020 the Council approved a ten year capital programme of £207 million as set out in the table below. The table also provides the 2019-20 outturn.

	OUTTURN	TEN YEAR PLAN			
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 to 2029-30	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
EXPENDITURE					
Education & Family Support	4,134	6,582	7,215	45,639	59,436
Social Services and Well-being	858	-	-	-	-
Communities	12,368	46,589	18,216	50,882	115,687
Chief Executives	5,462	2,550	2,250	18,000	22,800
Unallocated	-	713	-	8,367	9,080
Total Expenditure	22,822	56,434	27,681	122,888	207,003
FUNDING					
Grants and s106 Contributions	16,199	21,551	11,496	82,690	115,737
Capital Receipts and Revenue Contributions	1,408	23,664	9,947	8,694	42,305
Borrowing	5,215	11,219	6,238	31,504	48,961
Total Funding	22,822	56,434	27,681	122,888	207,003

The Council, in partnership with Linc Cymru, saw the completion and opening of a second Extra Care scheme in Bridgend to support older people to continue to live independently within their community. Improvements in Porthcawl continued with the completion of the town beach sea defence scheme. The Council continued to support adults and vulnerable people at home through increased expenditure in relation to Disabled Facilities Grants. The Council also invested significantly in ICT infrastructure for schools via the HWB Infrastructure grant award from Welsh Government.



Porthcawl Beach Defences

The Financial Statements

The Statement of Accounts are included in this document, and consist of the following financial statements:

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

This sets out the respective responsibilities of the Council and the Section 151 officer for the preparation and approval of the Statement of Accounts.

The Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This records all of the Council's income and expenditure in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Councils raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements, which may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)

The Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end of the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' - those that can be used to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation - and 'unusable' reserves, which must be set aside for specific purposes. Unusable reserves would include unrealised gains and losses (such as the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available if the assets are sold, and reserves that reflect 'adjustments between accounting basis and funding under regulations'. The surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Council's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the Council Fund Balance for council tax setting purposes. The Net Increase/Decrease line shows the statutory Council Fund balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

Balance Sheet

This records a snapshot of the Council's assets, liabilities, cash balances and reserves at the year-end date. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the reason for changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of

net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

Notes to the Accounts

These set out the Accounting Policies adopted for the Statement of Accounts and disclosures relating to the financial statements and include pensions and financial instruments disclosures. These include the Expenditure and Funding Analysis which shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, fees and charges, council tax and business rates) by the Council in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by the Council in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's Directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Conclusion

Whilst 2019-20 has been a challenging year financially, the Council was able to remain within its net revenue budget despite increasing service demands and a continued negative funding outlook for the public sector in general. However, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to have much greater financial and service delivery impacts for at least the next financial year and potentially beyond. These challenging times will have a significant financial impact for us as individuals, for our residents, communities and businesses, and the detailed financial assumptions underpinning the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy will need constantly revisiting to ensure the ongoing financial resilience of the Council.

The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council that officer is the Chief Finance Officer.
- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

Signed: _____ 10 September 2020

Chair of Audit Committee

The Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* (the Code).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Financial Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent
- complied with the local authority Code.

The Chief Financial Officer has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Chief Financial Officer's Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Bridgend County Borough Council as at 31 March 2020 and of its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2020

Signed: _____ 10 September 2020



Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2018-19 restated					2019-20				Notes
Gross Expenditure £'000	Govt Grants £'000	Other Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Gross Expenditure £'000	Govt Grants £'000	Other Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000	
140,656	(26,415)	(9,223)	105,018	Education and Family Support	164,452	(28,167)	(10,326)	125,959	
99,857	(5,531)	(16,336)	77,990	Social Services and Wellbeing	99,469	(7,332)	(17,919)	74,218	
52,223	(7,105)	(6,069)	39,049	Communities	53,945	(8,090)	(5,466)	40,389	
80,514	(55,580)	(2,439)	22,495	Chief Executives	74,483	(50,653)	(2,961)	20,869	
22,948	-	(1,642)	21,306	Council Wide Services	18,453	(175)	(300)	17,978	
396,198	(94,631)	(35,709)	265,858	Cost Of Services	410,802	(94,417)	(36,972)	279,413	
				Other Operating Expenditure					
14,945			14,945	Precepts payable	16,453		-	16,453	7
7,070			7,070	Levies payable	7,116		-	7,116	7
				(Gain) / loss on disposal of non current assets	-		215	215	
276			276		-		215	215	
22,291	-	-	22,291	Other Operating Expenditure	23,569	-	215	23,784	
				Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure					
4,550			4,550	Interest payable on debt	4,551			4,551	31
54			54	Interest element of finance leases (lessee)	48			48	31
1,306			1,306	Interest payable on PFI unitary payments	1,256			1,256	13
6,760			6,760	Net Interest on Net Defined Benefit Liability	6,120			6,120	30
		(1,012)	(1,012)	Investment Income & Other Interest Receivable	-		(1,099)	(1,099)	31
		(275)	(275)	Changes in fair value of investment properties	-		-	-	
12,670	-	(1,287)	11,383	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	11,975	-	(1,099)	10,876	
				Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income					
	(145,780)		(145,780)	Revenue Support Grant	-	(145,354)	-	(145,354)	8
		(45,802)	(45,802)	National Non Domestic Rates	-	-	(46,452)	(46,452)	9
		(90,018)	(90,018)	Council Tax	-	-	(96,957)	(96,957)	10
	(9,494)		(9,494)	Recognised capital grants and contributions	-	(11,798)	-	(11,798)	11
-	(155,274)	(135,820)	(291,094)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	-	(157,152)	(143,409)	(300,561)	
				(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services					
431,159	(249,905)	(172,816)	8,438	(Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment	446,346	(251,569)	(181,265)	13,512	
5,605		(33,337)	(33,337)	Impairment losses on non-current assets charged to the Revaluation reserve	-	-	(5,277)	(5,277)	29a
		(26,320)	(26,320)	Actuarial (gains) / losses on pension liabilities	4,476	-	-	4,476	
				Other Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure	7,300	-	-	7,300	30
			(54,052)	Other Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure				6,499	
				Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure				20,011	
			(45,614)	Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure				20,011	

Movement in Reserves Statement

	Council Fund Balance £'000	Earmarked Reserves £'000	Capital Receipts Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Total Unusable Reserves £'000	Total Council Reserves £'000
Balance at 31 March 2018 brought forward	8,347	48,075	21,161	288	77,871	48,363	126,234
<u>Movement in Reserves during 2018-19</u>							
Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure	(8,438)				(8,438)	54,052	45,614
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (Note 20)	8,899		(3,239)	1,194	6,854	(6,854)	-
Transfers to Earmarked Reserves (Note 28)	(32)	32			-		
Increase/(Decrease) in 2018-19	429	32	(3,239)	1,194	(1,584)	47,198	45,614
Balance at 31 March 2019 carried forward	8,776	48,107	17,922	1,482	76,287	95,561	171,848

	Council Fund Balance £'000	Earmarked Reserves £'000	Capital Receipts Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Total Unusable Reserves £'000	Total Council Reserves £'000
Balance at 31 March 2019 brought forward	8,776	48,107	17,922	1,482	76,287	95,561	171,848
<u>Movement in Reserves during 2019-20</u>							
Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure	(13,512)				(13,512)	(6,499)	(20,011)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (Note 20)	21,191		686	(1,165)	20,712	(20,712)	-
Transfers to Earmarked Reserves (Note 28)	(7,115)	7,115			-		
Increase/(Decrease) in 2019-20	564	7,115	686	(1,165)	7,200	(27,211)	(20,011)
Balance at 31 March 2020 carried forward	9,340	55,222	18,608	317	83,487	68,350	151,837

Balance Sheet

31 March 2019 £'000		31 March 2020 £'000	Notes
	Property, Plant & Equipment		21c
430,421	Other Land and Buildings	425,796	
5,078	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment	6,742	
65,147	Infrastructure	67,559	
4,912	Community Assets	4,912	
662	Assets under Construction	816	
17,530	Surplus Assets not Held for Sale	17,108	
220	Heritage Assets	220	
4,635	Investment Property	4,635	22
3,593	Intangible Assets	3,032	21d
4,011	Long Term Investments	-	31
536,209	Long Term Assets	530,820	
20,054	Short Term Investments	25,097	31
2,560	Assets Held for Sale	2,560	24
725	Inventories	678	
32,300	Short Term Debtors	36,342	23
1,051	Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,646	
56,690	Current Assets	68,323	
(2,551)	Short Term Borrowing	(915)	31
(31,782)	Short Term Creditors	(34,533)	25
(1,925)	Provisions due in 1 year	(986)	26
(36,258)	Current Liabilities	(36,434)	
(4,311)	Provisions due after 1 year	(3,999)	26
(97,412)	Long Term Borrowing	(97,401)	31
	Other Long Term Liabilities		
(17,054)	PFI & Other Long Term Liabilities	(16,447)	27
(263,510)	Net Pensions Liability	(289,190)	30
(2,506)	Capital Receipts in Advance	(3,835)	
(384,793)	Long Term Liabilities	(410,872)	
171,848	Net Assets	151,837	
	Usable reserves		28b
8,776	Council Fund	9,340	
48,107	Earmarked reserves	55,222	
17,922	Capital Receipts Reserve	18,608	28a
1,482	Capital Grants Unapplied	317	
	Unusable Reserves		29
149,553	Revaluation Reserve	145,386	29a
(263,510)	Pensions Reserve	(289,190)	29b
213,123	Capital Adjustment Account	216,218	29c
(715)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(706)	
(2,890)	Short-term Accumulating Compensated Absences Account	(3,358)	
171,848	Total Reserves	151,837	

Cash Flow Statement

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000	Notes
8,438	Net (surplus)/deficit on the Provision of Services	13,512	
(24,524)	Adjustments to net deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	(36,433)	34
11,378	Adjustments for Items included in the net deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	12,723	
(4,708)	Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(10,198)	35
14,565	Investing Activities	19,081	36
(10,820)	Financing Activities	(11,478)	37
(963)	Net (Increase) / Decrease in Cash & Cash Equivalents	(2,595)	
(88)	Cash & Cash Equivalent at the beginning of the Reporting Period	(1,051)	
(1,051)	Cash & Cash Equivalent at the end of the Reporting Period	(3,646)	

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.



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1. Accounting Policies

1.1 General principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2019-20 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2020. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendments) Regulations 2018, in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices comprise the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* (the Code) 2019-20 and the *Service Reporting Code of Practice* 2019-20 supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

1.2 Standards that have been issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019-20 (the Code) requires that the Council discloses information relating to the anticipated impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. This requirement applies to the adoption of the following new or amended standards within the 2019-20 Code:

Standard	Effective date	Further details
IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – Long-Term interests in Associates and Joint Ventures	2019-20	This relates to the application of IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments – to the measurement and application, in particular relating to impairment, of long term interests in associates and joint ventures that, in substance, form part of the 'net investment' in the associate or joint venture.
IFRS Standards 2015-17 Cycle	2019-20	This provides amendments to two International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as a result of the IASB's annual improvements project, namely IFRS 3 – Business Combinations and IFRS 11 – Joint Arrangements, as well as IAS12 – Income Taxes and IAS 23 – Borrowing Costs.
IAS19 Employee Benefits: Plan Amendment, Curtailment or Settlement	2019-20	This requires that if a plan amendment, curtailment or settlement occurs, it is now mandatory that the current service cost and the net interest for the period after the re-measurement are determined using the assumptions used for the re-measurement. In addition, amendments have been included to clarify the effect of a plan amendment, curtailment or settlement on the requirements regarding the asset ceiling.
IFRS 16 Leases	2020-21	IFRS16 will require local authorities that are lessees to recognise most leases on their balance sheets as right-of-use assets with corresponding lease liabilities (with an exception for low-value and short-term leases). CIPFA/LASAAC have deferred implementation of IFRS16 for local government to 1 April 2021.

The Council does not consider these changes will have any impact on the 2019-20 Statements.

1.3 Accruals of income and expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Investment income and interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may be impaired, the balance of debtors is written down by the difference between the carrying amount and revised future cash flows and a charge made for the impairment to revenue.

1.4 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For example, the Council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year and where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Council settles the obligation.

Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a

provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Contingent Assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

1.5 Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the Council Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the Council Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, employee and retirement benefits and are 'Unusable' reserves as set out in Note 29 to the accounts.

1.6 Government grants and contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grant / contribution will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the Council Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

1.7 Employee benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave, paid sick leave and bonuses for current employees. These are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlement earned by employees but not taken before the financial year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is charged to the relevant Service Cost line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an Officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an Officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant Service Cost line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, when the Council is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an Officer or group of Officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the Council Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of two separate pension schemes. Both schemes provided defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Council.

The *Teachers' Pension Scheme*, administered by Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). The arrangements for this scheme mean that liabilities for benefits cannot ordinarily be identified specifically to the Council. The scheme is therefore accounted for as if it were a defined contributions scheme and no liability for future payment of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet. The Education and Family Support line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is charged with the employer's contributions payable to Teachers' Pensions in the year.

The *Local Government Pension Scheme* - other employees are entitled to be members of the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Pension Fund. The Local Government Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme:

- The liabilities of the pension scheme attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate.

- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate
 - Property – market value
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as result of the number of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked
 - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to the number of years of service earned in earlier years – debited to Central Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
 - Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the Council – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
 - Re-measurements comprising:
- The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in the net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve and Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions reserve and Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure:
 - Contributions to the pension fund – cash paid as employer's contribution to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.
- In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the Council Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners for any amounts payable to the fund but unpaid at the year end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the Council Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits earned by employees.
- The Council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff (including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

1.8 VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

1.9 Overheads and Support Services

In line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code) overheads and support services are shown in the relevant service where they are incurred and are not recharged out to supported service areas. Any internal income as a result of transactions between departments is shown in the supplying service line with the corresponding charge being shown in the recipient service line.

1.10 Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for software as intangible assets to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment. The most significant intangible asset is the Wales Community Care Information System (WCCIS) software development costs and licence.

All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Council. The useful life used by the Council for the WCCIS is 8 years. Amortisation of the intangible asset is charged on a straight line basis over the useful life and is charged to the Social Services and Wellbeing line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

1.11 Property, Plant and Equipment

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

All expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment is recognised irrespective of value. Expenditure below £40,000 is considered non-enhancing and is immediately impaired unless cumulatively over more than one year the expenditure would amount to more than this value.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising its purchase price and all expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use. Assets are then carried in the balance sheet using the following measurement bases:

- **Land and buildings** – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV)
- **Non-specialised operational properties** – existing use value (EUV)
- **Specialised operational properties (such as schools)** – depreciated replacement cost (DRC)
- **Vehicles, plant and equipment** – depreciated historical cost
- **Community assets** – historical cost
- **Assets under construction** – historical cost (until they become operational)
- **Infrastructure assets** – depreciated historical cost
- **Surplus assets and investment properties** – fair value
- **Assets held for sale** – lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs of sale

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flow of the Council). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Council. The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

Revaluations

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value or current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their fair value or current value at the year-end. Revaluations of the Council's property assets are undertaken on a 3 year rolling programme basis. Revaluation gains since 1 April 2007 only are recognised in the Revaluation Reserve, the date of its inception. Previous revaluation gains have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end to determine whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall. Where there have been previous revaluation gains against the asset held in the Revaluation Reserve, any subsequent loss is firstly written out against the accumulated Revaluation Reserve with any balance being charged against the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Exceptions are made for:

- Heritage assets
- Assets without a determinable finite useful life such as freehold land
- Assets that are not yet available for use i.e. assets under construction, and assets held for sale.

Depreciation is calculated on the value of the asset at the start of the year and on the following bases:

Asset	Policy	Life
Land	No depreciation charged	N/A
Buildings	Straight line depreciation on estimated remaining life	As advised by Valuer (between 1 - 79 years)
Vehicles, plant and equipment	Straight line depreciation on estimated remaining life	3 - 10 years
Infrastructure - Bridges	Straight line depreciation on estimated remaining life	30 years
Infrastructure - Roads	Straight line depreciation on estimated remaining life	15 years
Infrastructure - Other	Straight line depreciation on estimated remaining life	1 - 30 years

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Componentisation

Assets purchased or revalued during the year are reviewed to confirm whether any part of the asset will have a significantly different useful life and a material impact on depreciation. Where this is the case the asset will be componentised and the differing parts will be depreciated over their respective useful lives. Within the Council's asset portfolio there are a number of asset classes where componentisation is not considered, including:

- Equipment – as this is considered immaterial.
- Asset classes which are not depreciated – such as land, investment property, heritage assets, community assets and assets held for sale.

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The criteria for recognising assets as being held for sale are:

- Available for immediate sale in present condition
- Sale highly probable
- Actively marketed
- Sale completion expected within 12 months.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts.

1.12 Heritage Assets

Heritage Assets are those assets that are intended to be preserved in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historical worth. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment. The Council recognises its Civic Regalia and a number of paintings in the Balance Sheet at insurance value. The value of the paintings were added to the Balance Sheet during 2017-18 based on an insurance valuation carried out by professional valuers during the year. According to the Code there is no prescribed minimum period between valuations and the Council does not intend to revalue its Heritage Assets in the near future unless there is evidence of impairment such as physical deterioration or damage, or doubts to their authenticity arise.

1.13 Charges to revenue for non-current assets

Services are debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off.

