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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

Bridgend County Borough Council



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*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
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Annwyl Cyngorydd,

PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU CORFFORAETHOL

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol o bell trwy Skype ar **Dydd Mercher, 2 Rhagfyr 2020** am **09:30**.

AGENDA

1. Ethol Cadeirydd 3 - 6
2. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb
Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Aelodau.
3. 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.
4. Cymeradwyaeth Cofnodion 7 - 22
I dderbyn am gymeradwyaeth y Cofnodion cyfarfod y 13/07/2020 a 07/09/2020
5. Monitro Cyllideb 2020-21 - Rhagolwg Refeniw Chwarter 2 23 - 56
Gwahoddedigion:
Pob aelod o'r Cabinet a'r Bwrdd Rheoli Corfforaethol
6. Ymateb y Cabinet i Argymhellion y Panel Adferiad Trawsbleidiol 57 - 68
Gwahoddedigion:
Yr Arweinydd
7. Diweddariad Rhaglen Gwaith 69 - 76
8. Adroddiad Enwebu Hyrwyddwr Rhiant Corfforaethol 77 - 80

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9. Enwebu i Banel Chraffu Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus

81 - 84

10. 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.

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 a Swyddogion yn mynychu o bell. Bydd y cyfarfod yn cael ei recordio i'w ddarlledu ar wefan y Cyngor cyn gynted ag sy'n ymarferol ar ôl y cyfarfod. Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiwn am hyn, cysylltwch â cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk neu ffoniwch 01656 643147 / 643148.

Yn ddiffuant

K Watson

Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio

Dosbarthiad:

Cynghowrwy

SE Baldwin

JPD Blundell

N Clarke

J Gebbie

Cynghorwyr

T Giffard

CA Green

M Jones

RL Penhale-Thomas

Cynghorwyr

KL Rowlands

RMI Shaw

JC Spanswick

T Thomas

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

ELECTION OF CHAIR

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to receive nominations for the role of Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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

2.1 The 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 As part of the centralised Overview and Scrutiny structure it has been determined that the membership of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee would consist of the Chairs of each Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee and nine other Members that reflect the political balance of the Authority.

3.2 At the Annual Meeting of Council on 30 September 2020, the three Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons were appointed and as stated in the Report of the Monitoring Officer, the Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be appointed by the members of this Committee from one of the Chairpersons of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, but not the Chairperson representing the Executive group.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The Committee is requested to receive nominations and elect a Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the provisions set out at paragraph 3.2 of this report.
- 4.2 As set out in the Constitution, should the appointed Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee be unable to attend a meeting, it is for the Committee to appoint a Chair at the meeting in accordance with the political balance rules.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 The work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend. Any changes to the structure of the Scrutiny Committees and the procedures relating to them would require the Bridgend County Borough Council constitution to be updated.

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 Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:
- Long Term - The Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee will assist in the long term planning of the business of the Council
 - Prevention – The Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be preventative in nature and ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place
 - Integration – This report supports all the well-being objectives
 - Collaboration - The Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee will support partnership working with other organisations both locally and regionally
 - Involvement – The Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee will promote the full involvement of external stakeholders, service users, expert witnesses and partners in scrutiny activity

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Committee is requested to receive nominations and agree to elect a Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the provisions set out in paragraph 3.2 of this report.

K Watson
Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services
26 November 2020

Contact Officer: Meryl Lawrence
Senior Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny

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Background documents: None

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Presennol

Y Cyngorydd CA Green – Cadeirydd

JPD Blundell
T Giffard
T Thomas

NA Burnett
RL Penhale-Thomas

N Clarke
RMI Shaw

J Gebbie
JC Spanswick

Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb

M Jones a/ac KL Rowlands

Swyddogion:

Meryl Lawrence
Rachel Pick
Kelly Watson

Uwch Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democraidd - Craffu
Swyddog Craffu
Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio

Gwahoddedigion:

Mark Shepherd
Cyng HJ David

Prif Weithredwr
Arweinydd

170. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT

Dim

171. CADARNHAU COFNODION

PENDERFYNWYD y dylid cymeradwyo cofnodion 20/01/2020, 04/02/2020 a 13/02/2020 fel cofnodion gwir a chywir.

172. SEFYDLU PANEL ADFER TRAWSBLEIDIOL - PANDEMIG COVID-19

Darparodd y Prif Weithredwr grynoded o'r adroddiad. Eglurodd mai diben yr adroddiad yw sefydlu Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol gyda'r nod o lywio, hysbysu, a chynghori'r Cabinet ar gynllunio adferiad y Cyngor, gan gydnabod yr heriau enfawr sy'n ein hwynebu ar ôl Covid-19 wrth i ni ddechrau llacio'r cyfyngiadau symud a dod allan o'r cyfnod hwnnw. O ran y Cyngor, mae'r newid wedi bod yn sylweddol iawn. Ni roddwyd unrhyw un o staff y Cyngor ar ffyrlo. Yn ddealladwy, cynhaliwyd llawer o wasanaethau'r Cyngor yn wahanol i'r arfer, gan gynnwys gweithio gartref, gweithio ystwyth, ac adleoli staff, gyda'r ffocws i raddau helaeth ar ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hanfodol gan ddiogelu'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yn y fwrdeistref sirol, a chwarae ein rhan wrth atal lledaeniad y firws. Un o ganlyniadau anffodus hyn oedd sefydlu gweithdrefnau llywodraethu brys sydd, i ryw raddau, wedi golygu bod cyfraniad rhai Aelodau i'r prosesau Craffu arferol wedi'u hatal. Yn ei adroddiad i'r Cabinet ar 30 Mehefin 2020 nododd yr ymdrechion i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r holl Aelodau fel bo modd iddynt gyfrannu cymaint â phosibl, trwy gynnal cyfarfodydd Arweinydd Grŵp wythnosol, cyfarfodydd Cadeirydd Craffu, a rhaglen gyfathrebu ddyddiol i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i bobl, gan gynnwys hysbysiadau o'r penderfyniadau ffurfiol a wneir o dan y trefniadau argyfwng hyn. Nododd yr adroddiad y