The Council is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation or impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual prudent provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. This is detailed in the Council's Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement, and differentiates between supported capital expenditure, unsupported capital expenditure, and Finance Leases / PFI. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by this *Minimum Revenue Provision* (MRP) by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement

for the difference between the two. The Council charges MRP on a straight line basis over 45 years. This ensures that the costs of supported capital expenditure are spread evenly over the lifetime of assets, and that the debt is fully extinguished within forty-five years.

1.14 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Resources under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of non-current assets has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Examples of such expenditure include home improvement grants, town improvement grants and land feasibility studies. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of these from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the Council Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so there is no impact on the level of council tax. Where this expenditure is funded by grants or contributions, this is also taken to the relevant service area where the expenditure has been charged.

1.15 Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council as a Lessee

Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. if there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

The Council as a Lessor

Operating Leases

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

1.16 Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Non-exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes and government grants, do not give rise to financial instruments.

Financial Assets

A financial asset is a right to future economic benefits controlled by the Council that is represented by cash, equity instruments or a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets or a right to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially favourable to the Council. Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cash-flow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

The Council's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified at amortised cost as they are held solely for payment of principal and interest.

Financial Assets held at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction cost. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) represent investment and interest income receivable. For the financial assets held by the Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued investment and interest income).

Any gains or losses that arise on derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Expected Credit Loss Model

The Council recognises expected credit losses on all its financial assets held at amortised cost, either on a 12 month or lifetime basis. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the Council.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assumed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

Financial Liabilities

A financial liability is an obligation to transfer economic benefits controlled by the Council and can be represented by a contractual obligation to deliver cash or financial assets or an obligation to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially unfavourable to the Council. Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges

to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure Section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable together with any accrued interest and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year according to the loan agreement.

The Council has three Lender's Option Borrower's Option loans (LOBOs) with stepped interest rates. An effective interest rate has been used for these so that these are re-measured amounts for the LOBOs on the Balance Sheet.

The Council does not hold any financial assets or liabilities at Fair Value, however it is required to provide fair value information as appropriate. The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Council can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs.

1.17 Inventories and Long Term Contracts

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Work in progress is subject to an interim valuation at the year end and recorded in the Balance Sheet at cost plus any profit reasonably attributable to the works.

Long term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

1.18 Private Finance Initiatives (PFI)

PFI contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor. As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under the PFI scheme and as ownership of the property, plant and equipment will pass to the Council at the end of the contracts for no additional charge, the Council carries the assets used under these contracts on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The original recognition of these assets was balanced by the recognition of a liability for amounts due to the scheme operator to pay for the capital investment.

Non-current Assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as property, plant and equipment owned by the Council.

The amounts payable to the PFI operators each year are analysed as follows:-

- fair value of the services received during the year – debited to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- finance cost – an interest charge on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, debited to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- payment towards the liability – applied to write down the Balance Sheet liability towards the PFI operator

PFI assets are subject to MRP. The Annual MRP Policy for the Council has deemed this charge to be equivalent to the finance lease liability written down for the year.

1.19 Joint Arrangements

The Council is part of a number of joint arrangements including the Joint Committee for the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) which consists of 10 Partner Authorities: Blaenau Gwent; Caerphilly; Cardiff; Merthyr Tydfil; Monmouthshire; Newport; Rhondda-Cynon-Taf; Torfaen; the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend. The Joint Committee has been established to oversee delivery of a range of programmes designed to secure sustainable economic growth for the region in order to improve the lives of all in the community, including increasing connectivity and improving physical and digital infrastructure. The contributions to the Joint Committee are classified as Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS). The Council has not consolidated the assets or liabilities of the Joint Committee. The Council continues to have administrative responsibilities for Coychurch Crematorium and independent financial statements continue to be prepared and reviewed for this joint committee. The activities of these joint arrangements are excluded from the Council's single entity financial statements on the basis of materiality of both assets and population.

1.20 Council Tax Income

All Council Tax income is shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement of the Council with the major preceptors' precepts (principally Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales) being included as expenditure. Council Tax Income is shown gross in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with any amounts allocated as a result of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme recognised as an expense within net costs of services.

1.21 Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment. Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period. Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

1.22 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty of notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in no more than a month or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

1.23 Events after the Balance Sheet date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events.
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

1.24 Investment Property

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale. Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's-length. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

The Council instructed external valuers Cooke & Arkwright to provide valuations annually as at 31 December for all of the Council's investment portfolio in line with IFRS13. When the fair values of Investment Properties, Surplus Assets and Assets Held for Sale cannot be measured based on quoted prices in active markets (that is **Level 1 inputs**), their fair value is measured using the following valuation techniques:

Level 2 inputs: quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets at the valuation date

Level 3 inputs: based on most recent valuations, adjusted if necessary through the use of indexation and impairment review

The majority of the investment properties were valued at Level 2 inputs with a number valued at Level 3 inputs.

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the net Cost of Services and result in a gain for the Council Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the Council Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the Council Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

1.25 Local Authority Schools

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting confirms that the balance of control for local Council maintained schools (i.e. those categories of school identified in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, as amended) lies with the Council. The Code also stipulates that those schools' assets, liabilities and cash flows are recognised in the Council's financial statements (and not the Group Accounts). Therefore, schools' transactions, cash flows and balances are recognised in each of the financial statements as if they were of the Council.

2. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out above, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

The Council is deemed to control the services provided under the outsourcing agreement for the provision of a Comprehensive School in Maesteg and also to control the residual value of the school at the end of the agreement. The accounting policies for PFI schemes and similar contracts have been applied to the arrangement and the School (valued at £22.9 million) has been recognised as Property, Plant and Equipment on the Council's Balance Sheet.

The Council has a number of interests in other entities however the arrangements are not sufficiently material to warrant producing consolidated financial statements when reviewing both quantitative and qualitative information. In order to ensure compliance with the Code, a range of narrative disclosures have been made in other sections of the accounts.

3. Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimated uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2020 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Plant, Property and Equipment

Revaluation of the Council's assets is undertaken on a 3-year rolling programme. The value of those assets is based upon calculations and estimation techniques following the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) guidance, and in accordance with IFRS. Revaluation takes account of the value and condition of the asset, relevant components and also de-recognition where appropriate.

Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate may result in spending on repairs and maintenance having to be reduced thus bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets. If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets will fall.

Investment Properties, Surplus Assets and Assets Held for Sale

Fair Value estimations:

The Council instructed external valuers Cooke & Arkwright to provide valuations as at 31 December 2019 for all of the Council's investment portfolio and these were valued in line with IFRS13.

When the fair values of Investment Properties, Surplus Assets and Assets Held for Sale cannot be measured based on quoted prices in active markets (**Level 1 inputs**), their fair value is measured using the following valuation techniques:

Level 2 inputs: quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets at the balance sheet date;

Level 3 inputs: valuations based on the most recent valuations adjusted to current valuation by the use of indexation and impairment review.

Where possible, the inputs to these valuation techniques are based on observable data, but where this is not possible judgement is required in establishing fair values. These judgements typically include considerations such as uncertainty and risk. Changes in assumptions used could affect the fair value. The external valuers used the most appropriate valuation techniques to determine fair value.

Pensions Liability

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

4. Expenditure and Funding Analysis

2018-19 restated				2019-20		
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the Council Fund	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis & transfers to Earmarked Reserves (Note 5)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		Net Expenditure Chargeable to the Council Fund	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis & transfers to Earmarked Reserves (Note 5)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
110,544	5,526	105,018	Education and Family Support	115,059	(10,900)	125,959
69,135	(8,855)	77,990	Social Services & Wellbeing	71,651	(2,567)	74,218
27,822	(11,227)	39,049	Communities	25,746	(14,643)	40,389
18,065	(4,430)	22,495	Chief Executives	17,115	(3,754)	20,869
29,988	8,682	21,306	Council Wide Services	31,551	13,573	17,978
255,554	(10,304)	265,858	Net Cost Of Services	261,122	(18,291)	279,413
(255,983)	1,437	(257,420)	Other income and Expenditure	(261,686)	4,215	(265,901)
(429)	(8,867)	8,438	Surplus or Deficit	(564)	(14,076)	13,512
8,347			Opening Council Fund Balance	8,776		
429			Surplus or (Deficit) on Council Fund for year	564		
8,776			Closing Council Fund Balance as at 31 March	9,340		

5. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2018-19				
Adjustments from Council Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements amounts	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 1)	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note 2)	Other Differences (Note 3)	Total Adjustments
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education and Family Support	10,666	(5,772)	632	5,526
Social Services & Wellbeing	(2,560)	(4,531)	(1,764)	(8,855)
Communities	(7,943)	(2,036)	(1,248)	(11,227)
Chief Executives	(962)	(2,111)	(1,357)	(4,430)
Council Wide Services	3,184	-	5,498	8,682
Net cost of services	2,385	(14,450)	1,761	(10,304)
Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	9,494	(6,760)	(1,297)	1,437
Difference between Council Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	11,879	(21,210)	464	(8,867)

Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2019-20				
Adjustments from Council Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements amounts	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 1)	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note 2)	Other Differences (Note 3)	Total Adjustments
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education and Family Support	(5,882)	(5,006)	(12)	(10,900)
Social Services & Wellbeing	1,345	(3,789)	(123)	(2,567)
Communities	(10,838)	(1,728)	(2,077)	(14,643)
Chief Executives	(1,739)	(1,737)	(278)	(3,754)
Council Wide Services	3,178	-	10,395	13,573
Net cost of services	(13,936)	(12,260)	7,905	(18,291)
Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	11,583	(6,120)	(1,248)	4,215
Difference between Council Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(2,353)	(18,380)	6,657	(14,076)

Note 1 - Adjustments for Capital Purposes

The adjustments for capital purposes column adds in depreciation and impairment, revaluation gains and losses and Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital under Statute (REFCUS) in the services line, and for:

- Other operating expenditure – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- Financing and investment income and expenditure – the statutory charges for capital financing (i.e. the Minimum Revenue Provision) and other revenue contributions are deducted from other income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.
- Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

Note 2 - Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments

The net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income:

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs
- For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES.

Note 3 - Other Differences

Other differences between amounts debited / credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable / receivable to be recognised under statute:

- For financing and investment income and expenditure the other differences column recognises adjustments to the Council Fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.
- The charge under Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income represents the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for council tax and NNDR that was projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices.

6. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

This table sets out how the funding to the Council has been used in providing services in line with generally accepted accounting practices. This will include cash and non-cash transactions including accounting adjustments in line with International Financial Reporting Standards. **A segmental analysis of fees, charges and other service income is presented on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.**

2018-19 restated £'000		2019-20 £'000
	Expenditure	
192,855	Employee expenses	196,559
198,880	Other services expenses	194,015
4,463	Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	20,228
12,670	Interest payments	11,975
22,015	Precepts and levies	23,569
276	(Gain)/Loss on disposal of assets	215
431,159	Total expenditure	446,561
	Income	
(35,709)	Fees, charges and other service income	(36,972)
(135,820)	Income from council tax, non-domestic rates	(143,409)
(249,905)	Government grants and contributions	(251,569)
(1,012)	Investment Income and other Interest Receivable	(1,099)
(275)	Other income	-
(422,721)	Total income	(433,049)
8,438	(Surplus) or Deficit on the provision of services	13,512

Notes to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

7. Precepts and levies

Precepts are the amounts paid to non-billing authorities (e.g. community councils) by billing authorities so that they can cover their expenses. Levies are the amounts payable when services are operated over areas covering more than one Council, either on a joint service basis, where one Council administers the service and other Councils contribute to the costs, or by external bodies who levy on the appropriate Councils. The amounts paid were as follows:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
	Precepts	
12,450	Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales	13,832
2,495	Community Councils	2,621
14,945	Total Precepts	16,453
	Levies	
6,689	South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority	6,747
271	Coroners Service	260
92	Archive Service	91
18	Swansea Bay Port Authority	18
7,070	Total Levies	7,116
22,015	Total Precepts and Levies	23,569

8. Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

This is the principal source of finance towards revenue expenditure from Welsh Government with the amount receivable fixed at the start of each financial year. The amount received in 2019-20 was £145.35 million (£145.78 million for 2018-19).

9. National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

NNDR is organised on a national basis. The Welsh Government (WG) specifies the rate in the pound to be charged and, subject to the effects of transition arrangements, local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying their rateable value by the rate in the pound (the multiplier). The multiplier was 52.6p in 2019-20 (51.4p in 2018-19). The total rateable value of the Council equalled £99,152,723 on 31 March 2020 (£98,716,925 on 31 March 2019). The Council is responsible for collecting rates due from ratepayers in its area but pays the proceeds into the NNDR pool administered by WG. WG then redistributes the sums payable back to local authorities pro rata to adult population in each Council's area.

The Council receives a contribution directly from the NNDR pool. The income from this is reflected separately in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This amount was £46.452 million in 2019-20 (£45.802 million in 2018-19).

10. Council Tax

Council Tax Income derives from charges raised from residential properties, which have been classified into ten valuation bands based on the value the property is estimated to have been on 1 April 2005. Charges are calculated by taking the amount of income required for Bridgend County Borough Council, each Community Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales and dividing this by the Council Tax base. The Council Tax base is the total number of properties in each band adjusted by a factor to convert the number to a Band D equivalent, which is then adjusted for discounts. The gross tax base is then multiplied by the estimated collection rate to give the net tax base on which the budget is set – this was 53,710.97 Band D equivalents for 2019-20 (53,315.53 in 2018-19). The average charge for a Band D property is £1,777.19 in 2019-20 (£1,675.82 in 2018-19 on average) and this is multiplied by the factor specified for the particular band to give the individual amount due.

Council Tax bills were based on the following multipliers for bands A* to I and the number of properties in each band were as follows:

Band	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Factor	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	21/9
Chargeable Dwellings	28	10,156	14,866	14,180	10,568	7,488	4,234	1,404	281	89

Analysis of the net proceeds from Council Tax is as follows:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(90,018)	Council Tax Collectable	(96,957)
	Less:	
2,495	Payable to Community Councils	2,621
12,450	Payable to Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales	13,832
290	Provision for non-payment of Council Tax increase/(decrease)	417
(74,783)	Net Proceeds from Council Tax	(80,087)

11. Grants

In addition to the Revenue Support Grant, the Council credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2018-19 re-stated £'000	Specific Grants credited to Services	2019-20 £'000
(46,357)	Housing Benefit Subsidy	(40,207)
(6,022)	Post 16 Grant	(6,105)
(4,921)	Education Improvement Grant	(4,895)
(4,549)	Pupil Development Grant	(4,592)
(5,837)	Other Education & Family Support	(9,136)
(3,140)	Other Social Services & Wellbeing	(3,274)
(2,210)	Others	(4,911)
(6,074)	Supporting People	(5,767)
(929)	Sport Play & Active Wellbeing	(858)
(2,931)	Concessionary Fares Grant	(2,763)
(3,227)	Flying Start	(3,076)
(781)	Sustainable Waste Grant	(870)
(576)	Housing/Council Tax Benefit Administration	(874)
(1,113)	Integrated Care Fund	(2,168)
(1,858)	Families First	(1,690)
(2,394)	General Capital Grant	(2,280)
(1,712)	Other Capital Grants	(951)
(94,631)	Total	(94,417)

2018-19 £'000	Other Government Grants credited to Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income	2019-20 £'000
(9,494)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(11,798)
(9,494)	Total	(11,798)

(104,125)	Total	(106,215)
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12. Leases

Council as a Lessee

Operating Leases

The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(704)	Not later than one year	(681)
(1,794)	Later than one year but less than five years	(1,419)
(7,094)	Later than five years	(6,664)
(9,592)	Total	(8,764)

Expenditure charged in the year to the Service areas was £0.734 million made up of minimum lease payments of £0.117 million and £0.617 million for contingent rents (2018-19: £0.747 million made up of £0.153 million minimum lease payments and £0.594 million contingent rents).

Council as a LessorOperating Leases

The Council leases out property for economic purposes to provide affordable accommodation for local businesses. The future rentals receivable under operating leases are:-

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
99	Not later than one year	102
159	Later than one year but less than five years	158
1,719	Later than five years	1,702
1,977	Total	1,962

13. Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

During the 2008-09 financial year, the Council commenced payment under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg – this contract was entered into in 2007-08 and will run until August 2033. There is a commitment of £30.5 million (Net Present Value) over the duration of the contract, which is to be funded by Revenue Support Grant agreed by the Welsh Government, and Council / Delegated School Budget.

The total unitary payment is divided into the service charge element, the repayment of the liability element and the interest element. The charges are shown below:-

2018-19 £'000	Unitary Charge	2019-20 £'000
682	Service Charge Element	699
1,306	Interest Element	1,256
641	Finance Lease Liability	690
2,629	Total	2,645

These payments will be made over the life of the PFI contract and estimates for subsequent years are as detailed below at current prices:-

Unitary Charge	2020-21 £'000	2021-22 to 2025-26 £'000	2026-27 to 2030-31 £'000	2031-32 to 2034-35 £'000	TOTAL £'000
Service Charge Element	502	2,511	2,512	1,500	7,025
Interest Element	1,203	5,063	2,959	409	9,634
Finance Lease Liability	743	4,672	6,775	4,119	16,309
Total	2,448	12,246	12,246	6,028	32,968

14. Pooled Fund Arrangements

There are some formal pooled budget arrangements between the Council and Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board under Section 33 NHS (Wales) Act 2006. These arrangements were formerly with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board until the health board boundary changes from 1st April 2019. The pooled fund arrangement between 3 Councils for the delivery of an Integrated Family Support Service under s.166-169 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 ended on 31 March 2019

Purpose of Partnership	Partner	Year	Gross Income Of Partnership £'000	Gross Expenditure of Partnership £'000	Council's Contribution £'000
Provision of day opportunities for people recovering from mental health problems.	Cwm Taf-Morgannwg University Health Board	2018-19	(600)	600	300
		2019-20	(600)	600	300
Provision of specified community equipment for service users to enable them to continue to live in their own homes. Rhondda Cynon Taf are the lead partner	Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC Merthyr Tydfil CBC Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	2018-19	(2,831)	2,712	594
		2019-20	(2,832)	2,799	729
Provision of integrated community support services	Cwm Taf-Morgannwg University Health Board	2018-19	(4,930)	4,930	2,678
		2019-20	(5,176)	5,176	2,539
Provision of an Integrated Family Support Service	Neath Port Talbot CBC, City and County of Swansea Council	2018-19	(632)	632	163
		2019-20	-	-	-

15. Officers' Remuneration

Four separate disclosures are required to ensure compliance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, the Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendments) Regulations 2018 and the CIPFA Code.

Disclosure 1 – Ratio of the Remuneration of the Chief Executive to the median remuneration of all the Council's employees

The ratio of the remuneration of the Chief Executive to the median remuneration of all the Council's employees was 6.28 (2018-19: 6.64). The median remuneration of all employees was £21,166 (2018-19: £20,541), and the Remuneration of the Chief Executive was 6.28 times more than the median remuneration of the Council's employees.

Disclosure 2 – Table of Officers' Remuneration over £60,000

The number of employees (including teachers) whose remuneration, excluding pension contributions, was £60,000 or more for the year is as follows.

2018-19 including Redundancy Costs	Remuneration Band	Number of Employees			
		2019-20 inc Redundancy Costs (Note 1)	2019-20 exc Redundancy Costs (Note 2)	Number of Teachers inc in Figures exc Redundancy (Note 2)	Number of Non- Teachers inc in Figures exc Redundancy (Note 2)
32	£60,000 - £64,999	28	27	24	3
12	£65,000 - £69,999	19	19	18	1
6	£70,000 - £74,999	5	5	5	-
4	£75,000 - £79,999	4	4	3	1
10	£80,000 - £84,999	9	6	2	4
6	£85,000 - £89,999	5	4	3	1
5	£90,000 - £94,999	3	2	2	-
1	£95,000 - £99,999	3	3	3	-
1	£100,000 - £104,999	1	1	1	-
3	£105,000 - £109,999	1	-	-	-
1	£110,000 - £114,999	4	3	1	2
1	£120,000 - £124,999	-	-	-	-
-	£125,000 - £129,999	-	-	-	-
-	£130,000 - £134,999	1	1	-	1
1	£145,000 - £149,999	-	-	-	-
-	£150,000 - £154,999	1	-	-	-
1	£195,000 - £199,999	-	-	-	-
1	£225,000 - £229,999	-	-	-	-
1	£245,000 - £249,999	-	-	-	-
86		84	75	62	13

Note 1: These costs include redundancy costs and payments in lieu of notice at time of departure as well as any applicable pension strain costs, which are the costs of the early payment of benefit payable by the Council to the Pension Fund when a member of staff over 55 is made redundant.

Note 2: These are officers still in post, of which there are 75 individuals with remuneration of £60,000 or more, including:-

- a) 62 Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers, and
- b) 13 Senior Managers of the Council, including the Senior Officers shown in Disclosure 3 below, and Heads of Service.

Disclosure 3 – Table of Senior Officers' Remuneration (including Pensions Contributions)

Job Title	Salary		Compensation for Loss of Office		Pension Contributions (note 1)		Total Remuneration including Pension Contributions	
	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £
Chief Executive Officer & Head of Paid Service (See Note 2)	104,500	132,099	-	-	22,259	28,137	126,759	160,236
Interim Chief Executive Officer & Head of Paid Service (See Note 2)	29,766	-	-	-	6,340	-	36,106	-
Corporate Director - Education and Family Support (See Note 3)	105,982	110,449	-	-	22,574	23,526	128,556	133,975
Corporate Director - Communities (See Note 4)	82,959	8,790	-	-	17,670	1,872	100,629	10,662
Corporate Director - Operational and Partnership Services (See Note 5)	28,205	-	93,903	-	147,424	-	269,532	-
Corporate Director - Social Services & Wellbeing	108,283	110,449	-	-	23,064	23,526	131,347	133,975
Head of Finance & s151 Officer (See Note 6)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Head of Legal and Regulatory Services (See Note 8)	56,503	53,937	-	-	11,588	10,840	68,091	64,777
Chief Officer - Legal, HR and Regulatory Services (Note 8)	-	26,968	-	-	-	5,420	-	32,388
Head of Partnership Services (See Note 7)	59,923	56,327	-	-	12,764	11,998	72,687	68,325
Head of Operations - Communities	20,708	89,651	-	-	4,411	19,096	25,119	108,747

Notes

- Note 1 No 'Taxable Expenses' or 'Benefits in kind' were paid in the year. Pension Contributions relate to actual payments made.
- Note 2 The Interim Chief Executive was appointed to the permanent post on 2 May 2019. The remuneration is for the full year in post. The salary excludes payment for Election Duties which amounted to £6,617 for 1 European Election and 1 General Election.
- Note 3 The Corporate Director - Education and Family Support salary excludes payment for Election Duties which amounted to £180 for 1 general election.
- Note 4 The Corporate Director – Communities was appointed on 1 March 2020. It was vacant until that date.
- Note 5 The Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services took voluntary redundancy on 6 July 2018.
- Note 6 The Head of Finance – s151 Officer was re-designated as the Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change from the 01 December 2019. The position has been vacant during the year with the role fulfilled through an interim arrangement. The Interim Chief Officer- Finance, Performance and Change is appointed under a contractual arrangement with the Welsh Local Government Association. The costs incurred in this arrangement during the year were £115,557 (2018-19: £104,129).
- Note 7 The Head of Performance and Partnership Services was re-designated as the Head of Partnership Services from 01 December 2019. Therefore the disclosure includes the remuneration up to the 30 November 2019. The salary excludes payment for Election Duties which amounted to £390 for 1 European Election and 1 General Election.
- Note 8 The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services was re-designated as the Chief Officer – Legal, HR and Regulatory Services from 01 December 2019.

Disclosure 4 – Table on Exit Packages

The number of exit packages approved in the year with total cost per band (£'s) and total cost of compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below:

Exit Package Cost Band (including Special Payments)	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of Other Departures Agreed		Total Number of Exit Packages by Cost Band		Total Cost of Exit Packages in Each Band	
	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £	18-19 £	19-20 £
£0 - £20,000	32	11	29	6	61	17	731,527	154,872
£20,001 - £40,000	34	9	16	3	50	12	1,446,731	344,406
£40,001 - £60,000	16	4	1	-	17	4	814,416	209,590
£60,001 - £80,000	4	2	1	-	5	2	329,394	150,148
£80,001 - £100,000	2	-	-	-	2	-	178,584	-
£100,001 - £150,000	-	1	1	-	1	1	141,821	141,924
£150,001 - £200,000	2	-	-	-	2	-	366,362	-
	90	27	48	9	138	36	4,008,835	1,000,940

16. Members' allowances

As a result of the December 2011 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, a new system of 'salary' payments for Members came into effect in full from 16 May 2012. The Council now has in place a 'Basic Salary' for all members, a 'Senior Salary', and a 'Civic Salary'.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
557	Basic Salary (all Members)	571
481	Senior Salary	481
46	Civic Salary	49
1,084	Total	1,101

Full details of the 'salary' arrangements are available on the Council's website, and details of all Member earnings are also published annually on the Council's website.

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/democracy-and-elections/councillors-remuneration/>

17. External audit costs

In 2019-20 Bridgend County Borough Council incurred the following fees relating to external audit and inspection.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
192	Financial Statement Audit	188
97	Performance Audit	97
289	External Audit Services	285
54	Grant Claims and Returns	45
343	Total	330

18. Participation in Joint Committees and Joint Arrangements

The Council participated in a number of Joint Committees and Joint Arrangements during the year. The amounts contributed by the Council are set out below.

	2018-19 £'000	2019-20 £'000
Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD)	1,257	103
Central South Consortium Joint Education Service	606	571
Integrated Family Support Service (IFSS)	163	-
Joint Adoption Service	949	949
Shared Regulatory Service	1,505	1,686
Shared Internal Audit Service	205	270
Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service	287	-
Civil Parking Enforcement	185	190
Glamorgan Archives	92	92
Coychurch Crematorium	-	-
Margam Crematorium	-	-
Total	5,249	3,861

There were sufficient funds within the Cardiff Capital City Region Deal (CCRCD) pooled fund that the Council was only required to contribute £103,000 for 2019-20. The joint arrangements for the provision of an Integrated Family Support Service and Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service both ended on 31 March 2019. These services were provided by the Council as from 1 April 2019.

19. Related Party Transactions

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have been able to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Welsh Government

Welsh Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates; provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills). Grants received from government departments are set out in Notes 8 and 9 above.

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. Members' external interests are maintained in a register, which is available for inspection on the Council's website. The total of members' allowances paid is shown in Note 16. Payments made to organisations where Members had an interest included Care and Repair (Bridgend) £1,749,669 (£1,365,954 in 2018-19), Bridgend County Borough Citizens Advice Bureau £180,556 (£226,709 in 2018-19) and Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations £ 596,607 in 2019-20 (£92,322 in 2018-19). In all instances, the grants were made with proper consideration of declarations of interest. The relevant members did not take part in any discussion or decision relating to the grants. Other payments made to organisations where members declared interests totalled £478,886 (£293,576 in 2018-19). Balances owed by the Council as at 31 March 2020 included Care & Repair £5,965 (£15,124 in 2018-19) and Sarn Community Council £11,659 (£1,662 in 2018-19). Amounts owed to the Council as at 31 March 2020 included Credu Charity (Porthcawl) Ltd £13,289 (£6,668 in 2018-19) and Valleys to Coast £44,285 (£45,941 in 2018-19). One member did not complete a Related Party Disclosure because he ceased being a Councillor during the year.

Chief Officers

During 2019-20 the Head of Adult Social Care sat on the Board of Capita Glamorgan Consultancy Ltd. The Council owns 14.7% of the shares of the company and holds voting rights to this value on the Board. During 2019-20 the Council was charged £959,453 (2018-19: £1,146,732) in respect of goods, services and capital works. The balance owed by the council at the 31 March 2020 was £4,063 (£8,748 in 2018-19). In addition the Head of Operations Community Services took over from the Corporate Director on the 24th October 2019 to sit on the Board of CSC Foundry Ltd, a special purpose vehicle which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the City Deal Joint Committee. Details of the payments made to the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal are included in note 18 to the accounts.

The Head of Operations Community Services was a Director of the Bridgend Business Improvement District (BID) until he resigned in December 2019 following the BID ending in September 2019. The Council acted as the collector of Business Rates on behalf of the Business Improvement District and transferred those monies to the company. The Council had no business transactions with the BID Company. No Directors received any remuneration for this role.

The Interim Head of Finance and s151 Officer is an Independent Member of the Health Education and Improvement Wales Board. The Council had no business transactions with the health authority in 2019-20.

Other Joint Committees

Details of the amounts paid under Joint Committees is shown in Note 18.

Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee

The Glamorgan Record Office is managed and administered by the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee under powers conferred by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994.

Coychurch Crematorium

Coychurch Crematorium is subject to the control of a Joint Committee of Members from Bridgend CBC, Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC and the Vale of Glamorgan CBC. Financial statements for this Joint Committee are available on the Bridgend CBC website (www.bridgend.gov.uk).

Margam Crematorium

Margam Crematorium is subject to the control of a Joint Committee of Members from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, who manage the Crematorium. Financial Statements for this Joint Committee are available on the Neath Port Talbot CBC website (www.npt.gov.uk)

Other Public Bodies

The Council has a number of pooled budget arrangements with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board as detailed in Note 14. It also pays a management fee to the Awen Trust for cultural related services which is a not for profit organisation. The amount paid to Awen in 2019-20 was £3,213,429 (2018-19: £3,231,354) and a balance outstanding of £66,756 owed to the Council at the 31 March 2020 (2018-19: £702,532 owed by the Council). The Board of Awen Cultural Trust has two Councillors as Board members.

Notes to the Movement in Reserves Statement

20. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against.

Council Fund Balance

This is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of the Council are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the Council are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact on the Council Fund Balance, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The Council Fund Balance therefore summarises the resources that the Council is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment (or the deficit or resources that the Council is required to recover) at the end of the financial year.

Capital Receipts Reserve

The Capital Receipts Reserve holds the proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets, which are restricted by statute from being used other than to fund new capital expenditure, or to be set aside to finance historical capital expenditure. The balance on the reserve shows the resources that have yet to be applied for these purposes at the year-end.

Capital Grants Unapplied

The Capital Grants Unapplied Account holds the grants and contributions received towards capital projects for which the Council has met the conditions that would otherwise require repayment of the monies, but which have yet to be applied to meet expenditure. The balance is restricted by grant terms as to the capital expenditure against which it can be applied and/or the financial year in which this can take place.

Unusable Reserves

This includes the Revaluation Reserve which contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment; the Pensions Reserve which absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions; the Capital Adjustment Account which absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing and acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions; the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account which absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefitting from gains per statutory provisions; and the Short-term Accumulated Compensated Absences Account which absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the Council Fund Balance from accruing holiday entitlements earned but not taken in the year.

The tables below detail the adjustments for 2018-19 for comparative purposes and the adjustments for 2019-20.

2018-19	Usable Reserves			Unusable Reserves
	Council Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustment to the Revenue Resources				
<i>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:</i>				
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	21,210			(21,210)
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account)	(8)			8
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(422)			422
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (those items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	8,377			(8,377)
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	29,157	-	-	(29,157)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources				
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(1,884)	1,884		
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	(4,958)			4,958
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(3,922)			3,922
Total adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resource	(10,764)	1,884	-	8,880
Adjustments to Capital Resources				
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure		(5,123)		5,123
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	(9,494)			9,494
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts			1,194	(1,194)
Total adjustments to Capital Reserves	(9,494)	(5,123)	1,194	13,423
Total Adjustments	8,899	(3,239)	1,194	(6,854)

2019-20	Usable Reserves			Unusable Reserves
	Council Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustment to the Revenue Resources				
<i>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:</i>				
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	18,380			(18,380)
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account)	(9)			9
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	468			(468)
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (those items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	21,561			(21,561)
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	40,400	-	-	(40,400)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources				
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(926)	926		
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	(5,523)			5,523
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(962)			962
Total adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resource	(7,411)	926	-	6,485
Adjustments to Capital Resources				
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure		(240)		240
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	(11,798)			11,798
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts			(1,165)	1,165
Total adjustments to Capital Reserves	(11,798)	(240)	(1,165)	13,203
Total Adjustments	21,191	686	(1,165)	(20,712)

Notes to the Balance Sheet

21. Non-current Assets

a) Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2020 the Council had the following material capital commitments.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
	- Maesteg Town Hall	6,088
	- Total	6,088

b) Notes on Non-current Assets

Voluntary-aided & Voluntary-controlled Schools

The Council recognises the only Voluntary-controlled School on its Balance Sheet. This is Pen-y-Fai Church in Wales Primary School. The four voluntary-aided primary schools and one voluntary-aided comprehensive school are not assets of the Council and therefore not included in the Balance Sheet.

c) Non-current Assets valuation

Non-current Assets are included in the Balance Sheet on the valuation basis set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies. All assets are valued on a rolling 3-year basis as at 31 December with a review to 31 March, which confirmed no significant changes in value during that period. These valuations were undertaken by Council Surveyors in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation, Practice and Guidance Notes of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors for non-investment assets, investment assets being valued independently by Cooke & Arkwright.