fframwaith cynllunio ar gyfer ailgychwyn, adfer, ac adnewyddu gwasanaethau'r Cyngor. Mae sefydliad Panel Trawsbleidiol yn rhan allweddol o'r elfen adfer, gan gydnabod bod nifer gyfartal o Aelodau etholedig o bob plaid yn hanfodol er mwyn sefydlu cynllun credadwy ar sail un Cyngor. Amlinellodd rai o'r blaenoriaethau a'r ystyriaethau allweddol y mae angen i'r Cyngor ymdrin â hwy fel rhan o'i adferiad. Mae'r blaenoriaethau a'r ystyriaethau hynny ar amserlenni gwahanol i'w gilydd, h.y. mae rhai yn weddol uniongyrchol tra bydd eraill yn cymryd mwy o amser. Un o'r heriau yw adferiad yn golygu gweithredu popeth ar unwaith, ond yn hytrach mae'n rhaglen waith a all gymryd 12-18 mis. Un her sy'n ein hwynebu'n syth yw'r her o ailagor ysgolion ym mis Medi (cafodd Aelodau ac ysgolion fanylion ynghylch hyn gan y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg a Chymorth i Deuluoedd). Dywedodd fod yr ymateb i'r argyfwng economaidd yn parhau, ac roedd y Cabinet wedi trafod ffurfio Tasglu Economaidd, yn cynnwys pobl o fusnesau a diwydiant lleol yn bennaf i helpu i lunio'r hyn y mae angen i'r Cyngor ei wneud a'r ffordd orau o fuddsoddi ar y sail honno. Mae arwyddocâd rhai o'r heriau yn cynnwys digartrefedd (mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyl i'r gwaith o ganfod atebion wrth ddod o hyd i leoedd i bobl fyw barhau, sy'n heriol yn gysyniadol ac yn ariannol) a pharhau i ffurfio gwell perthynas â rhai o'i phartneriaid, yn enwedig BAVO. Yr her fydd canfod sut i feithrin y cydberthnasau hyn wrth symud ymlaen a sut y bydd hynny yn cyfrannu i'r adferiad, gan gydnabod y manteision i gymunedau a'r manteision ariannol fel nad yw'r Cyngor yn dychwelyd at y ffordd yr oedd yn flaenorol. Roedd rhai pethau'n newydd iawn i'r Cyngor, fel gorfod darparu cyfarpar diogelu personol. Nid yn unig y bu'n rhaid i'r Cyngor ystyried sut i wella, ond hefyd sut y gallai sicrhau ei fod yn wydn pe bai ail don neu rywbeth arall yn arwain at ailsefydlu gweithdrefnau brys. Roedd rhai pethau eisoes ar y gweill, e.e. roedd y rhan fwyaf o wasanaethau gwastraff bron yn ôl i'r drefn arferol, ac roedd llyfrgelloedd yn dechrau ailagor (nid yw hyn yn eu hatal rhag cael rôl wahanol fel canolfannau cymunedol wrth symud ymlaen). Amlinellodd y risgiau a'r cyfleoedd sy'n gysylltiedig â gwasanaethau digidol, bu staff yn fwy parod i groesawu gwasanaethau digidol yn ystod y cyfyngiadau symud, a bu'n rhaid ystyried faint fyddai'n cael ei gadw a sut y gellid diogelu'r rhai sy'n ei chael yn anos cael gafael ar wasanaethau yn ddigidol. Roedd y Prif Weithredwr yn rhagweld y byddai'r Panel Adfer yn grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen ac y byddai'n rhaid prosesu rhai o'i argymhellion yn gyflym. Byddai angen defnyddio adnoddau'r Cyngor yn eang er mwyn osgoi dyblygu. Dywedodd fod y BGC yn bwriadu cynnal Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned a'u bod yn awyddus iawn i weithio gyda'r Panel Adfer i nodi'r hyn y mae angen i'r Cyngor ei flaenoriaethu ar fyrder ar sail yr asesiad hwnnw. Mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru hefyd wedi cynnig eu cefnogaeth i'r Panel, gan edrych efallai ar arfer gorau mewn mannau eraill neu unrhyw ffordd arall y gallant ychwanegu gwerth. Roedd y Prif Weithredwr yn ymwybodol bod Panel presennol ar gyfer y gyllideb (BREP) a rhaid sicrhau bod ei waith yn cael ei gydgysylltu a'i goladu mewn ffordd gydynol i hysbysu'r Cabinet ac osgoi dyblygu.

Roedd y Prif Weithredwr yn rhagweld Panel ystwyth a hyblyg, a chyfeiriodd at y Cylch Gorchwyl a oedd yn cynnig cynnal cyfarfodydd grŵp misol, ond mater i'r Panel oedd penderfynu pa mor aml y byddent yn cyfarfod, gan gynnwys unrhyw is-grwpiau, er mwyn cyflawni'r gwaith. Golyga hyn na fyddai'r Panel yn cael ei ohirio gan y cylch 4 neu 6 wythnos arferol o gyfarfodydd pwyllgor craffu, lle mae angen adroddiadau ymlaen llaw. Felly, gallai'r Panel ymateb yn fwy effeithiol o lawer, gan wahodd pobl (swyddogion allweddol, Aelodau, rhanddeiliaid allanol) i gwrdd â'r Panel (y cyfan neu ran ohono) ar sail barhaus. Y prif reswm dros gael Panel yw i Aelodau lunio argymhellion allweddol yn gyflym a fydd yn gwella gwydnwch Cynllun Adfer y Cyngor, yn gwella ymatebolrwydd y Cyngor, ac yn sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn gwneud y penderfyniadau cywir pan ddeuwn i ailosod y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig (MTFS) a'r Cynllun Corfforaethol yng nghyd-destun Covid-19.