Summary of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant and Equipment £'000	Infrastructure £'000	Community Assets £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total PPE Assets £'000	PFI Assets Included In PPE £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2018	399,145	9,364	214,177	4,951	15,130	7,739	650,506	24,142
Additions	3,391	1,530	7,457	-	-	9,062	21,440	-
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment written out to Gross Carrying Amount	(19,417)	(1,123)	-	-	(502)	-	(21,042)	(2,783)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	27,437	352	-	(2)	(56)	-	27,731	1,258
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	16,054	-	-	-	(807)	-	15,247	251
Derecognition - Disposals	(234)	(532)	-	-	(100)	-	(866)	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	(195)	-	-	-	1,761	-	1,566	-
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	13,850	-	-	-	2,289	(16,139)	-	-
At 31 March 2019	440,031	9,591	221,634	4,949	17,715	662	694,582	22,868
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments								
At 1 April 2018	(18,113)	(4,632)	(150,475)	(37)	(2)	-	(173,259)	(1,858)
Depreciation Charge for the year	(10,947)	(1,530)	(5,878)	-	(55)	-	(18,410)	(928)
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment written out to Gross Carrying Amount	19,417	1,123	-	-	502	-	21,042	2,783
Impairment Losses/(Reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(612)	-	(134)	-	-	-	(746)	-
Derecognition - disposals	15	526	-	-	-	-	541	-
Other Movements	630	-	-	-	(630)	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	(9,610)	(4,513)	(156,487)	(37)	(185)	-	(170,832)	(3)
NBV as at 1 April 2018	381,032	4,732	63,702	4,914	15,128	7,739	477,247	22,284
NBV as at 31 March 2019	430,421	5,078	65,147	4,912	17,530	662	523,750	22,865

Summary of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant and Equipment £'000	Infrastructure £'000	Community Assets £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total PPE Assets £'000	PFI Assets Included In PPE £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2019	440,031	9,591	221,634	4,949	17,715	662	694,582	22,868
Additions	7,398	2,679	8,145	-	-	753	18,975	-
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment written out to Gross Carrying Amount	(4,583)	-	-	-	(185)		(4,768)	-
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	2,471	-	-	-	(1,096)	-	1,375	-
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	499	-	-	-	(660)	-	(161)	-
Derecognition - Disposals	(987)	(26)	-	-	(10)	-	(1,023)	-
Derecognition - other	(213)	-	-	-	-	-	(213)	
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	(745)	-	-	-	1,344	(599)	-	-
At 31 March 2020	443,871	12,244	229,779	4,949	17,108	816	708,767	22,868
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments								
At 1 April 2019	(9,610)	(4,513)	(156,487)	(37)	(185)	-	(170,832)	(3)
Depreciation Charge for the year	(11,151)	(1,015)	(5,490)	-	-	-	(17,656)	(1,213)
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment written out to Gross Carrying Amount	4,583	-	-	-	185	-	4,768	-
Accumulated impairment written off (where no account balance at 1 April)	(2,656)	-	-	-	-	-	(2,656)	-
Impairment Losses/(Reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(574)	-	-	-	-	-	(574)	-
Impairment Losses/(Reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	1,264	-	(243)	-	-	-	1,021	-
Derecognition - disposals	69	26	-	-	-	-	95	-
At 31 March 2020	(18,075)	(5,502)	(162,220)	(37)	-	-	(185,834)	(1,216)
NBV as at 1 April 2019	430,421	5,078	65,147	4,912	17,530	662	523,750	22,865
NBV as at 31 March 2020	425,796	6,742	67,559	4,912	17,108	816	522,933	21,652

d) Intangible Assets.

The Intangible asset refers to the Wales Community Care Information System, WCCIS. As at 31 March 2020 the remaining life of the asset was 4 years.

Intangible Assets	£'000
Cost or Valuation	
At 1 April 2018	6,003
Additions	37
At 31 March 2019	6,040
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments	
At 1 April 2018	(1,894)
Depreciation Charge for the year	(553)
At 31 March 2019	(2,447)
NBV as at 1 April 2018	4,109
NBV as at 31 March 2019	3,593

Intangible Assets	£'000
Cost or Valuation	
At 1 April 2019	6,040
At 31 March 2020	6,040
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments	
At 1 April 2019	(2,447)
Depreciation Charge for the year	(561)
At 31 March 2020	(3,008)
NBV as at 1 April 2019	3,593
NBV as at 31 March 2020	3,032

e) Sources of finance for Capital Expenditure

2018-19		2019-20
£'000		£'000
(6,163)	Loans	(5,215)
(12,037)	Government grants	(13,902)
(5,123)	Capital receipts	(240)
(3,922)	Revenue contribution	(1,168)
(369)	Other contributions	(2,297)
(27,614)	Total	(22,822)

f) Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

These relate to capital expenditure that does not result in a tangible non-current asset. They include renovation grants and contributions towards capital expenditure incurred by other parties.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
6,137	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	3,847
(4,106)	Grants and Contributions	(3,230)
2,031	Total	617

g) Capital financing requirement and the financing of capital expenditure

2018-19 £'000	Capital Financing Requirement	2019-20 £'000
170,880	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	172,084
	Capital Investment	
21,477	Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets	18,975
6,137	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	3,847
	Sources of Finance	
(12,407)	Grants & Contributions	(16,199)
(5,123)	Capital receipts applied	(240)
(3,922)	Revenue Contributions	(1,168)
(2,858)	Minimum Revenue Provision	(2,885)
(1,459)	Unsupported Borrowing MRP	(1,948)
(641)	PFI School MRP	(690)
172,084	Closing Capital Financing Requirement	171,776
	Explanation for Movements in Year	
1,077	Increase/(Decrease) in Underlying Need to Borrow (supported by government financial assistance)	1,053
768	Increase/(Decrease) in Underlying Need to Borrow (unsupported by government financial assistance)	(671)
(641)	Assets acquired under PFI Contract	(690)
1,204	Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	(308)

22. Investment Properties

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
4,360	Balance at 1 April	4,635
275	Net gain / (loss) from fair value adjustments	-
4,635	Balance as at 31 March	4,635

23. Short Term Debtors

These represent the monies owed to the Council after making provision for debts that might not be recovered and are analysed as follows:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
7,016	Trade Receivables	8,118
2,582	Prepayments	3,056
22,702	Other Receivable Amounts	25,168
32,300	Balance as at 31 March	36,342

The Council collects NNDR payments on behalf of Welsh Government. As at 31 March 2020, the Council had paid over more cash than it collected, this excess was included in the Balance Sheet as a debtor of £0.613 million. The equivalent for 2018-19 was a debtor of £1.385 million.

24. Assets Held for Sale

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
5,961	Balance at 1 April	2,560
195	Assets newly classified as held for sale: Property, Plant & Equipment	-
(1,761)	Assets declassified as held for resale: Property, Plant & Equipment	-
	Revaluation Gain/(Loss)	
(1,835)	Assets Sold	-
2,560	Balance as at 31 March	2,560

25. Short Term Creditors

These represent monies owed by the Council and are analysed as follows:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(5,131)	Trade Payables	(5,883)
(26,651)	Other Payables	(28,650)
(31,782)	Balance as at 31 March	(34,533)

26. Provisions

The Council has provisions as detailed below:

	Insurance £'000	Carbon Reduction Commitment £'000	Other Provisions £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 April 2019	5,276	242	718	6,236
Additional provisions made in 2019-20	284	-	-	284
Amounts used/released in 2019-20	(653)	(242)	(640)	(1,535)
Balance at 31 March 2020	4,907	-	78	4,985

Provisions < 1 yr	908	-	78	986
Provisions > 1 yr	3,999	-	-	3,999
Balance at 31 March 2020	4,907	-	78	4,985

Insurance Provision (Self-funding / MMI)Self-Fund

The Council has a self-insurance fund. This Insurance Provision has been set aside to meet the estimated cost to the Council of outstanding liability for policy years up to 2019-20 for Employer's Liability, Public Liability and Property. However the actual cost of individual claims and the timing of payments is uncertain. The Council also has an earmarked reserve for Insurance which acts as an additional contingency for the fund, over and above the total outstanding liability, to allow for unexpected events, worse than anticipated deterioration in the current reserves and higher than anticipated future losses both in frequency and cost.

Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme

This provision represented the obligation to purchase Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Allowances in relation to carbon dioxide emissions incurred during 2018-19. The payment was made with the retrospective purchase of allowances in 2019-20. This scheme ceased on 31 March 2019.

Other Provisions

This provision is to provide for the value of potential future compensation payments arising from on-going litigation.

27. PFI and Other Long Term Liabilities

2018-19 £'000		Movement in year £'000	Moved to Short Term Creditors £'000	2019-20 £'000
16,310	Maesteg School PFI Lease		(743)	15,567
447	Innovation Centre		(98)	349
250	Waste Contract		(50)	200
47	Escrow		(34)	13
-	Salix Loan	374	(56)	318
17,054	Balance as at 31 March	374	(981)	16,447

The PFI Finance Lease Liability matches the fair value of the fixed asset for the PFI School as at the date the asset came onto the Council's Balance Sheet being £21.898 million (July 2008). This will be written down over the life of the PFI contract by the value of the unitary payment deemed to be the finance lease element each year. For 2019-20, the amount written down was £690,000 and £743,000 has been transferred to Short Term Creditors leaving an outstanding long term liability of £15.567 million on the PFI scheme at year end.

The Innovation Centre Financial Liability of £0.917 million was recognised in 2009-10 as a loan in substance. This is being written down over the remaining fourteen years of the loan. The amount written down in 2019-20 was £90,000 and £98,000 was transferred to Short Term Creditors resulting in a long term financial liability of £0.349 million at 31 March 2020.

The Waste Contract liability is repayable in instalments of £50,000 per annum.

The long term Escrow liability represents a fund that will be maintained and increased to allow for the future reinstatement to playing fields at Bridgend College – Pencoed Campus.

28. Usable Reserves

The following notes detail the Usable Reserves of the Council:-

a) Usable Capital Receipts Reserve

This represents capital receipts available to finance capital expenditure in future years.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
21,161	Balance at 1st April	17,922
1,884	Capital Receipts Received	926
(5,123)	Receipts Used to Finance Capital Expenditure	(240)
17,922	Balance as at 31 March	18,608

b) Earmarked Reserves

The Earmarked Reserves in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2020 are detailed below:

Opening Balance 2018-19 £'000	Reserve	Movement during 2019-20		Closing Balance 2019-20 £'000
		Additions/ Re- classification £'000	Drawdown by Directorates £'000	
8,776	Council Fund	564	-	9,340
	Corporate Reserves:			
14,072	Capital Programme Contribution	7,339	(333)	21,078
5,274	Major Claims Reserve	1,000	(998)	5,276
5,301	Service Reconfiguration	-	(309)	4,992
12,083	Other Corporate Reserves	3,395	(3,336)	12,142
36,730	Total Corporate Reserves	11,734	(4,976)	43,488
	Other Reserves:			
5,895	Directorate Reserves	1,332	(1,786)	5,441
1,900	City Deal Reserve	589		2,489
7,795	Total Directorate Reserves	1,921	(1,786)	7,930
614	Delegated Schools Balance		(506)	108
45,139	Total Reserves excluding Equalisation Reserves	13,655	(7,268)	51,526
2,968	Equalisation and Grant Reserves	1,758	(1,030)	3,696
48,107	TOTAL EXCLUDING COUNCIL FUND	15,413	(8,298)	55,222
56,883	TOTAL INCLUDING COUNCIL FUND	15,977	(8,298)	64,562

Council Fund

The transfer to the Council Fund for 2019-20 was £0.564 million. This increased the balance on the Fund to £9.340 million at 31 March 2020 (£8.776 million at 31 March 2019).

Other Earmarked Reserves

The transfer to Earmarked Balances excluding the Council Fund Balance was a net increase of £7.115 million in 2019-20 (net increase of £0.305 million in 2018-19). An overview of each earmarked reserve is explained below.

Corporate Reserves

Capital Programme Contribution

This earmarked reserve has been set up as a revenue contribution to the capital programme, to enable schemes to be progressed more quickly to alleviate pressure on the revenue budget and accelerate the realisation of capital receipts.

Major Claims Earmarked Reserve

This reserve has been created to mainly cover the deficit on the pension fund, major capital contractual claims and mitigate against potential other claims against the Council.

Service Reconfiguration / Severance Costs

This reserve has been established to meet potential costs relating to service remodelling and consequential severance costs.

Directorate ReservesCity Deal Reserve

This reserve is to provide the necessary funding for the Council's capital contribution to the Cardiff City Region City Deal programme.

Directorate Issues

This reserve relates to specific Directorate issues anticipated in 2020-21 together with some carried forward amounts from 2019-20. Examples include reserves to support transitional arrangements for a residential care home, the process towards Community Asset Transfer, the continued requirement for enforcement officers and dog litter wardens and road safety improvements.

Delegated School Balances

These balances represent the cumulative effect of over and under-spending on school delegated budgets not available to the Council.

Analysis of Delegated Schools Balance

2018-19 Closing Balance £'000	School Types	No's in Category	2019-20 Budget £'000	2019-20 Spend £'000	2019-20 Closing Balance £'000
351	Primary Schools	48	46,299	46,842	(543)
(198)	Secondary Schools	9	43,812	43,720	92
461	Special Schools	2	9,818	9,259	559
614	Total	59	99,929	99,821	108

The 2018-19 Closing Balance figure is included within the 2019-20 Budget. This accounting treatment of including the prior year's closing balance in the current year's budget applies solely to Schools and does not apply in any other area of the accounts.

Equalisation and Grant Reserves

This includes grant reserves where under proper accounting practice, all grants and contributions should be analysed to see whether there are specific conditions attached to them. When the conditions are actually satisfied the grant is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement regardless of whether the actual expenditure has been incurred. In these cases the Council can decide to transfer the grant monies to an earmarked reserve to fund future expenditure. In 2019-20 there were £1,758,000 (2018-19 - £805,000) of new grants that have been transferred to earmarked reserves, to ensure the funding is protected in accordance with the original terms and conditions of the grant or contribution. In addition there are a small number of equalisation reserves that ensures expenditure that is incurred in a particular future year is smoothed over the period of the MTFS. These include the costs of elections, the Special Regeneration Fund, the preparation of the Local Development Plan and the Building Control Earmarked Reserves. £1.030 million of the reserves were drawn down during the year.

29. Unusable Reserves

The following notes detail the Unusable Reserves of the Council.

a) Revaluation Reserve (RR)

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;
- Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or
- Disposed of and the gains are realised.

The Revaluation Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2018-19			2019-20	
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	126,378	Balance at 1 April		149,553
(32)		Prior Year adj		
33,337		Upward Revaluation of Assets	5,277	
		Downward Revaluation of Assets and Impairment Losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(4,476)	
(5,605)				
	27,700	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of services		801
		Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation (charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(4,566)	
(3,755)		Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(402)	
(770)				
	(4,525)	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account		(4,968)
	149,553	Balance as at 31 March		145,386

b) Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(268,620)	Balance at 1 April	(263,510)
26,320	Actuarial gains or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	(7,300)
(38,650)	Reversal of Items relating to Retirement Benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(35,850)
17,440	Employer's Pensions Contributions and Direct Payments to Pensioners Payable in the Year	17,470
(263,510)	Balance as at 31 March	(289,190)

c) Capital Adjustment Account (CAA)

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties.

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains going forward.

2018-19			2019-20	
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	194,640	Balance at 1 April		213,123
		Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement :		
(18,964)		Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(18,218)	
14,502		Revaluation gain/(losses) on Property, Plant and Equipment	(1,797)	
(2,031)		Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital Under Statute	(618)	
		Other amounts including Mortgage Payments		
(1,357)		Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(738)	
	(7,850)			(21,371)
	3,755	Adjusting amounts written out to the Revaluation Reserve		4,566
		Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year		(16,805)
	(4,095)			
		Capital financing applied in the year:		
5,123		Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	240	
8,300		Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that has been applied to capital financing	12,969	
4,958		Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the Council Fund	5,523	
3,922		Capital expenditure charged against the Council Fund	1,168	
	22,303			19,900
		Movement in the market value of Investment Properties credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
	275			
	213,123	Balance as at 31 March		216,218

30. Pensions liabilities, IAS 19 disclosures

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments (for those benefits) and to disclose them at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

This Council participates in the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Pension Fund, which is administered under the Regulations governing the Local Government Pension Scheme. This is a defined benefit scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, at a rate determined by the Fund's Actuary based on triennial actuarial valuations, which aims to balance 100% of pension liabilities with investment assets. The last triennial valuation took place in 2019-20.

Further information can be found in Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Pension Fund's Annual Report which is available upon request from the Director of Finance, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, Bronwydd, Porth, Rhondda, Rhondda Cynon Taf.

<http://www.rctpensions.org.uk>

Any award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. No investment assets are built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet the actual pension payments as they fall due.

The principal risks to the Council of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme (i.e. large scale withdrawals from the scheme), changes to inflation, bond yields, and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge the Council Fund with the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

The disclosures required for 2019-20 include information provided by the pension administrators, Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC and Aon Hewitt Associates Limited as the pension fund scheme's actuary.

Year-end valuation reports provided to RCT Pension Fund include a statement that there is a material valuation uncertainty related to the UK property funds managed on behalf of the pension fund. The total value of these investments as at 31 March 2020 is £209 million, of which £36.8 million (17.63%) is attributable to Bridgend County Borough Council.

McCloud Judgement

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, amounted to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied the Government's application for leave to appeal the decisions. The calculation of the liability incorporates the impact of the 'McCloud' judgement.