Dywedodd Aelod ei fod yn falch bod y Prif Weithredwr wedi cydnabod y bydd angen argymhellion yn gyflym ar y materion i'r Panel eu trafod. Nid oedd yn disgwyl i'r Awdurdod aros 6-12 mis am argymhellion gan y Panel oherwydd bod yr Adferiad yn

dechrau nawr, os nad eisoes wedi dechrau. Daw rhai o'r argymhellion o sgysiau y bydd Aelodau'r Panel wedi'u cael yn eu gwaith, e.e. diwydiant, lle caiff arfer gorau ei rannu. Bydd hyn yn ddefnyddiol i'r Awdurdod wrth barhau. Sut allai'r Panel fwydo i mewn i'r amserlenni ynghylch prosesau penderfynu ac o amgylch y Cabinet fel y gellir cyflwyno argymhellion amserol? Mewn ymateb, credai'r Prif Weithredwr y byddai angen i rai o argymhellion cychwynol y Panel gael eu cyflwyno yng nghyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol a drefnwyd ar gyfer mis Medi yn ddelfrydol, er mwyn llywio adroddiadau'r Cabinet a'r Cyngor tua diwedd mis Medi pan ragwelir y byddai ailosod y gyllideb a'r Cynllun Corfforaethol yn cael ei ystyried. Roedd y Prif Weithredwr wedi gofyn i bob maes gwasanaeth adolygu'r hyn a weithiodd yn dda a'r hyn na weithiodd cystal yn ystod y cyfyngiadau symud, ble cafodd arian ei wario a'i arbed, pa fuddsoddiadau oedd eu hangen yn awr a pha fodel gweithredu y byddent yn ceisio ei ddefnyddio wrth symud ymlaen. Byddai hyn, ynghyd ag unrhyw beth y mae'r Panel yn ei gynhyrchu, yn ddefnyddiol o fewn yr amserlen gychwynol i lywio dogfennau allweddol a ble mae'r Awdurdod yn gwario/buddsoddi ei arian wrth symud ymlaen. Roedd y Prif Weithredwr am ei gwneud yn glir nad oedd yn disgwyl i'r Panel ystyried pob eitem o fewn yr amserlen hon. Cydnabu fod angen i rai eitemau ddod ymlaen yn gyflym tra'i bod yn anochel y bydd eraill yn cymryd mwy o amser, yn bwydo i mewn i MTFS neu Gynllun Corfforaethol y flwyddyn ganlynol hyd yn oed.

Gofynnodd Aelod a fyddai'r Panel yn gallu gweld yr adborth y cyfeiriodd y Prif Weithredwr ato. Cytunodd y Prif Weithredwr y byddai'n ddefnyddiol i'r Panel weld y canlyniadau ac y byddent yn cael eu rhannu gyda'r Panel. Byddai'n cymryd peth amser i goladu'r adborth fel ei fod yn ddarllenadwy ac ystyrlon, ond byddai'n llywio ac yn llywio meddylfryd y Panel. Roedd y Prif Weithredwr yn rhagweld y bydd amrywiaeth o argymhellion gan wasanaethau, a'n cydnabod na fydd yr Awdurdod Lleol yn gallu cyflawni rhai ohonynt.

Roedd yr Aelodau o'r farn ei bod yn ddoeth cynyddu maint y pwyllgor o 12 i 16, neu i beidio adlewyrchu'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol o reidrwydd. Gofynnodd Aelod hefyd a allai amllder y cyfarfodydd fod yn hyblyg.

Mewn ymateb, teimlai'r Prif Weithredwr mai mater i'r Panel oedd penderfynu ar yr hyblygrwydd o ran cyfarfodydd, ond anogodd yr Aelodau i fod yn rhagweithiol a chyfarfod yn rheolaidd. Fel y nodwyd gan y Cylch Gorchwyl, efallai y bydd yr Aelodau am alw cyfarfodydd misol gyda'r holl Aelodau os nad yw cyfarfodydd is-grwpiau yn cynnwys pob Aelod, ond pwysleisiodd y Prif Weithredwr na fyddai'n pennu amllder y cyfarfodydd. Ei unig bryder o ran cynyddu maint y Panel oedd cynnull pob un o'r 16 Aelod ar gyfer cyfarfodydd cyson. Yna, darlennodd y Prif Weithredwr y cyngor cyfreithiol a gafodd gan Reolwr y Grŵp – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Democrataidd ynghylch cynyddu maint y Panel: 'Gall y Panel gynnwys Aelodau pellach, gydag Aelodau ychwanegol yn cael eu henwebu gan Arweinwyr y Grwpiau a dylai fod yn wleidyddol gytbwys. Byddai gofyn diwygio'r cylch gorchwyl er mwyn ehangu cylch gwaith yr aelodaeth o gylch gwaith y Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol. Hysbysodd y Prif Weithredwr y Pwyllgor y gellid cynyddu'r aelodaeth o 12 i 16 a newid y Cylch Gorchwyl yn ffurfiol yn y cyfarfod hwn i ddarparu'r hyblygrwydd hwnnw. Rhoddwyd dewis i'r Panel felly i gynyddu i 16 Aelod, er gwaethaf y cymhlethdodau a drafodwyd eisoes sy'n cynnwys sicrhau cydbwysedd gwleidyddol.