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The cost of retirement benefits is recognised in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge required to be made against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment benefits is reversed out of the Council Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the Council Fund balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total	Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total
£m	£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m	£m
2018-19	2018-19	2018-19	2018-19	Cost of Services :	2019-20	2019-20	2019-20	2019-20
22.65	-	-	22.65	Service cost comprising:	29.26	-	-	29.26
9.24	-	-	9.24	current service cost	0.47	-	-	0.47
-	-	-	-	past service costs	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	(gain)/loss from settlements	-	-	-	-
6.47	0.19	0.10	6.76	Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure :-	5.87	0.17	0.08	6.12
				Net interest expense				
38.36	0.19	0.10	38.65	Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	35.60	0.17	0.08	35.85
				Other Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement				
(40.76)	-	-	(40.76)	<i>Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability comprising:</i>	22.71	-	-	22.71
46.24	0.19	0.07	46.50	Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	(16.85)	(0.06)	(0.01)	(16.92)
(32.89)	(0.33)	(0.20)	(33.42)	Actuarial (gains) / losses due to changes in financial assumptions	(10.53)	(0.05)	0.00	(10.58)
1.33	0.02	0.01	1.36	Actuarial (gains) / losses due to changes in demographic assumptions	12.14	(0.03)	(0.02)	12.09
				Actuarial (gains) / losses due to liability experience				
(26.08)	(0.12)	(0.12)	(26.32)	Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	7.47	(0.14)	(0.03)	7.30
				Movement in Reserves Statement:-				
(38.36)	(0.19)	(0.10)	(38.65)	Reversal of net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS 19	(35.60)	(0.17)	(0.08)	(35.85)
				Actual amount charged against the Council Fund Balance for pensions in the year				
16.58	0.48	0.38	17.44	Employer's Contributions payable to the scheme	16.63	0.48	0.36	17.47
(30.34)	(0.48)	(0.38)	(31.20)	Retirement Benefits Paid Out	(25.48)	(0.48)	(0.36)	(26.32)

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amounts included in the Balance sheet arising from the Council's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plan are as follows:-

Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total		Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total
£m 2018-19	£m 2018-19	£m 2018-19	£m 2018-19		£m 2019-20	£m 2019-20	£m 2019-20	£m 2019-20
856.10	7.23	3.47	866.80	Present value of defined benefit obligation	870.04	6.78	3.16	879.98
(603.29)	-	-	(603.29)	Fair Value of Plan Assets	(590.79)	-	-	(590.79)
252.81	7.23	3.47	263.51	Net liability arising from defined benefit obligation	279.25	6.78	3.16	289.19

Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of the Scheme (Plan) Assets

£m 2018-19		£m 2019-20
557.45	Opening fair value of scheme assets at 1 April	603.29
14.38	Interest income on assets	14.43
40.76	The return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	(22.71)
16.58	Contributions by Employer	16.63
4.46	Contributions by Participants	4.63
(30.34)	Net Benefits Paid Out	(25.48)
603.29	Balance as at 31 March	590.79

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)

Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total		Local Govt Pension Scheme	LGPS Unfunded Benefits	Teachers' Unfunded Benefits	Total
£m	£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m	£m
2018-19	2018-19	2018-19	2018-19		2019-20	2019-20	2019-20	2019-20
814.56	7.64	3.87	826.07	Opening balance at 1 April	856.10	7.23	3.47	866.80
22.65	-	-	22.65	Current Service Cost	29.26	-	-	29.26
20.85	0.19	0.10	21.14	Interest Cost	20.30	0.17	0.08	20.55
4.46	-	-	4.46	Contributions from scheme participants	4.63	-	-	4.63
				<i>Remeasurement (gains) and losses:</i>				-
46.24	0.19	0.07	46.50	Actuarial gains / losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	(16.85)	(0.06)	(0.01)	(16.92)
(32.89)	(0.33)	(0.20)	(33.42)	Actuarial gains / losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	(10.53)	(0.05)	0.00	(10.58)
1.33	0.02	0.01	1.36	Actuarial gains / losses arising from changes in liability experience	12.14	(0.03)	(0.02)	12.09
9.24	-	-	9.24	Past Service Cost	0.47	-	-	0.47
(30.34)	(0.48)	(0.38)	(31.20)	Benefits Paid	(25.48)	(0.48)	(0.36)	(26.32)
-	-	-	-	Liabilities extinguished on settlements	-	-	-	-
856.1	7.23	3.47	866.8	Balance as at 31 March	870.04	6.78	3.16	879.98

Local Government Pension Scheme assets comprised:

Fair Value of Scheme Assets 2018-19 £m	Asset Split 2018-19 %		Fair Value of Scheme Assets 2019-20 £m	Asset Split 2019-20 %
6.80	1.13	Cash and cash equivalents	5.04	0.85
		Equity Instruments: <i>by industry type (FTSE Sector)</i>		
3.27	0.54	Oil & Gas	1.86	0.31
7.92	1.31	Basic Materials	6.71	1.14
26.08	4.32	Industrials	20.92	3.54
37.08	6.15	Consumer Goods	14.02	2.37
10.02	1.66	Health Care	10.71	1.81
0.00	0.00	Consumer Services	25.21	4.27
0.67	0.11	Telecommunications	1.30	0.22
0.46	0.08	Utilities	0.00	0.00
24.21	4.01	Financials	19.55	3.31
8.29	1.37	Technology	10.71	1.81
285.68	47.35	Pooled Equity Investment Vehicles	265.94	45.02
403.68	66.90	Sub-total equity	376.93	63.81
		Bonds: <i>By Sector</i>		
75.09	12.45	Corporate	82.90	14.03
72.20	11.97	Government	75.18	12.73
147.29	24.42	Sub-total bonds	158.08	26.76
		Property: <i>By Type</i>		
7.24	1.20	Retail	8.07	1.37
6.06	1.00	Office	6.75	1.14
13.43	2.23	Industrial	14.97	2.53
18.80	3.12	Other Commercial	20.95	3.55
45.53	7.55	Sub-total property	50.74	8.59
603.30	100.00	Total assets	590.79	100.00

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. Both the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and discretionary benefits liabilities have been estimated by Aon Hewitt, an independent firm of actuaries, in accordance with IAS 19.

The significant assumptions used by the Actuary were:

2018-19 % pa		2019-20 % pa
2.40	Discount rate	2.30
2.20	Rate of pension increases	2.00
3.45	Rate of salary increases	3.25
Years		
	<i>Mortality Assumptions:</i>	
	Longevity at 65 for current pensioners :-	
22.20	Men	21.70
24.10	Women	24.00
	Longevity at 65 for future pensioners :-	
23.89	Men	22.70
25.90	Women	25.50

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies of the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

Increase in Assumption 2018-19	Decrease in Assumption 2018-19		Increase in Assumption 2019-20	Decrease in Assumption 2019-20
£m	£m		£m	£m
(15.60)	15.89	Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	(17.30)	17.66
3.19	(3.16)	Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	1.80	(1.78)
12.68	(12.47)	Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	16.68	(16.31)
27.68	(27.39)	Longevity (increase or decrease in 1 year)	27.86	(27.54)

Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

The funded nature of the LGPS requires the Employer and its employees to pay contributions into the fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets. The current Employer's contribution rate to achieve a funding level of 100% of scheme liabilities will be reviewed at this point. Consequently, whilst there is a significant shortfall (liability) between the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them, the statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

The expected employer's contributions to the Local Government Pension Scheme for the accounting period ending 31 March 2021 are:-

	2020-21 £m
Local Government Pension Scheme	34.51
LGPS Unfunded	0.15
Teachers Unfunded	0.07
Total	34.73

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for the scheme members is 20.1 years, which is an increase of 1.7 years compared to 2018-19.

Teachers

In 2019-20, the Council paid £10.845 million (£8.3 million for 2018-19) to the Teachers Pensions Agency in respect of teachers' pension costs. In addition, the Council is responsible for all pension payments relating to added years awarded, together with the related increases. In 2019-20, these amounted to £0.402 million (£0.420 million for 2018-19).

31. Financial Instruments Disclosures

Categories of Financial Instruments

The following categories of financial instruments are carried in the Balance Sheet:

Financial Assets

31 March 2019					31 March 2020			
Current		Non-current			Current		Non-current	
Invest- ments £'000	Debtors £'000	Invest- ments £'000	Total £'000		Invest- ments £'000	Debtors £'000	Invest- ments £'000	Total £'000
21,105	7,016	4,011	32,132	Amortised Cost	28,743	8,118		36,860
21,105	7,016	4,011	32,132	Total financial assets	28,743	8,118	-	36,860
-	-	4,635	4,635	Non-financial assets	-	-	4,635	4,635
21,105	7,016	8,646	36,767	Total	28,743	8,118	4,635	41,495

The current investments figure above includes accrued income receivable for long term investments in addition to short term interest.

The £8.118m (2018-19: £7.016 million) debtors figure in the table above relates to trade debtors for goods and services delivered and is included in the overall debtors figure of £36.342 million (2018-19:

£32.300 million) included in the balance sheet. More information in relation to debtors can be found at note 23.

Financial Liabilities

31 March 2019					31 March 2020			
Current		Non-current			Current		Non-current	
Borrow- ings £'000	Creditors £'000	Borrow- ings & Other Long Term Liabilities £'000	Total £'000		Borrow- ings £'000	Creditors £'000	Borrow- ings & Other Long Term Liabilities £'000	Total £'000
(2,551)	(5,687)	(114,466)	(122,704)	Amortised Cost	(915)	(6,337)	(113,848)	(121,100)
(2,551)	(5,687)	(114,466)	(122,704)	Total	(915)	(6,337)	(113,848)	(121,100)

The current borrowings figure above includes £0.278 million of accrued interest payable for the year.

The current creditors figure of £6.337 million (2018-19: £5.687 million) relates to trade creditors for goods and services received of £5.883 million (2018-19: £5.132 million) and £0.454 million (2018-19: £0.555 million) monies held by the Council on behalf of third parties and is included in the overall creditors figure of £34.533 million (2018-19: £31.782 million) on the balance sheet. More information in relation to creditors can be found at note 25.

Offsetting financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are set off against each other where the Council has a legally enforceable right to set off and it intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The table below shows those instruments that have been offset on the balance sheet.

31 March 2019 Gross Assets (Liabilities) £'000	Offsetting of Financial Assets and Liabilities	31 March 2020 Gross Assets (Liabilities) £'000
1,859	Bank Accounts in Credit	1,936
1,859	Total Financial Assets	1,936
(1,982)	Bank Overdrafts	(1,530)
(1,982)	Total Financial Liabilities	(1,530)
(123)	Net Position on Balance Sheet	406

Income, expense, gains and losses

The income, expense, gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for financial instruments are shown below:

31 March 2019				31 March 2020		
Financial Liabilities Amortised Cost	Financial Assets Amortised Cost	Total		Financial Liabilities Amortised Cost	Financial Assets Amortised Cost	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
5,910	-	5,910	Interest Expense	5,855	-	5,855
-	(1,012)	(1,012)	Investment Income and Other Interest Receivable	-	(1,099)	(1,099)
5,910	(1,012)	4,898	Net (gain)/loss for the year	5,855	(1,099)	4,756

Fair Values of Financial Assets and Liabilities that are not measured at Fair Value

The Council does not have any financial assets or liabilities that are carried at fair value. The fair values calculated for assets held at amortised cost are detailed below.

31 March 2019		Financial Assets	31 March 2020	
Carrying amount £'000	Fair Value £'000		Carrying amount £'000	Fair Value £'000
		<i>Financial assets held at amortised cost:</i>		
4,011	4,010	Long-term investments	-	-
4,011	4,010	Total interest revenue	-	-

The fair value of **Financial Assets** is lower than the carrying amount because the interest rate on similar investments at the balance sheet date is higher than that agreed when the investment was originally made. The fair value of financial assets is calculated on other significant observable inputs (Level 2) which is interest rates for similar instruments.

31 March 2019		Financial Liabilities	31 March 2020	
Carrying amount £'000	Fair Value £'000		Carrying amount £'000	Fair Value £'000
		<i>Financial liabilities held at amortised cost:</i>		
(77,617)	(110,769)	PWLB	(77,617)	(111,997)
(19,795)	(31,507)	LOBOs	(19,784)	(31,299)
(17,054)	(25,391)	PFI and other long term liabilities	(16,447)	(22,813)
(114,466)	(167,667)	Total	(113,848)	(166,109)

The fair value of **Financial Liabilities** is higher than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the prevailing rates at the Balance Sheet date.

The fair value of liabilities is calculated using other significant observable inputs (Level 2) as follows:

- PWLB – Public Works Loan Board – market rates for local authority loans of the same remaining term to maturity as at the Balance Sheet date
- LOBO – Lender's Option Borrower's Option – increased by the value of the embedded options. Lender's options to propose an increase to the interest rate on the loan have been valued

according to a proprietary model for Bermudian cancellable swaps. Borrower's contingent options to accept the increased rate or repay the loan have been valued at zero, on the assumption that lenders will only exercise their options when market rates have risen above the contractual rate.

- Other financial liabilities – discounted contractual cash flows at the appropriate AA-rated corporate bond yield.

Nature and extent of risks arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including:

- **Credit risk** – the possibility that other parties may fail to pay amounts due to the Council;
- **Liquidity risk** – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments;
- **Market risk** - the possibility that unplanned financial loss may arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates movements.

The Council's overall risk management strategy is approved by Council and set out within its annual Treasury Management Strategy. The Strategy sets out the parameters for the management of risks associated with financial instruments which covers specific areas such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers. The risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy included in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, which is available on the Council's website via the Council agenda Item 10 – Treasury Management and Capital Strategies 2019-20 [here](#).

The Council's credit risk management practices are set out within the Investment Strategy. In determining whether the credit risk of financial instruments has increased since initial recognition, the Council has reviewed the creditworthiness of its investments and has concluded that there has not been a significant increase in credit risk.

The Council's primary objective is to give priority to security and liquidity prior to consideration of yield. Counterparty limits are constantly reviewed and where market conditions dictated, limits are reduced. During the year there were no changes that required the Council to consider any investments having an increased credit risk.

Credit risk exposure

As at 31 March 2020 the Council had the following exposure to credit risk. £21.079 million of the £30.094 million investments outstanding at 31 March 2020 were invested with other Local Authorities, where an expected loss allowance is not required. For those financial assets where a 12 month expected credit loss is calculable, the calculated credit loss is £6,657. This has been calculated by reference to historic default data published by credit rating agencies as advised by our Treasury Management Advisors. Due to the immateriality of the expected credit loss, no adjustment has been made in the accounts for this.

	Credit risk rating (as used by the Council)	Gross carrying amount £'000
12 month expected credit losses	AA+	(2,000)
	AA-	(2,008)
	A+	(3,000)
	A	(2,006)
Simplified approach	Local Authorities - unrated	(21,079)
TOTAL		(30,093)

Council does not generally allow credit for its customers (trade debtors) such that all the trade debtors are recognised as short term, however, £3.696 million balance of debtors is past due date for payment. These are not included in the credit risk table above.

Liquidity Risk

The Council manages its liquidity risk through its cash-flow management to ensure that cash is available when required. It has ready access to instant access deposit accounts, overdraft facilities and borrowing from the Money Markets or other local authorities to cover any day to day cash flow need. In addition the Council can access Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) borrowing, although rates increased in October 2019 by 1%, making this a less favourable financing option. The Council arranges fixed term loans and investments with a range of maturity dates within the framework and indicators approved each year. There is no perceived risk that the Council will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments, instead the risk relates to replenishing a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Council sets limits on the maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing such that no more than 50% of loans are due to mature in any one year through careful planning of new loans taken out and (where it is beneficial to do so) making early repayments. The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

31 March 2019 £'000	Maturity Analysis Financial Liabilities	31 March 2020 £'000
(11,314)	Less than 1 year	(8,181)
(891)	Between 1 and 2 years	(995)
(3,092)	Between 2 and 5 years	(3,248)
(19,410)	Between 5 and 10 years	(26,582)
(29,888)	Between 10 and 20 years	(21,800)
(41,390)	More than 20 years	(41,389)
(19,795)	Uncertain date*	(19,784)
(125,780)	Total Financial Liabilities	(121,979)

* This refers to the Lender's Options Borrower's Options which may be rescheduled in advance of their maturity date of 2054, however, the Council does not anticipate this will occur due to the current low interest rates.

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

Market Risk

The Council is exposed to the risk that financial loss could potentially occur as a result of changes in such measures as interest rate movements, market prices or foreign currency exchange rates.

Interest Rate Risk

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fixed rate protects the Council from increased interest charges as an equivalent loan would now cost more. The fair value of the borrowing (liability) will fall
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- investments at fixed rates – the fixed rate prevents the Council from receiving higher investment income from the same principal invested. The fair value of the asset will fall

Borrowings are not carried at fair value, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investment will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services and affect the Council Fund Balance.

The Council monitors market and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposures appropriately, to allow any adverse changes to be accommodated. For instance during periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate loans may be repaid early to limit exposure to losses. According to this strategy, at 31 March 2020, if there had been a 1% change in interest rates with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be approximately:

	Estimated £'000 + 1%	Estimated £'000 -1%
Interest payable on variable rate borrowings	133	-
Interest receivable on variable rate investments	(212)	212
Impact on Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services	(79)	212

The figures for an approximate impact of a 1% fall in interest rates for borrowing are not the same figures as the 1% increase (but reversed) as the variable rate borrowing relates to our LOBO loans where it is assumed that the lender would not exercise their option if there was a fall in interest rates.

Price risk

As the Council has not invested in instruments that are subject to price risk, such as bank certificates of deposit and Government Bonds, it is not subject to price risk.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and thus has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

Transition to IFRS9 Financial Instruments

The Council adopted the IFRS9 Financial Instruments accounting standard with effect from 1 April 2018. The main changes include the reclassification and re-measurement of financial assets and the earlier recognition of the impairment of financial assets.

The nature of the Council's financial instruments has meant no changes to the Council's balance sheet on transition.

32. Events after the Reporting Period

Where an event or information arises after the reporting period (i.e. after 31 March 2020) that relates to conditions existing at 31 March 2020, certain figures in the financial statements and notes would be adjusted if necessary, in all material respects, in order to reflect the impact of the event or information. Whilst there have been no such events after 31 March 2020 that have required adjustment, there is one non-adjusting event that needs reporting.

With regard to the McCloud Judgement outlined in note 30, on 16 July 2020 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and HM Treasury published consultation documents seeking views on a proposed remedy for the McCloud pension case. The consultation, which closes on 8 October 2020, seeks views on proposals that would extend LGPS statutory underpin protection to younger members of the scheme.

33. Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. As at 31 March 2020 the Council had been made aware of issues about the standard of work undertaken by a contractor who is now insolvent. No provision has been made in these accounts.