Cadarnhaodd y Cadeirydd mai cytundeb mewn egwyddor a geisiai'r Panel o ran sut y gellid gynyddu'r aelodaeth, ac y byddai cynyddu'r aelodaeth yn un o gasgliadau'r cyfarfod. Gellir cadarnhau'r broses sydd i'w defnyddio yn ddiweddarach. Nododd y Cadeirydd y bydd angen diwygio'r Cylch Gorchwyl i adlewyrchu cynnydd mewn aelodaeth i 16.

Gofynnodd Aelod, os cynyddir yr aelodaeth gan y Panel, a ellir trefnu dyddiadau ac amserau cyfarfodydd ymhell ymlaen llaw er mwyn sicrhau eu bod ar gael? Ystyriwyd bod cysondeb yr Aelodau er mwyn ymdrin â'r materion yn bwysig iawn hefyd. At hynny, gellid gwahodd y Maer a'r Dirprwy Faer, o gofio eu bod wedi treulio blwyddyn yn dod i adnabod y sir a'r rhanddeiliaid a byddai eu safbwyntiau'n ddefnyddiol wrth symud ymlaen.

Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr, yn seiliedig ar y cyngor cyfreithiol, y gellir cynyddu aelodaeth y Panel o 12 i 16. Pe bai'r Maer, er enghraifft, yn cael ei wahodd fel Aelod ychwanegol o'r Panel, mater i'r Arweinwyr Grŵp perthnasol fyddai gwneud yr enwebiadau, a byddai'n rhaid cynnal cydbwysedd gwleidyddol.

Ymhellach i'r pwynt uchod, dywedodd Aelod y byddai'r Maer yn newid hanner ffordd drwy'r broses, ac felly'r swydd ac nid y person y byddai angen ei ystyried. Parhaodd yr Aelod â'r cwestiwn a fyddai tystion arbenigol yn cael eu gwahodd am eu barn o ystyried bod sectorau a diwydiannau penodol y bydd angen cefnogaeth yr Awdurdod arnynt yn sgil Covid-19. Gofynnodd hefyd am dryloywder a/neu gyfrinachedd y Panel. Tynnodd sylw hefyd at bwysigrwydd sicrhau bod barn a safbwyntiau'r gymuned yn cael eu cynnwys yn y cynllun adfer e.e. prosesau a gweithgareddau, a gofynnodd sut y byddai'r farn hon yn cael ei cheisio.

Mewn ymateb, cytunodd y Prif Weithredwr y gallai'r Panel fod yn awyddus i wahodd tystion arbenigol, ond iddynt fod yn ymwybodol efallai na fydd y tystion hyn ar gael o fewn yr amserlenni cyflym, hyblyg ac ymatebol sy'n ofynnol gan y Panel. O ran cynyddu nifer y cyfarfodydd, rhaid i'r Panel sicrhau bod Aelodau ac Aelodau Cabinet, swyddogion a rhanddeiliaid perthnasol ar gael, a gallai hynny fod yn heriol. Tynnodd sylw hefyd at y ffaith bod y Cylch Gorchwyl yn caniatáu i Swyddogion Craffu wasanaethu cyfarfodydd y Panel yn fisol, ac efallai na fydd modd cynnal cyfarfodydd ychwanegol ar gyfer casglu gwybodaeth yn yr un modd. Efallai y gallai Aelodau'r Panel sy'n mynychu'r cyfarfodydd ychwanegol yn dod â'r wybodaeth yn ôl i'r cyfarfod misol. Cadarnhaodd y Prif Weithredwr fod y Panel yn gyfrinachol gan mai dyma'r sail y cafodd ei sefydlu arno ac y bwriedir iddo aros felly hyd nes y bydd y Cabinet yn cytuno â'r hyn a roddwyd ger eu bron. Nid yw cyfrinachedd y Panel yn eithrio presenoldeb tystion arbenigol i roi eu barn.

Parhaodd Aelod i gwestiynu hyblygrwydd. Ei ddealltwriaeth ef oedd y bydd y pwyllgor yn cynghori'r Cabinet. Fodd bynnag, efallai y bydd achosion lle bydd y Panel yn dymuno osgoi'r Cabinet, neu'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Cabinet weithio'n gyflym iawn. Efallai y byddai hyd yn oed yn fwy dymunol cynghori Llywodraeth Cymru neu Lywodraeth y DU mewn rhai achosion. Roedd yr Aelod yn pryderu, os bydd sefyllfa lle mae cyfyngiadau symud lleol, a fydd gan yr Awdurdod yr adnoddau i ddelio â hyn, e.e. cynlluniau ffyrlo lleol.

Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr y gallai'r Aelod alw'r Arweinydd neu unrhyw Aelod arall o'r Cabinet i ofyn cwestiynau ar bynciau penodol. O ran ffyrlo lleol, mae'n debygol y byddai hyn yn cael ei ariannu gan y Llywodraeth. Gallai'r Prif Weithredwr weld bod cyffro ac uchelgais amlwg o fewn y Panel ond awgrymodd fod yn ofalus rhag gwneud y cylch gwaith mor fawr fel na fyddai'r Panel yn gallu delio â'i gwmpas. Rhaid i'r Panel barhau i allu canolbwyntio, blaenoriaethu, a bod yn ymwybodol o'r amserlenni.

Atgoffodd yr Arweinydd ei gydweithwyr y bydd y Tasglu Economaidd yn cael ei sefydlu gyda'r brif rôl o ymgysylltu a gweithio gyda busnesau i gynllunio adferiad economaidd y fwrdeistref. Byddai hyn yn rhoi cyfle i'r sector busnes yn enwedig i ymgysylltu â'r Awdurdod. Efallai y bydd y Panel yn dymuno gwahodd tystion arbenigol gwahanol hefyd. Mae ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd yn bwynt diddorol, a'r unig anhawster fyddai sicrhau ei fod yn gynrychioliadol. Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod yr Aelodau'n cynrychioli'r cyhoedd ac efallai yr hoffai'r Aelodau hefyd ystyried sut y gellid defnyddio'r Panel Dinasyddion, o

gofio ei fod yn fecanwaith sydd wedi'i brofi fel llais cynrychioliadol o amrywiaeth y fwrdeistref o ran oedran, rhyw, ethnigrwydd a dosbarthiad daearyddol. Gellid defnyddio'r Panel Dinasyddion fel mecanwaith posibl i fesur barn y cyhoedd y tu hwnt i rôl cynrychiolwyr etholedig.

Daeth Aelod â gwerth manau gwyrdd i fyny, sydd wedi'i nodi'n hanfodol yn genedlaethol. Cyfeiriodd at adroddiad y Cabinet a'r adroddiad heddiw sy'n cynnwys materion hanfodol y mae'n rhaid ymdrin â hwy, ond ychydig iawn o sôn am sut y caiff manau gwyrdd eu diogelu neu eu gwella yn y tymor hir. Derbyniodd yr Aelod fod trosglwyddiadau asedau'n digwydd ond credai fod gan yr Awdurdod rôl o ran sicrhau a diogelu ei fannau gwyrdd yn y dyfodol. Roedd y BGC wedi cynnal arolwg ar y defnydd o fannau gwyrdd yn ystod Covid-19, a byddai'n cael ei fwydo'n ôl maes o law. Yn ogystal, roedd gan y CDLI datblygol ddealltwriaeth dda o werth manau gwyrdd ac roedd wedi gwneud gwaith da, ac mae rhai Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned â diddordeb mewn gwneud rhywfaint o waith ar y pwnc hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn parhau i fod yn wasanaeth anstatudol ac roedd yr Aelod braidd yn siomedig gyda'r diffyg cydnabyddiaeth iddo yn y tymor hir mewn unrhyw adroddiad.

Mewn ymateb, cytunodd yr Arweinydd fod manau gwyrdd yn nod hirdymor ond mae'r adroddiad yn y cyfarfod hwn yn canolbwyntio ar yr adferiad tymor byr uniongyrchol. O ran y tymor canolig i'r hirdymor, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi nodi'r angen am adferiad gwyrdd ac mae'r Awdurdod yn rhannu'r dyhead hwn. Mae hyn yn ymwneud ag amrywiaeth o ffyrdd o sicrhau bod yr adferiad yn gynaliadwy, sy'n cynnwys manau gwyrdd yn ei ystyr ehangach. Mae hyn yn cynnwys plannu coed, rhywbeth a all helpu gyda swyddi yn y tymor byr yn ogystal â rheoli llifogydd a darparu 'ysgyfaint gwyrdd'. Felly, er nad yw'r adroddiad yn gynhwysfawr nac yn hirdymor, mae manau gwyrdd yn faes y bydd yr Awdurdod yn edrych arno gydag arbenigedd yr Aelodau. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn edrych ar nifer o feysydd thematig a gall yr Awdurdod sicrhau bod yr adroddiad, sy'n un cyhoeddus yng nghred yr Arweinydd, yn cael ei rannu ag Aelodau fel partner hollbwysig.

Diolchodd yr Aelod i'r Arweinydd am ei ymateb. Gofynnodd ymhellach am fater adnoddau o fewn yr Awdurdod er mwyn gwireddu gwaith fel plannu coed, a fydd yn gofyn i swyddogion weithredu ar adeg o galedi a thoriadau ariannol. Rhoddodd enghraifft o geisiadau cynllunio ar gyfer datblygiadau mawr lle mai anaml y ceir sylwadau gan adran y Parciau am fannau agored oherwydd diffyg capasiti swyddogion. Felly, mae mater capasiti o fewn yr Awdurdod yn y tymor hir i helpu, cynghori, a threfnu gwaith ar gyfer manau gwyrdd yn y dyfodol, a bydd angen cynnwys hyn mewn cynlluniau ariannol yn y dyfodol.

Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr fod Manau Gwyrdd a'r gallu i fynd am dro yn bwysig i les pobl, ac amlygwyd hyn yn enwedig dros y pedwar mis diwethaf. Yr her fydd blaenoriaethu o fewn cyllideb gyfyngedig a'r ansicrwydd ynghylch faint o wariant Covid-19 yr Awdurdod fydd yn cael ei ad-dalu gan y Llywodraeth. Mae ein costau wedi cynyddu hefyd, ynghyd â cholled sylweddol o incwm e.e. cynyddu cynllun gostyngiadau'r dreth gyngor, a cholli incwm mewn meysydd parcio, meysydd chwaraeon, a rhenti. Felly, er bod manau gwyrdd yn ddilys, ar ryw adeg rhaid blaenoriaethu'r hyn a ddaw gerbron y Cabinet, ac wrth ailosod yr MTFS neu edrych ar y Cynllun Corfforaethol rhaid i ni benderfynu o hyd pa rai o'r pethau niferus yr hoffem wario arian arnynt yw'r pwysicaf. Er enghraifft, roedd yn debygol y byddai cynnydd sylweddol yn y gost ar ddigartrefedd. Er nad yw'n cymharu digartrefedd â manau gwyrdd, ni fydd yr Awdurdod yn gallu gwneud popeth a byddai'n rhaid iddo flaenoriaethu a phennu'r ffordd orau y gallai gyflawni rhywfaint o'r hyn y gall ei gael o fewn adnoddau cyfyngedig. Teimlai'r Prif Weithredwr fod angen dod â hyn yn ôl i'r pethau sylfaenol oherwydd, er gwaethaf Covid-19, mae'r MTFS a ragwelir yn dal i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Awdurdod wneud arbedion sylweddol dros y 2-3 blynedd nesaf.