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

34. Adjustments for Non-Cash Movements

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(4,463)	Depreciation & Impairment of Assets	(20,015)
5,067	Movement in Inventories, Debtors & Creditors	1,852
(21,210)	Pension Fund Adjustments	(18,380)
(2,034)	Provisions	1,251
(2,159)	Disposal of Non Current Asset	(1,141)
275	Changes in Fair Value of Investment Property	-
(24,524)	Adjustments to net deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	(36,433)

35. Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(9,577)	Cash Flow on Revenue Activities	(16,662)
4,549	Interest Paid	6,228
1,360	Interest element of finance lease and PFI rental payments	1,305
(1,040)	Interest Received	(1,069)
(4,708)	Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(10,198)

36. Investing Activities

The cash flows for investing activities include the following items:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
21,477	Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles	18,975
(5,028)	Purchase / (Proceeds) from Short Term Investments	1,031
(1,884)	Proceeds from sale of Property, Plant and Equipment and Investment Property	(925)
14,565	Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	19,081

37. Financing Activities

The cash flows for financing activities include the following items:

2018-19 £'000		2019-20 £'000
(2,920)	Cash Receipts of short and long term borrowing	1,647
(10,900)	Other Receipts from financing activities	(13,125)
3,000	Repayments of short and long term borrowing	-
(10,820)	Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(11,478)

The independent auditor's report of the Auditor General for Wales to the Members of Bridgend County Borough Council

Report on the audit of the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of Bridgend County Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2020 under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

Bridgend County Borough Council's financial statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019-20 based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Bridgend County Borough Council as at 31 March 2020 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019-20.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK (ISAs (UK)). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I am independent of Bridgend County Borough Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matter

I draw attention to Note 30 of the financial statements, which describes the impact of a material uncertainty disclosed in a pension fund manager report in their year-end valuation report for the UK property fund they manage on behalf of the Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund. The Council has disclosed this material uncertainty and my audit opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Conclusions relating to going concern

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require me to report to you where:

- the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the responsible financial officer has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about Bridgend County Borough Council's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The responsible financial officer is responsible for the other information in the annual report and accounts. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated later in my report, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Report on other requirements

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of my audit:

- the information contained in the Narrative Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and the Narrative Report has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019-20.
- The information given in the Governance Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and the Governance Statement has been prepared in accordance with guidance.

Matters on which I report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of Bridgend County Borough Council and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Narrative Report or the Governance Statement.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters, which I report to you, if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

Certificate of completion of audit

I certify that I have completed the audit of the accounts of Bridgend County Borough Council in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Auditor General for Wales' Code of Audit Practice.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the responsible financial officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts set out on page 13, the responsible financial officer is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts, which gives a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the responsible financial officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of statements of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statements of accounts, the responsible financial officer is responsible for assessing Bridgend County Borough Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Anthony J Barrett

For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

24 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF11 9LJ

14 September 2020

The maintenance and integrity of Bridgend County Borough Council's website is the responsibility of the Accounting Officer/Client Officer; the work carried out by auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and accordingly auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.



Foreword

“One Council working together to improve lives”

This is the Council’s vision as stated in the [Corporate Plan](#) for 2018-2022 reviewed for 2020-21, which also sets out what our long-term Well-being objectives are so that amongst all of the complexity of increased demand and reduced resources we can keep a clear focus on what is really important for our communities.

We want to contribute to a place where people love to live, work, study and do business, where people have the skills and qualifications they need to improve their life chances, enjoy good health and a sense of well-being and independence.

It is necessary to ensure that our communities and those that use and pay for our services, those who deliver our services and our partners and suppliers have confidence in our governance arrangements. They must be assured that our services are provided effectively and efficiently and delivered on a consistent basis, that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for; and that decisions are taken transparently and lawfully. This is especially the case given the challenges faced by us all during the worldwide Coronavirus pandemic that has affected everyone and every business across the county borough. Additional measures have been put in place to ensure the Council maintains proper governance through this unprecedented event.

The Council also has a duty to set well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in delivering its functions in terms of strategic effectiveness, service quality, service availability, fairness, sustainability, efficiency and innovation.

Our governance arrangements operate effectively in supporting the Council in meeting its challenges and responsibilities, and have continued to do so in the current uncertain times. Improvements are continually being made and opportunities to do so going forward have been identified. These will be monitored during 2020-21 to ensure that the necessary improvements are made.



Mark Shepherd
Chief Executive



Cllr Huw David
Leader of the Council



Dunraven Place regeneration

What is Corporate Governance?

Corporate governance comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Council is directed and controlled, led and held to account, and how it engages with stakeholders. It is also about the way that Councillors and employees think and act.

The Governance Framework enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

What this Statement tells you

This Statement describes the extent to which the Council has complied with its Code of Corporate Governance and the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendments) Regulations 2018, for the year ended 31 March 2020.

It also sets out how the Council has responded to governance issues identified during 2018-19 and actions to be undertaken during 2020-21 following an annual review of the Governance Framework during 2019-20.

The Statement has been prepared in accordance with the 2016 guidance: '[Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework](#)' produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE)

The Council's Governance Responsibilities

The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

It also has a duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions in terms of strategic effectiveness, service quality, service availability, fairness, sustainability, efficiency and innovation¹.

The Council must consider the longer term impact of any decisions it makes, and should work collaboratively with other public bodies to improve wellbeing in Wales.²

As a public body the Council has to ensure it delivers sustainable economic, societal and environmental outcomes as a key focus of its governance process and structures. This is achieved by:

- behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values and respecting the rule of law
- ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

The Council's Code of Corporate Governance sets out its commitment to, and responsibility for, ensuring that there is a sound system of governance in place. The [Code](#) and [governance schedule](#) is on the Council's website or can be obtained from the Section 151 Officer.

The Council's Code of Corporate Governance sets out the seven principles of good governance in line with the CIPFA Code.

Bridgend County Borough Council Code of Governance (2017)	
The Council's Governance Principles are based on the following:	
A	Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law
B	Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement
C	Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits
D	Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
E	Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it
F	Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management
G	Implementing good practice in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

¹ Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009

² Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

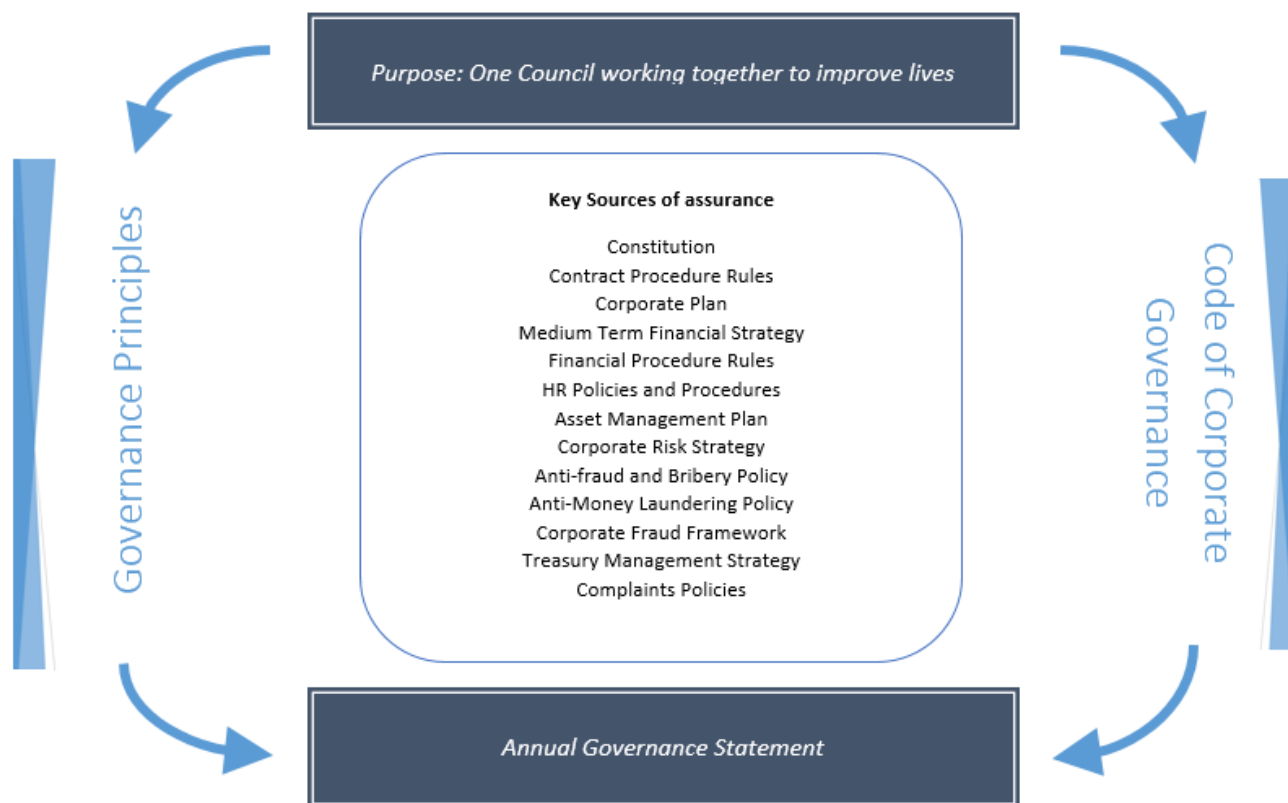
The Governance Framework

The Governance Framework comprises the systems, processes and values by which the Council is directed and controlled and the means by which it accounts to, engages with and leads the local community. It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to make appropriate use and prevent loss of public funds. It also assists with managing the risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It does not eliminate all the risk, the system of internal control is designed to identify and prioritise risks, evaluate the likelihood of those risks materialising and manage their impact.

In order to review the effectiveness of the governance framework, assurances are provided to, and challenged by, the Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committees, Council, Cabinet and Corporate Management Board as appropriate. In addition the Section 151 Officer promotes and delivers good financial management and the Monitoring Officer legal and ethical assurance.

Some of the key elements of the governance framework are highlighted below.



More widely, as part of its partnership and joint working arrangements, the Council is involved in bespoke external governance arrangements driven by the different partnership and delivery arrangements in place. Examples of these include the following:

- The Council is one of ten Councils jointly delivering the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD), which has in place joint Scrutiny and Cabinet to ensure governance in its implementation. The CCRCD aims to raise economic prosperity, job prospects and improve digital and transport connectivity and is a significant investment into the South Wales economy.

The Council is committed to contributing to the delivery of these objectives across the region to ensure that the community and business within the Borough can benefit from this investment.

- One of the most significant changes in April 2019 was the Health Board boundary change which meant that all community health services within Bridgend County Borough transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board into the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. Bridgend is now part of the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg Region. During 2019/20 the new regional arrangements have been put in place for the health and social care partnership and a new governance structure will be presented to the Regional Partnership Board in early 2020/21.
- The Council is a participant in a number of shared services, with other local authorities, such as the Shared Regulatory Services with Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils, and Central South Consortium, a joint education service for five local authorities. These are governed by joint committees which comprise elected members from each of the local authorities. The Council also is a partner in the Regional Internal Audit Shared Services with Vale of Glamorgan, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Merthyr Tydfil Councils.

COVID-19

The UK was put into lockdown on 23 March 2020 in an unprecedented step to attempt to limit the spread of coronavirus. This followed similar action in other countries across the world. The UK Government put into place a limited number of reasons for people to be allowed to leave their homes. As a consequence many non-essential shops and businesses had to close, schools were closed and all non-key workers were required to work from home where possible. Initially the lockdown was for a period of 3 weeks but this was then extended with a slow lifting of restrictions only beginning 2 months after the lockdown started. The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has, and will continue to have, an unprecedented impact upon society as a whole. This has led to significant changes to the day-to-day management of the Council, and the nature and delivery of its operations.

In order to maintain continuity of service wherever possible, the Council moved extremely quickly to equip as many of its office-based staff with mobile technology to enable home-working within a very short timescale. Nearly all office-based staff have been equipped to work at home with laptops, with telephone facilities installed on the laptops as offices across the County Borough closed. Some staff have been able to work on home computers and link to the Council's corporate network. The Council significantly increased its infrastructure ability to enable all who could work from home to do so. This included providing multiple accessibility platforms to enable access. The capacity of back end storage has been increased. Whilst the security of the network remains at a high level, to mitigate a potential risks the use of Outlook Web Access was removed. In addition to this and to further strengthen network security, the Council has increased its firewall provision. Where roles for staff have diminished as a result of reduced volumes of work or services not being delivered, opportunities for temporary redeployment are actively sought and implemented.

The Council has had to consider which of its front-line services it could continue to deliver, taking into account the number of staff self-isolating and actually sick. The Council maintained a significant number of essential services running, particularly the provision of social care services for vulnerable adults and children and waste collection services. However, following a Welsh Government announcement the majority of schools closed for pupils on 20 March 2020 with the exception of some schools for the children of essential and key workers who have to be in work and are unable to keep their children at home. The provision of free school meals for eligible children has also continued. Whilst day centres within Adult Social Care were closed, alternative provision at home has been provided where possible. Services not operating during the pandemic include:

- Schools (as noted above)
- Day Services (although alternative provision is being put in place where appropriate)
- Leisure Centres (which are run by our partner organisation, Halo)
- Cultural venues – libraries, life centres and the Grand Pavilion
- Parks & Playing Fields

Some services were temporarily suspended and/or delivered in a new way, including:

- Community recycling centres and garden waste
- Registrars
- Provision of transport

As the country moved into lockdown, all formal meetings of Council were immediately cancelled. This was in line with government measures to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus. This extended to Council, Cabinet and all committee and sub-committee meetings including Development Control, Overview and Scrutiny, Audit Committee and Licensing. All other non-essential meetings were also cancelled. Key and urgent decisions continue to be made in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation of Functions and urgent decision-making procedures. Schedules of the use of the Emergency Powers and key decisions exercised during the pandemic are reported to all Elected Members on a weekly basis and published on the Council's website. To ensure appropriate governance procedures are in place during this time, on 17 March 2020 a COVID-19 Group was established with members of the Cabinet and Corporate Management Board (CMB), along with a number of other key officers. Decisions made during these COVID-19 meetings and outside the normal delegation process are recorded in the minutes, and any actions or updates communicated via the Council's daily updates on its website.

Local Authorities have now been given new powers to hold public meetings virtually under the Local Authorities (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 using video conferencing technology. This was effective from 22 April 2020 and applies to meetings held up until 1 May 2022. There is no longer a requirement to hold such meetings in person during the pandemic. This will enable the Council to make effective and transparent decisions on the delivery of services for residents whilst ensuring that Councillors, staff and the wider public are able to follow government advice by staying at home to stop the spread of Coronavirus. The Council will be required to determine how meetings are conducted, voting procedures will work and how to ensure that the public have access.

Part of the national response to the impact of the pandemic has been to provide additional financial support to the economy, including the distribution of Business Grants and extended business rates relief, both of which have been administered by the Council. This has required staff to focus on administering, managing and paying a large volume of grants in short timescales, at the same time as dealing with the impact of the new council tax and business rates bills on citizens and businesses within the County Borough. The management of this has been coordinated via the Finance department, working closely with colleagues in Regeneration, Legal and Customer Services to respond to as many businesses as possible within as short a timescale as possible, at the same time ensuring that public funds are used appropriately and that control mechanisms are in place to safeguard the funding.

Other services have had to think differently about how they could continue to provide services during the lockdown period, and to re-consider options as time went on. One example is the provision of free school meals, which initially was provided through a 'packed lunch' style arrangement, which pupils collected from specific locations. Over time, and to address social distancing rules, this has changed to a food parcel delivery service to pupils' homes. Options were presented to the Covid-19 Group to determine the preferred way forward.

In addition to the business grants, Welsh Government has provided a number of specific grants to meet the additional costs of Local Authorities, for costs in general and targeted at specific areas, such as adult social care, free school meals, cyber security and school counselling. Costs are being collated

across the Council to enable these grants to be drawn down. There is also the impact of lost income from fees and charges, which creates an additional pressure, coupled with a likely downturn in council tax collection due to the impact of the financial circumstances on a number of residents, and the consequential increase in those claiming council tax reduction. At this stage it is unclear whether this additional funding will cover all of the Council's additional costs incurred as a result of the pandemic, but close monitoring is in place and all costs are subject to close scrutiny.

The Council took on board the guidance and advice set out in Procurement Policy Notice 01/20: Responding to Covid-19, and subsequent notices, and put in place a number of measures to support suppliers, including payments in advance of supply where appropriate, maintaining management fee levels for some of our key providers during the pandemic, and increasing the number of BACS payments made per week to ensure funding reached supplier accounts more quickly. This was done mindful of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules, delegated powers process and the Covid-19 decision making process. Whilst supporting suppliers in this way, to minimise any risk of fraud, those who received funding from the Council were requested to sign up to an open book accounting process so that the Council could verify any funding the organisation received, to ensure no duplicate funding was made.

Whilst a number of Council capital schemes have been delayed, the longer term consequences of the coronavirus pandemic are not yet known or have been quantified. However it seems inevitable that a number of businesses will find themselves in financial difficulties and maybe go out of business. There are also likely to be potential increases in levels of deprivation with associated demands placed upon Council services as a consequence of the increased number of families applying for universal credit and council tax support. Financially we expect there to be pressures on service costs, reduced council tax and business rates income, reduced income at car parks and playing fields and other facilities as people remain wary of going out and socialising in large groups. In the short term it will be difficult to quantify the wider impacts, which will be understood once the peak of the pandemic has passed and life begins to return to normal. Whilst the Council has provided a holiday rental window to businesses renting Council premises during the crisis period, this may not be enough for their longer term survival. It is likely it will take some time to recover from the economic downturn due to Covid and the impact is likely to be felt for at least the next year if not longer.

The Government is likely to impose social distancing rules for some time to come, which will have consequential impacts on services such as leisure and cultural services, where mass attendances at leisure centres, swimming pools and public performance events will have to adjust to any new rules following Covid-19. Retail and leisure services independent to the Council will also be affected as it takes time for public confidence to increase.

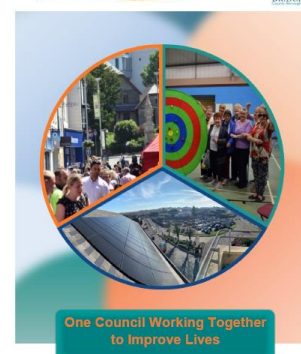
In July 2020 the Council established a cross-party Recovery Panel whose role is to inform, support and challenge the recovery exercise, and ensure that elected Members and key partners have an opportunity to feed into and shape thinking, and make recommendations back to Cabinet.



The Corporate Plan

The Corporate Plan 2018-22, agreed in February 2018, sets out the Council's vision: **'One Council working together to improve lives'**. The Plan defines the Council's three priorities – also known as our Well-being objectives – that sets out how the Council intends to deliver them. The Council defines its purpose to 'contribute to a place where people love to live, work, study and do business, where people are qualified with the skills they need to improve their life chances and enjoy good health and independence'.

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



Corporate Plan 2018-2022 reviewed for 2020-2021

Well-being Goal	Well-being Objective		
	Supporting a successful sustainable economy	Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient	Smarter use of resources
A prosperous Wales	✓		✓
A resilient Wales			✓
A healthier Wales	✓	✓	✓
A more equal Wales	✓	✓	✓
A Wales of cohesive communities	✓	✓	✓
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	✓	✓	
A globally responsible Wales	✓		✓

Underpinning the Council's Corporate Plan and throughout its decision-making process, the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are applied. The table shows how the Council's well-being objectives contribute to the seven well-being goals.

In addition to the seven well-being goals, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 puts in place the sustainable development principle, and defines the five ways of working that public bodies must adopt to demonstrate they have applied the sustainable development principle. The five ways of working are:

Long-term: thinking of future generations and of our natural resources.

Prevention: this is the step before any issues arise and is aimed at making sure that solutions and interventions are targeted and available to stop statutory services being required.

Integration and collaboration: with colleagues and partners. Ensure decisions are joined up across services and work more closely with partners in the public, private and third sectors.

Involvement: consult and involved local people in planning and delivering services.

5 Ways of Working	Long term	Prevention	Integration	collaboration	Involvement
Our Principles					
To support communities and people to create their own solutions and reduce dependency on the Council.					
To focus diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need.					
To use good information from service users and communities to inform its decisions.					
To encourage and develop capacity amongst the third sector to identify and respond to local needs.					
To not let uncertainty over the future of public services prevent meaningful and pragmatic collaboration with other public sector bodies.					
To work as one Council and discourage different parts of the organisation from developing multiple processes or unnecessarily different approaches.					
To transform the organisation and many of its services to deliver financial budget reductions as well as improvements.					

Welsh language – Wales has two official languages, Welsh and English, and services and information should be equally available in both. The Council's internal business language is English, but all the services and information we provide for local people will be equally available in either language.

The Corporate Plan identifies a number of key principles which underpin its Well-being objectives and has adopted a set of values that represent what the Council stands for and influences how it works.



Bridgend Council's Well-being objectives	
Supporting a successful sustainable economy Helping people and communities to be more healthy and reliant Smarter use of resources	
Key Principles	Values
<p>Where ever possible the Council will support communities and people to create their own solutions and reduce dependency on the Council</p> <p>The Council will focus diminishing resources on communities and individuals with the greatest need</p> <p>The Council will use good information from service users and communities to inform its decisions</p> <p>The Council will encourage and develop capacity amongst the third sector to identify and respond to local needs</p> <p>The Council will not let uncertainty over the future of public services prevent meaningful and pragmatic collaboration with other public sector bodies</p> <p>The Council will work as one Council and discourage different parts of the organisation from developing multiple processes or unnecessarily different approaches</p> <p>The Council will transform the organisation and many of its services and in so doing will deliver financial budget reductions as well as improvements</p>	<p>Fair – taking into account everyone's needs and situations</p> <p>Ambitious – always trying to improve what we do and aiming for excellence</p> <p>Citizen-focused – remembering that we are here to serve our local community</p> <p>Efficient – delivering services that are value for money</p>

Assessing Performance

The Councils' performance is reported in its Annual Report, its annual self-evaluation of progress against the Council's Corporate Plan.

Audit Wales³, our External Auditor, assesses the Council's arrangements for delivering continuous improvement and subsequent performance, the results of which are published in their [Annual](#)

³ Since 1 April 2020 the Wales Audit Office and Auditor General are branded as Audit Wales. The statutory names remain Wales Audit Office and Auditor General for Wales.

Improvement Report. In October 2019 they reported that ‘the Auditor General believes that the Council is likely to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Measure (2009) during 2019-20’. Whilst there were some proposals for improvements, the Auditor General made no formal recommendations, demonstrating the commitment of the Council to continuous improvement.

Audit Wales have undertaken and reported on a number of reviews during the year, the key outcomes of which are set out below.

Report	Key outcomes
Savings Planning Follow Up, August 2019	The purpose of the review was to assess the Council’s progress in addressing proposals for improvement in the Council’s savings planning, and consider the effectiveness of the Council’s arrangements for achieving its savings proposals. Overall the review found that the Council has strengthened arrangements to develop and achieve savings plans, but further work is needed to develop a deliverable medium term financial strategy. The review noted that the Council has identified indicative proposals to cover the period of the medium term financial strategy, but more work is needed to fully develop proposals for 2020-21 and beyond. The Council has strengthened the arrangements for developing budget savings proposals, but further work is needed to ensure that timescales for delivery are as accurate as possible. The review also noted that in prior years achievement of savings plans has been variable, but the Council achieved most of its 2018-19 savings plans and now needs to ensure that its strengthened arrangements continue this improved position. No further proposals were identified during the follow up.
Delivery with Less – Environmental Health Services – Follow up Review, September 2019	The purpose of the review was to follow up on recommendations made after a 2014 national review of Environmental Services. Since that time Bridgend has partnered with Cardiff Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Council under a joint working agreement known as the Shared Regulatory Service (SRS), providing environmental health, licensing and trading standards. The review sought to answer the question: ‘is the Council’s environmental health service continuing to deliver its statutory obligations given the financial challenges?’ Overall the Audit Wales found that the SRS model is enabling the Council to sustain its delivery of environmental health services in a context of reducing resources and additional responsibilities placed on it by ongoing changes in legislation. They did feel however that there is scope for the Council to strengthen its scrutiny and oversight arrangements of environmental health services and work with SRS and other providers to explore the opportunities for future improvement.
Well-being of Future Generations: An examination of delivering the Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus Programme, October 2019	The review sought to assess the steps the Council has taken to meet its Wellbeing Objectives and the extent to which it is acting in accordance with the Sustainable development principle in delivering the programme. The review found that there are positive aspects in how the Council has taken account of the sustainable development principle in its approach to delivering the programme. It did find however that the Council has further work to do to consistently embed the five ways of working. The Council has responded to these recommendations including a review of the Masterplan for Porthcawl to develop a long-term and holistic vision for the town; it will work with its partners and regularly review how to integrate local and national Wellbeing Goals as early as possible; and long term transport solutions will be considered as part of the Strategic Transport Plan and Local Development Plan.
Follow-up review of corporate arrangements for the safeguarding of children, October 2019	Audit Wales undertook to seek assurance that the Council has effective corporate arrangements in place for safeguarding and to answer the question: ‘Has the Council acted upon the recommendations and proposals for improvement contained in the national and local reports of the Auditor General published in 2014 and 2015?’

	<p>Overall the review found that the Council has met, or partially met, the previous recommendations and proposals for improvement, but it identified some further proposals for improvements to strengthen aspects of the Council's corporate safeguarding arrangements. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening awareness of the roles of the lead officer and lead member for safeguarding • strengthen the Corporate Safeguarding Policy • strengthen its Recruitment and Selection Manager's Guidelines in relation to safeguarding and safe recruitment • update the DBS Policy to make sure it makes reference to current legislation • ensure the consistent use of safeguarding provisions in tenders and contracts awarded across all Directorates and ensure appropriate monitoring of such contractual commitments • improve the approach to safeguarding training including when mandatory training needs to be refreshed • develop a central system for recording and monitoring volunteer information, including training records and DBS checks for volunteers
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Decision Making and Responsibilities

The Council consists of 54 elected Members, with an elected Leader and Cabinet who are supported and held to account by Scrutiny Committees. The Council's constitution sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures for ensuring that the Council is efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. It contains the basic rules governing the Council's business, and sets out a list of functions and decisions exercisable by officers. It also contains the rules and protocols by which the Council, Members and officers operate.



Through the Constitution, along with the Member's Code of Conduct, Standards Committee and role of internal audit, the Council operates with **integrity**, **ethical values** and within its **legal** powers.

All Council and Committee meetings' agendas, papers and minutes can be viewed on-line and all meetings are open to the public unless exempt or confidential matters are being discussed. The Council's forward work programme contains information about all matters that are likely to be the subject of a decision taken by full Council or Cabinet during the forthcoming period. They also include



information regarding Scrutiny Committees. To further enhance **openness** and **comprehensive stakeholder engagement** the Council has a Citizen's Panel, which takes part in surveys on a range of issues. The Council also uses social media to promote services and engage with the public and makes information available on a range of formats to maximise the opportunity for information sharing and residents communicating with the Council.

Managing Risk

The Council faces a range of risks as would be expected from the broad range of services it delivers and activities it is engaged with. On a day-to-day basis operational risk arises from the challenge of ensuring sufficient capacity and capability to advise on, and to deliver, the key policy objectives of the Council.

The Council has developed a robust approach to the management of risk. The Corporate Risk Management Policy is aligned with Directorate Plans and the Council's performance management framework. The Council defines risk as: 'Any potential development or occurrence which, if it came to fruition, would jeopardise the Council's ability to:

- achieve its Well-being objectives
- provide services as planned
- fulfil its statutory duties, including the duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement.'

Risks are viewed from both a Service and Council-wide perspective which ensures the key risks are distilled in the [Corporate Risk Assessment](#). The Risk Assessment sets out how the Council is addressing these risk and the mitigating actions it will put in place to reduce them. It is regularly reviewed and challenged by both senior management and the Audit Committee.

It is not possible to eliminate all risk of failure to meet the targets in the Council's policies, aims and objectives and cannot therefore provide absolute assurance of effectiveness, but one of reasonable assurance.

Financial Management

The financial management of the Council is conducted in accordance with all relevant legislation and the Constitution. The Council has in place Financial Procedure Rules, Contract Procedure Rules, a specific Financial Scheme for Schools and the scheme of delegation also provides the framework for financial control. The Section 151 Officer is responsible for establishing a clear framework for the management of the Council's financial affairs and for ensuring that arrangements are made for their proper administration.

The Council's ability to deliver savings and contain its expenditure within its overall budget is well established. However, the Council faces significant challenges in the future in the face of further Government plans to cut public spending and significant uncertainty as a result of Brexit and the impacts this might have on Council services. The Council estimates that it will need to generate approximately £29 million of savings over the period 2020-21 to 2023-24. The Medium Term Financial Strategy has taken account of cost pressures and priority areas in line with the Corporate Plan, and involved extensive consultation to ensure a robust process. It can be found on the Council's website [here](#). Given the single-year funding provided by the Welsh Government, the Council has developed detailed budgets for year on of the Strategy with indicative budgets thereafter based on a range of funding scenarios.



Consultation overview

Over the past four years, we have made budgetary savings of more than £30 million. Some of the ways we have done this include:

- cutting senior management and reducing our workforce by more than 400 employees
- transferring cultural services to Awen Cultural Trust
- reducing provision of some services like public conveniences and street cleaning

Also, we have made a wide range of investments including state-of-the-art new schools, new sea defences, and new highways improvements.

Despite the changes made to date, we still have to make a further £35 million saving by 2023, which is currently 13.5% of our net budget.

In this consultation, some of the areas we are asking you about include:

- council tax
- leisure and cultural services
- schools and education
- transport
- recycling and waste
- social services

The Council has in place robust arrangements for effective financial control through the Council's accounting procedures, key financial systems and the Financial Procedure Rules. This includes established budget planning procedures and regular budget monitoring reports to Cabinet and Scrutiny Committee, as well as detailed information to budget holders. The Council prepares its Annual Accounts as required by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations and in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

The Council follows the CIPFA Code on Treasury Management and Welsh Government's Guidance on Local Authority Investments to ensure that funds invested are secure, accessible when necessary and attract an appropriate return and any borrowings needed are in line with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, as approved by Council. During the Coronavirus pandemic reliance on Treasury Management advice has been crucial, and significant levels of cash movements meant an increased focus was needed on managing cash flows in as secure a manner as possible. Significant use was made of the Treasury's Debt Management Office to deposit funds during the initial stages of the crisis to maintain security and liquidity, but as the crisis begins to ease monies will be invested in wider instruments in line with the Council's Treasury Management Advisor's advice.

The updated Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code of Practice, issued in December 2017, set out new requirements in relation to the setting of a Capital Strategy. Detailed guidance on these new codes were issued in August and September 2018 with new statutory guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in March 2018, outlining new requirements for the Capital Strategy. Welsh Government adopted this guidance in 2019 and the Council approved its Capital Strategy 2019-20 in February 2019, in line with the Code requirements. The strategy requires the Council to consider the longer term as well as the short term. It requires that capital expenditure plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable and outlines the future commitments so that affordability of both the long term plan and any new proposals can be properly understood. Further it enables the ongoing capital and revenue implications of capital expenditure to be better understood. The Capital Strategy is evolving to provide a robust, medium to long term capital plan for the Council.



Audit and Audit Assurances

The Council is audited externally by the Auditor General for Wales, supported by Audit Wales. The objectives of this are to obtain assurance on whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom; and to issue an opinion thereon. They also assess our arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

In 2019 the External Auditor gave an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements 2018-19.

Audit Wales also audit a number of grant claims and in the year completed 11 audits of grants and returns. The audit confirmed that there were generally sound working papers and all claims were certified ahead of the audit deadlines in place. One recommendation was made in relation to Housing Benefits, to continue to review the strength of the Council's arrangements for processing housing benefit claims, which the Council is in the process of doing.

In addition Audit Wales undertake reviews of various services and also performance reviews throughout the year, the outcome of which are reported to Audit Committee.

The Head of Internal Audit's annual opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control for 2019-20 is:

"Reasonable Assurance"

The opinion states that, based on the work completed by the Regional Internal Audit Shared Service for the financial year and the contribution to the Audit Plan made by the South West Audit Partnership Internal Audit Services (SWAP), no significant cross-cutting control issues have been identified that would impact on the Council's overall control environment. The weaknesses that have been identified are service specific.

The recommendations made to improve the overall control environment have been accepted and are being/will be implemented.

An issue for the Regional Internal Audit Service has been the number of vacant posts carried by the service. As a consequence SWAP Internal Audit Services were commissioned to help address the shortfall and deliver elements of the Plan. The Internal Audit coverage was still sufficient for the Head of Audit to be able to give an opinion.

A new staffing structure has been developed for the Service and it is planned to commence recruitment when the restrictions around the COVID-19 pandemic allow.

The **Audit Committee** provides independent assurance on the Council's internal control environment. It is a statutory requirement and consists of 12 Councillors and 1 Lay Member. Its main functions are:

- Review & scrutinise reports and recommendations in relation to the Council's Financial Affairs
- Review & scrutinise reports and recommendations on the appropriateness of the Council's risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements
- Oversee the Council's internal and external audit arrangements
- To be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and Policies
- To monitor the Council's Anti-Fraud and Bribery Strategy, Whistleblowing Policy and Anti-Money Laundering Policy
- To Review and approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Statement of Accounts
- To review and consider reports from the External Auditor and Inspectors

The COVID-19 outbreak has had little impact on the delivery of the internal audit plan for 2019-20 as relevant testing in all but 3 reviews had been completed prior to the lockdown coming into force, allowing final reports to be issued.

During the year there continued to be interim arrangements in place to cover the statutory position of the Council's Section 151 Officer/Head of Finance, which does cause some concern from a continuity and capacity perspective. Whilst there is little or no risk in the short term as the current Statutory Officer is extremely experienced and more than capable to fulfil the role, it is important that the interim position is permanently addressed as soon as possible. To help strengthen the resilience of the Finance function, a temporary Deputy Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer post was appointed in May 2019. Following a review of the Head of Finance role, Council agreed the post should be re-designated as Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change. The post was subsequently advertised at the start of 2020, but there was not sufficiently qualified applicants to be able to progress through all stages of the appointments process. The post was re-advertised during June 2020.