Teimlai'r Arweinydd, o ran gwneud gwahaniaeth a'r hyn y mae'r Cyngor yn ei wneud yn ei weithrediadau o ddydd i ddydd, mai ymateb cyflym yr Awdurdod i gais Llywodraeth Cymru am fesurau teithio llesol dros dro yw un o'r enghreifftiau gorau o'r hyn a wnawn fel sefydliad. Ni wnaeth rhai awdurdodau lleol gais tra bod eraill yn aflwyddiannus, ond gwnaethom lwyddo i greu llwybrau teithio llesol dros dro. Dywedodd fod hyn yn enghraifft o greu dyfodol mwy cynaliadwy a gwnaethom ei weithredu mewn cyfnod byr iawn. Mae hefyd yn enghraifft o ble mae'r Awdurdod yn cael ei yrru gan Lywodraeth Cymru, gan mai hwy sy'n rheoli'r pwrs mwyaf. Mae hyn hefyd wedi dangos eu hymrwymiad drwy ariannu gwahanol ffyrdd o weithio. Cyfeiriodd yr Arweinydd at lwyddiant Parciau Rhanbarthol y Cymoedd a mynegodd ei bleser at y gwelliannau sydd ar y gweill mewn parciau yng Nghronfa Natur Parc Slip ac ym Mharc Bryngarw. Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru am fuddsoddi ymhellach yn y mathau hynny o seilwaith gwyrdd ac mae angen i'r Awdurdod fod yn barod i fanteisio'n llawn ar gyllid pellach yn y dyfodol fel nad yw Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn colli allan.

Cytunodd y Cadeirydd â'r Arweinydd y bydd yn rhaid i ni feddwl yn wahanol ac efallai y bydd angen 'gweithio cyfunol'.

Dywedodd Aelod fod cyfeiriadau wedi'u gwneud at y tymor byr, y tymor canolig a'r hirdymor, ond eu bod yn gofyn am eglurder ynghylch yr amserlenni hynny a'r hyn a fyddai'n cael ei drafod ar gyfer pob un. Awgrymwyd y dylai Aelodau wneud penderfyniadau chwim bob wythnos ond gan gyfaddef y byddai'r Panel yn gwneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain. Bu'r ddadl ynghylch aelodaeth, ond teimlai'r Aelod y dylai'r ddadl ganolbwyntio ar gynnwys y cyfarfodydd.

Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr mai'r hyn a oedd wedi dod i'r amlwg yn ystod y cyfarfod oedd bod amgyffrediad pobl o'r tymor byr, y tymor canolig a'r hirdymor yn amrywio, ac y byddai'n anodd iddo ddiffinio mewn ffordd y byddai pawb yn cytuno arni. Ailadroddodd ei fod yn gofyn i'r Panel Iunio a llywio penderfyniadau'r Cabinet. Cynghorodd y Panel i flaenoriaethu'r argymhellion cychwynnol o ran yr hyn a wnaiff wahaniaeth yn y dechrau, ac yna'n penderfynu ar y materion tymor hwy wrth barhau. Felly, dylai'r Panel gymryd peth amser i ystyried y materion, gan gofio'r dogfennau corfforaethol allweddol y cyfeiriodd y Prif Weithredwr atynt, a phenderfynu at ba faterion y gallant gyfrannu a chynyddu gwerth ar gyfer adroddiad i'r Cabinet ym mis Medi. Pe bai'r Cabinet yn ailedrych ar yr MTFS a'r Cynllun Corfforaethol ddiwedd Medi, roedd yn werth pwysleisio y byddai'n golygu mai dim ond yn yr MTFS nesaf, o 1 Ebrill 2021, y byddai unrhyw argymhelliad arall yn gymwys.

Rhan o'r broblem oedd bod pobl yn siarad o ran tymor byr a thymor canolig, ond eu bod yn golygu rhywbeth gwahanol i bob Aelod. Cyfeiriodd yr Aelod at sut yr oedd gwasanaethau wedi'u darparu'n wahanol e.e. manau gwyrdd a'r sector gwirfoddoli, ac os nad yw'r Awdurdod yn cefnogi hyn wrth symud ymlaen, bydd achos arall o Covid-19 a'r cyfyngiadau symud dilynol yn arwain at anawsterau sylweddol gan na fydd rhai o'r gwirfoddolwyr hynny ar gael.

Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr pe bai'r pandemig yn cyrraedd ail anterth ddiwedd yr hydref, y byddai hyn yn un o'r argymhellion cychwynnol y byddai angen i'r Panel ei wneud i'r Cabinet pe teimlid bod angen cymorth ariannol/unrhyw gymorth arall ychwanegol, e.e. BAVO a grwpiau gwirfoddol eraill ledled y fwrdeistref i sicrhau y gall barhau i ddarparu rhai o'r gwasanaethau a oedd yn gweithio'n dda yn ystod y cyfyngiadau symud ac nad ydynt yn gynaliadwy heb y cymorth hwnnw. Un o'r tystion arbenigol y gallai'r Panel ddymuno ei wahodd yw Prif Weithredwr BAVO i drafod yr hyn a fyddai, yn ei barn hi, orau o ran cymorth wrth symud ymlaen. Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr fod gan bob un ohonynt gyfrifoldeb i roi hyn yng nghyd-destun cyllideb gyffredinol yr Awdurdod. Gall rhai o'r pethau hyn fod yn gymharol rad a byddant yn