The Pavilion, Porthcawl

Improving Governance

The progress made on the significant issues identified in the Council's 2018-19 Annual Governance Statement is shown below:

<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy – the economic uncertainty and increasing public expectations and demands facing public sector organisations continue to challenge and place pressures on the Council, impacting on its ability to deliver the required efficiencies.</p>	<p>The external fiscal climate is kept under continuous review, with regular information on the economic climate, including interest rates and inflation predictions received from our Treasury Management advisors. Assumptions built into the MTFS are adjusted accordingly over the 4 year period.</p> <p>All current and proposed budget reductions are monitored closely against their implementation plan to ensure that they remain deliverable. Any deviation from plans are highlighted through quarterly monitoring reports to Cabinet, and more regular reports to Directors, to ensure plans are put in place to mitigate these.</p> <p>A budget reduction contingency reserve is also available to draw on for one-off delays to proposals that are outside of officers' control.</p> <p>In addition the Council's earmarked reserves are regularly reviewed to make sure they are still required, and at the right level. New reserves are established to deal with one-off pressures, to avoid unnecessary burden on the MTFS, and the Council Fund is maintained at a level that is deemed sufficient to mitigate any unexpected events, without placing the Council in financial difficulty and challenging its financial sustainability.</p>
<p>The findings from the HMIP report on Western Bay Youth Offending Service concluded that the overall rating was inadequate and that <i>'The governance and leadership of the service are ineffective. There is no vision, understanding of purpose or the strategy to provide a high-quality personalised responsive service to children and young people.'</i></p>	<p>Good progress is being made with implementing the post inspection action plan (PIAP). A new staff management structure is in place with two operational lead practitioners overseeing the work of the team. New quality assurance and management oversight arrangements are in place which will result in improved assessments, care plans and associated interventions. A full-time health practitioner has now started with the team to oversee the health needs of young people open to the service.</p> <p>A new management board is in place which has strengthened the governance arrangements. The board is jointly chaired by the Chief Executive of the Council and Cabinet Member for Communities.</p> <p>The focus now is on quality assurance and risk management, which is being driven by the two new operational lead practitioners. Support for young people open to the team is also benefiting from services available from the wider integrated working and family support portfolio.</p>
<p>Outcome of the Estyn Inspection on Education Services</p>	<p>A post inspection action plan was submitted to Estyn in August 2019 following reporting of the plan to Scrutiny. Estyn established 4 recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise standards of literacy in primary schools • improve outcomes for post-16 learners in sixth forms • increase the pace of improvement in schools causing concern • strengthen the role of the Welsh Education Strategic Forum (WESP) to ensure timely progress in delivering the priorities identifying in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan. <p>The Council has in place a detailed action plan and continues to deliver the actions identified in order to respond to the recommendations raised by Estyn. The Director of Education and Family Support and the Post-16 Coordinator conducted reviews with</p>

	<p>all the schools at the beginning of the academic year to identify and share good practice. There have been a number of activities for more able pupils via the Seren Network to help them work towards the highest grades.</p> <p>One school was taken out of special measures in September 2019, a 2nd is on track to be taken out in a timely manner following the most recent Estyn inspection and the 3rd has had a change of leadership and is now making good progress in improvements.</p> <p>The Council has been working closely with Welsh Government, other local authorities and the national coordinator for the parent's action group (RhAG) to review the composition and function of the Forum to increase its effectiveness in delivering the WESP priorities.</p> <p>The impact of COVID-19 and the closure of schools in March 2020 will mean that further progress will need to be made in the new academic year to fully respond to the recommendations made.</p>
The role of the s.151 Officer is filled on an interim basis pending decisions on way forward with the post in light of the appointment of the Chief Executive	The Chief Executive was permanently appointed in May 2019 and the Section 151 post was advertised at the start of 2020. Unfortunately there was not sufficiently qualified applicants to be able to progress to the assessment centre stage. To help strengthen the resilience of the Finance function, a temporary Deputy Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer post was appointed in May 2019.
The impact of the Health Boundary change from the Western Bay Region to the Cwm Taf Region	The Council is now formally part of the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board and the associated groups. The Council has contributed to the planning and review of this new partnership to ensure that the new arrangements reflect the changes made. This was monitored throughout the year and the partnership continues to progress well.
The impact of Brexit on services and finances could place increased pressures on Council resources	The Council has established an internal cross-Directorate Brexit Forum, chaired by the Chief Executive, to assess the potential impact of Brexit on service delivery along with actions to mitigate against risks. A report was presented to Cabinet in March 2019 setting out a Brexit risk register, which has been actively monitored and updated as necessary, and the Council will continue to do so as the UK progresses an exit from the European Union.
The Council's scrutiny functions should seek ways to improve its focus and scrutiny activity to ensure that the Council makes the most effective use of the resources available and improve the impact of scrutiny activity ⁴	<p>A system of monitoring recommendations has been implemented to ensure that the impact of scrutiny is properly evaluated and acted upon to improve the function's effectiveness; including following up on proposed actions and examining outcomes. A report is presented to each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to approve the feedback and responses to the comments and recommendations prepared by Members at the previous meeting. Red, Amber and Green (RAG) statuses are allocated to each recommendation where appropriate and action the feedback as needed. The RAG statuses are monitored by Committees on an ongoing basis and actioned as appropriate.</p> <p>Research has been undertaken by the Scrutiny Team to look at best practice elsewhere, particularly how other local authorities get the public involved in the scrutiny process. In pursuance of this, members of the Scrutiny Team attend and participate fully in two Scrutiny Networks, namely the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Scrutiny Officers' Network and the South East Wales Scrutiny</p>

⁴ Audit Wales Annual Improvement Report 2017-18 – September 2018

	<p>Officers' Network. Both Networks provide an invaluable opportunity for Scrutiny Officers to exchange ideas on best practice and to receive training.</p> <p>Regular Officer Planning meetings take place with the Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees to enable them to have more involvement and input into the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme items that are recommended by Officers.</p> <p>Regular quarterly meetings are held between Cabinet, Corporate Management Board (CMB) and Scrutiny Chairs. These meetings have been very positive to agree to add to and also change the order of the Forward Work Programme to accommodate pre decision topics.</p> <p>The WLGA has recently delivered training to Scrutiny Committee Members on Questioning Skills to enable Members to be equipped with the necessary skills to effectively scrutinise and challenge service performance. A repeat session has been arranged to take place. In addition, the WLGA will shortly be delivering Scrutiny Committee Chairs training.</p>
Digital Transformation and channel shift – the Council needs to continue to develop its online platforms to enable residents and businesses to interact with the Council digitally	<p>The continuation of promoting self-serve routes into council services and supporting the ambition of helping people be more self-reliant is the ongoing focus. The introduction of a chatbot has been the recent contact tool to aid channel shift; this will also be enhanced by creating a new customer self-serve hub in the civic reception where our public can utilise technology to transact with us via the My Account platform.</p> <p>The Housing Jigsaw portal is now live and provides an online, bi-lingual customer gateway to housing services that supports the individual management of supported accommodation and maximises the capacity of the customer services and housing staff. The online portal provides citizens with a digital solution that replaces the previous 'homelessness' and 'housing register' processes which were time consuming, often involving follow up meetings and the production of evidence which caused unnecessary delay. The online portal allows citizens to complete their applications online, at a time that is convenient to them, and also allows them to upload any evidence that is required, saving time and speeding up the housing services we offer.</p> <p>We are in the final stages of testing the Love Clean Streets functionality and we are now at a point to go-live with this system, allowing citizens to report their environmental issues with us.</p> <p>Our Social Services teams have also been trialling new software enhancing the support services that are given to older people and our most vulnerable citizens. This will be live in June 2020.</p> <p>With a rapidly changing market in digital platforms, work has been ongoing to assess how the Council can further improve citizen independence by growing the platform further with intelligent and innovative functionality.</p>

Based on a review of the governance framework, the following significant issues identified in 2019-20 which will be addressed in 2020-21:

Covid-19 will have significant impacts as the infection rate increases. This will impact on workforce, delivery of services, economic and social pressures and disruption for months and possibly years to come.	The Council will need to consider how its front-line services can continue to deliver, taking into account the number of staff self-isolating and those who are ill with the virus. The Council will face increasing cost pressures, such as the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to front line staff, equipping office based staff to work remotely via IT solutions – laptops and associated software requirements, and increased needs of communities as people's personal financial positions change. Following the move back to more normal operating conditions the Council will need to plan to bring back into operation those services temporarily suspended, and the potential impacts on service demand following the pandemic.
The uncertainty regarding the impact of and exit from the European Union may well place continued increasing expectations and demands on public sector organisations and the Council which will need to be factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy	The Council will continue to monitor external economic and fiscal information to ensure that it can respond as quickly as possible to unexpected events. The COVID-19 pandemic will place increasing pressures on Council resources and budgets, and the Council will need to closely monitor costs and lost income as a result of the pandemic and lockdown arrangements, on its budget and cash-flow requirements.
Changes in Senior Management at Corporate Management Board level	The current coronavirus pandemic means that taking forward any recruitment process will be delayed, until such time as the Council is able to return to more normal operational arrangements. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing was due to retire at the end of April, but has agreed to continue in the role for a 3 month period during the pandemic. A new Director was appointed in June 2020 and will take up the post in October 2020. A new Corporate Director Communities took up position in March 2020. The Council was unable to recruit to the Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change and arrangements will be put in place to take forward this crucial role over the next few months. Although the post has not been filled on a permanent basis, the current interim arrangements are likely to continue until the post is filled.
Outcome of the Audit Wales report into Safeguarding and implementing the recommendations made therein	The outcome of the Audit Wales report are noted under 'Assessing Performance'. The report makes a number of recommendations that the Council will need to put in place to ensure that the Councils' safeguarding arrangements are robust. The Council's Audit Committee have requested they have the opportunity to review an action plan and progress report from Officers.
Outcome of the Care Inspectorate Wales – Inspection of Older Adults Services Bridgend County Borough Council (January 2020)	The purpose of the inspection was to explore how well the Council, with its partners, is promoting independence and preventing escalating needs for older people. The inspection identified a significant number of areas of strength, and some areas for improvements. The council will consider these improvements and put in place processes to address the areas identified over the forthcoming period.
Strengthen the scrutiny and oversight arrangements of environmental health services and work with the Shared Regulatory Services and other providers to explore the opportunities for future improvements	As noted above under 'Assessing Performance', a number of recommendations have been made to strengthen the scrutiny and oversight of environmental health services for Bridgend, within the overall Shared Regulatory Services arrangements. The Council will need to ensure that it works with the Shared Regulatory Services and other providers to ensure a robust service with sufficient and appropriate monitoring thereof.

The risk of fraud especially in the current Covid-19 pandemic with significant funding moving around and increased digitalisation of transacting with the Council	<p>The Council is seeking to strengthen arrangements to tackle and minimise fraud including considering the appointment of a Corporate Fraud Officer, updating and strengthening anti-fraud and anti-money laundering policies and mandatory e-learning for all staff, and continued working alongside the UK Government's National Fraud Initiative.</p> <p>In terms of the specific funding being provided for business grants, we are considering alternative options for a post-payment check on grants awarded to provide assurance that grants were not fraudulently obtained. This most likely will be through the National Fraud Initiative.</p>
The increasingly challenging budgets for Schools, with potential for greater deficit school budgets	<p>There have been increasing pressures on school budgets and an increase in schools setting deficit budgets. Whilst schools do set deficit budgets, this must be a licensed deficit and in line with the requirements set out in the Financial Scheme for Schools, which includes the need to have approved deficit recovery plans in place. At the end of 2019-20 school balances overall were a net surplus of £108,000, a reduction of £506,000 for the year.</p> <p>It is difficult to know what impact Covid-19 will have on school budgets during 2020-21 as the majority will have been closed for months, whereas others are set up as hubs. There may be a requirement to re-allocate funding either amongst schools where expenditure was incurred, or even wider outside of school budgets where cost pressures have not been funded elsewhere.</p>

These issues will be monitored via a detailed action plan during 2019-20, with the responsible officer and deadline for implementation identified for each action, and reported to Cabinet/Corporate Management Board and to the Audit Committee.

Assurance

The Council reacted quickly to the Covid-19 pandemic to put in place controls and recoding of decision made to ensure that appropriate governance arrangements were in place. Given these arrangements no significant internal control or governance issues have arisen, and the Council continues to have in place appropriate internal control and governance arrangements.

Subject to the above issues being resolved, we can provide an overall reasonable assurance that Bridgend County Borough Council's governance arrangements remain fit for purpose.

Steps to address the matters referred to above will be taken to further enhance our governance arrangements.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Chief Executive)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Leader)

Glossary Of Terms

Accrual

An accrual is a sum shown in the accounts representing income or expenditure for the accounting period but which was not actually received or paid as at the date of the balance sheet.

Actuary

An actuary is a person who works out insurance and pension premiums, taking into account factors such as life expectancy.

Amortisation

Reduction in value of capital expenditure which has not created an asset, through charges to revenue.

Audit

An audit is an independent examination of the Council's accounts.

Balance Sheet

This is a statement of our assets, liabilities and other balances at the date of the end of the financial year, 31 March.

Budget

A budget (or estimate) is a plan of income and spending, based upon which council tax is set. Actual expenditure and income is subsequently monitored against this plan.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure is spending on fixed assets. These are assets that will be used for several years in the provision of services and are items such as buildings, equipment and vehicles.

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions.

Capital receipt

Capital receipts are proceeds from the sale of fixed assets such as land or buildings.

Cash flow Statement

This is a statement that summarises the movements in cash during the year.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This account records day-to-day spending and income on items such as salaries and wages, running costs of services and the financing of capital expenditure.

Contingent liabilities

A Contingent Liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed by the occurrence of uncertain future events.

Corporate and Democratic Core (CDC)

CDC is a service defined by the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice representing costs relating to Member activity (Democratic Representation and Management) and costs that provide the infrastructure to ensure that services can be provided (Corporate Management).

Creditor

A creditor is an organisation / someone owed money by the Council at the end of the financial year for goods / services received during the financial year or previous years.

Current assets

These are short-term assets that are available for the Council to use in the following accounting year.

Current liabilities

These are short-term liabilities that are due for payment by the Council in the following accounting year.

Debtor

A debtor is an organisation / someone who owed the Council money at the end of the financial year for goods / services received during the financial year or previous years.

Delegated schools balances

Under the Local Management of Schools provisions, any balances accrued at year end are delegated to individual schools. These funds are held outside of the Council's Council Fund balances.

Depreciation

Depreciation is the estimated loss in value of fixed assets that are presented in the Balance Sheet.

Earmarked reserves

These are reserves set aside for a specific purpose.

Escrow account

Escrow is a legal arrangement whereby money is delivered to a third party (called an escrow agent) to be held in trust pending a contingency or the fulfillment of a condition or conditions in a contract.

Expenditure and Funding Statement

This statement brings together local authority performance reported on the basis of expenditure measured under proper accounting practices with statutorily defined charges to the Council Fund.

Financial Year

This is the accounting period. For local authorities it starts on 1 April and finishes on 31 March of the following year.

Finance leases

Finance leases are used to finance purchases where the Council takes on most of the risks associated with owning the asset.

Government grants

Assistance by government and inter-government agencies and similar bodies, whether local, national or international, in form of cash or transfers of assets to a Council in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Council.

International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS)

Financial regulations to be followed as set by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB).

International Financial Reporting Standards Interpretations Committee (IFRICs)

The interpretative body of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) designed to help the IASB improve financial reporting through timely identification, discussion and resolution of financial reporting issues within the framework of IFRS.

Inventories

Inventories are raw materials purchased for day to day use. The value of these items that have not been used at the end of the financial year are shown as current assets in the balance sheet.

Leasing

This is a method of financing capital expenditure by paying the owner to use property or equipment for a number of years.

Liability

A liability is an amount payable at some time in the future.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

This is an amount that has been set aside to repay loans. This should be a prudent amount.

Movement in Reserves Statement (MIRS)

This statement shows the movement in the year on different reserves held by the Council.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

The NNDR, or Business Rate, is the charge to occupiers of business premises. The money collected is paid to the Welsh Government and redistributed to individual authorities in proportion to their adult population.

Net Realisable Value

The selling price of an asset, reduced by the relevant (direct) cost of selling it.

Non Distributable Costs (NDC)

NDC is a category of costs defined by the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice and cannot be allocated to specific services. It represents:

- costs of unused I.T. facilities,
- costs of long term unused, unrealisable assets,
- certain pension fund costs

Open Market Value in Existing Use (OMVEU)

OMVEU is a basis for valuation of fixed assets.

Operating assets

These are assets used in the running / provision of services.

Operating leases

These are leases where risks of ownership of the asset remain with the owner.

Post balance sheet events

Post balance sheet items are those that arise after the Balance Sheet date. These are items that did not exist at the time the Balance Sheet was prepared but should be disclosed if they are relevant to the fair presentation of the accounts.

Precepts

This is the amount paid to a non-billing Council (for example a community council) so that it can cover its expenses (after allowing for its income).

Prior year adjustment

Those material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

Provision

A provision is an amount we set aside in our accounts for expected liabilities which we cannot measure accurately.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI) – a central government initiative which aims to increase the levels of funding available for public services by attracting private sources of finance. The PFI is supported by a number of incentives to encourage authorities' participation.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLb)

This is a loan facility provided by the Government Debt Management Office (DMO), which provides longer term loans to local authorities.

Related party transactions

These are the transfer of assets or liabilities or the performance of services by, to or for a related party no matter whether a charge is made.

Revaluation Reserve

This represents the non-distributable increase/decrease in the valuation of fixed assets.

Revenue account

This is an account which records our day to day spending and income on items such as salaries and wages, running costs of services and the financing of capital expenditure.

Service Reporting Code of Practice (SeRCOP)

The Service Reporting Code of Practice provides a consistent framework for reporting local authority data. SeRCOP is reviewed annually by the appropriate regulating body to ensure that it develops in line with the needs of modern local government, Transparency, Best Value and public services reform.

Temporary borrowing or investment

This is money borrowed or invested for an initial period of less than one year.

Trust fund

Trust funds hold money on behalf of an individual or organisation. Trustees administer the funds for the owners.

Work in progress (WIP)

Work in progress is the value of work undertaken on an unfinished project at the end of the financial year, which has not yet been charged to the revenue account.



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