ymwneud mwy â newid yn y ffordd rydym yn gwneud pethau a ffordd wahanol o feddwl. Awgrymodd y Prif Weithredwr bod angen cofleidio'r ffordd yr oedd y berthynas wedi adeiladu yn ystod y pedwar mis diwethaf, ac y byddai'n hoff o weld agweddau ohono'n parhau. Dywedodd hefyd fod angen i'r Cyngor fod yn ofalus nad yw'n dychwelyd i beth bynnag oedd yr 'normal' ym mis Chwefror/Mawrth 2020. Oni bai eu bod yn buddsoddi peth amser ac ymdrech i sicrhau bod y berthynas ar sylfaen gadarnach, bydd yn dychwelyd i'r drefn arferol cyn y cyfyngiadau symud, perthynas a oedd yn fwy bregus a chyda thrydydd sector llawer llai galluog a gwydn yn gefn i'r Cyngor.

Cytunodd yr Arweinydd â'r Aelod fod tymor byr, canolig, a hir ag ystyron gwahanol i wahanol bobl. Croesawodd yr Arweinydd farn y Panel ar yr holl gamau y byddai'n eu cymryd, beth bynnag fo'r amserlen, ac mai un o fanteision mawr y Panel dros gyfarfod pwyllgor llawn yw'r gobaith y gallant gyfarfod ar fyr rybudd. Un o wersi'r pandemig yw nad oes neb yn gwybod yn iawn pa benderfyniadau fydd angen eu gwneud, a bod angen gwneud penderfyniadau'n gyflym iawn. Felly, mae penderfyniadau'n dal i gael eu gwneud bob wythnos, os nad bob dydd, ac ychydig iawn o amser sydd gennym i wneud y penderfyniadau hynny. Felly, yr hyn a welwyd yn ddefnyddiol iawn i'r rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau yw'r gallu i ofyn i'r Panel gyfarfod ag ond ychydig ddyddiau o rybudd er mwyn profi penderfyniad y mae'n rhaid ei wneud. Bydd penderfyniadau'n dal i gael eu gwneud mewn cyfnodau byr iawn o ran ein hymateb i'r pandemig, yn enwedig os oes ail/trydedd don. Hyd yn oed os nad oes ail/trydedd don, mae cymdeithas yn newid yn gyflym, gyda cholled swyddi er enghraifft, gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU yn ymateb yn gyflym i hyn. Mae angen i'r Awdurdod ymateb yn gyflym hefyd, hyd yn oed os yw ond yn ymwneud â sut rydym yn gweinyddu gwahanol fentrau ac os ydym yn cymryd rhan mewn prosiectau a chronfeydd penodol neu ddim. Felly, hyd yn oed os daw'r rheolaeth o'r pandemig yn fwy sefydlog, bydd ei effaith yn cael ei themlo am amser hir a bydd effaith llanwol i'r effeithiau hynny. Bydd cael y Panel i gyfarfod ar fyr rybudd, os gallant, yn ddefnyddiol iawn i broses gwneud penderfyniadau'r Awdurdod.

Ailadroddodd y Cadeirydd fod hyblygrwydd y Panel yn allweddol, bod cyngor cyfreithiol wedi'i dderbyn ar aelodaeth ychwanegol, a chyfrifoldeb y Panel yw pennu amserlenni. Yna gofynnodd y Cadeirydd a oedd unrhyw gwestiynau pellach gan yr Aelodau.

Gofynnodd Aelod a ellid cynnal rhai o gyfarfodydd y Panel gyda'r nos i gyd-fynd ag ymrwymadau gwaith ac i ddarparu hyblygrwydd. Gofynnwyd hyn yn sgil cau'r adeilad Dinesig, ac nad yw'n ofynnol gadael yr adeilad am 6.30pm.

Cytunodd y Cadeirydd fod hyblygrwydd yn allweddol ac y gallai fod yn hyblyg o ran amseru cyfarfodydd er mwyn i'r Panel fod mor effeithiol â phosibl. Tynnodd sylw at y ffaith nad oedd am ddifreinio neb, ac mai'r Panel fydd yn penderfynu ar amllder y cyfarfodydd, er y gall pethau newid a'r angen i ymateb yn gyflym.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd y byddai angen ystyried sut y byddai'n sicrhau bod gwaith y Panel yn cyd-fynd â gwaith y BGC ac i fanteisio ar yr arbenigedd sy'n rhan o'r Bwrdd hwnnw. Bydd llawer o'r tystion mwyaf arbenigol ar y Bwrdd hwnnw e.e. yr Heddlu, y Gwasanaeth Tân, y Gwasanaeth Iechyd, y trydydd sector, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, a'r Coleg. Byddai angen ystyried sut i sicrhau bod y partneriaid hynny ar gael i'r Panel, gan osgoi dyblygu a chan elwa o'r arbenigedd hwnnw.

Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr fod Tîm y BGC yn awyddus i weithio gyda'r Panel a rhannu eu gwaith ar yr Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned fel bod y gwaith yn cael ei integreiddio a'i alinio er mwyn osgoi dyblygu. Felly un o'r camau cyntaf y gallai'r Panel ddymuno ei wneud yw cyfarfod â Thîm y BGC i siarad am y gwaith y mae'r BGC yn ei wneud i helpu i lunio rhywfaint o'r cyfeiriad y gall y Panel fynd iddo. Teimlai'r Prif Weithredwr fod adnodd yno a fydd o fudd i'r Panel. Yn ogystal, efallai y bydd rhywfaint o gyfle i'r Panel ddylanwadu i ryw raddau ar yr Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned sy'n cael ei gynnal.

Diolchodd y Cadeirydd i'r Arweinydd a'r Prif Weithredwr am eu presenoldeb cyn iddyn nhw adael y cyfarfod.

Yna gofynnodd y Cadeirydd i'r Swyddog Craffu ailadrodd pwyntiau amlwg y cyfarfod. Darparodd y Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd y canlynol:

1. Gall y Panel gynyddu ei aelodaeth o 12 i 16 oed, fel y cadarnhawyd gan y cynrychiolydd cyfreithiol drwy e-bost. Mae angen cydbwysu'r aelodaeth yn wleidyddol i gynnwys dau Aelod ychwanegol o'r Grŵp Llafur ac un Aelod yr un o'r Grŵp Cynghrair Annibynnol a'r Grŵp Ceidwadol fel aelodau cyfetholedig i'r Panel. Bydd Arweinwyr y Grwpiau yn enwebu eu cynrychiolwyr ychwanegol i fod yn Aelodau o'r Panel yn ogystal ag Aelodau presennol y Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol.
2. Mewn perthynas ag Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned y BGC, disgwylir iddo gael ei gwblhau erbyn diwedd mis Medi, byddai'n ddoeth gwahodd Swyddogion Tîm y BGC i un o gyfarfodydd cyntaf y Panel.
3. Er y gall y Panel fod yn hyblyg a chyfarfod yn amlach nag unwaith y mis, mynegodd y Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd bryder am effaith cyfarfodydd a gynhelir yn hwyrach yn y dydd, yn enwedig gyda'r nos, ar y Tîm Craffu, a holodd a fyddai Swyddogion Craffu ar gael i wasanaethu'r cyfarfodydd hynny.

Er bod angen ystyried Telerau ac Amodau staff a Hawliau Cyflogaeth, dywedodd Aelod fod angen i'r Panel fod yn hyblyg.

Nododd Aelod fod yr adroddiad yn cyfeirio at ddiwylliant, hamdden a llyfrgelloedd, ond bod manau gwyrdd yn fwy o nod tymor canolig i hirdymor ac yn dibynnu ar flaenoriaethau ac ymrwymadau ariannol. Dylid rhoi'r un flaenoriaeth i fannau gwyrdd, ond ni sonnir am ddyfodol manau gwyrdd yn yr adroddiad. Mae angen rhywfaint o gydnabyddiaeth ar hyn o bryd y caiff hyn ei ddatrys yn y dyfodol. Cytunodd y Cadeirydd fod angen mynd i'r afael â'r mater ac y gallai'r Panel wneud argymhellion i'r perwyl hwnnw.

Cyfeiriodd Aelod at awgrym y Prif Weithredwr y dylai'r Panel rannu'n weithgorau i fynd i'r afael â meysydd penodol a gofynnodd a ellid trafod dewisiadau'r Aelodau yn y cyfarfod hwn yn seiliedig ar eu harbenigedd a'u diddordebau. Gellid cynnal y cyfarfodydd grŵp hyn gyda'r nos a gall Aelodau lunio'r nodiadau a darparu yng nghyfarfod llawn y Panel heb fod angen i staff y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd wasanaethu'r is-grwpiau. Gallai hyn fod yn llawer mwy effeithiol na chyfarfod hirfaith gyda niferoedd mawr. Awgrymodd y Cadeirydd y dylai'r Aelodau anfon e-bost at y Tîm Craffu gyda gwybodaeth am eu harbenigedd/diddordebau mewn rhai meysydd gwaith a all wedyn lywio aelodaeth o'r is-grwpiau o dan benawdau penodol.

Argymhelliad:

Nodi'r adroddiad a chymeradwyo sefydlu Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol, i gynnwys y 12 Aelod o'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol ynghyd â 4 Aelod ychwanegol i'w henwebu gan Arweinwyr Grwpiau fel a ganlyn: 2 Llafur; 1 Cynghrair Annibynnol, a; 1 Ceidwadwyr, ac i ddiwygio'r aelodaeth yn y Cylch Gorchwyl yn unol â hynny.

173. Y DIWEDDARAF AM Y FLAENRAGLEN WAITH

Dywedodd y Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd mai diben yr adroddiad oedd rhoi rhestr i Aelodau'r Pwyllgor o eitemau posibl y Flaenraglen Waith ar gyfer blaenoriaethu

ffurfiol. Cyfeiriodd at baragraff 4.1, sy'n nodi mai'r Pwyllgor sy'n gyfrifol am bennu a blaenoriaethu'r Flaenraglen Waith gyffredinol ar gyfer y Pwyllgorau Trosolwg a Chraffu Pwnc. Amlinellodd yr eitemau/pynciau a oedd wedi'u blaenoriaethu a'u cytuno gan y Pwyllgor hwn, a gasglwyd o'r eitemau a awgrymwyd mewn cyfarfodydd blaenorol o'r Pwyllgorau Trosolwg a Chraffu ac a oedd yn cynnwys gwybodaeth a gynigiwyd gan Gyfarwyddwyr Corfforaethol.

Gofynnodd y Cadeirydd i'r Aelodau a oeddent yn dymuno ychwanegu unrhyw beth at y rhestr o bynciau.

Gofynnodd Aelod am gynnwys digartrefedd, o ystyried y bu gan Craffu rôl yn y gorffennol wrth edrych ar e.e. tai a chartrefi gwag Fodd bynnag, nid oedd am i Waith Craffu ddyblygu unrhyw waith arall a wnaed ar y pwnc. Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Cadeirydd y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn allweddol o ran sut y gall yr Awdurdod fynd i'r afael â'r mater ac y bydd yn dibynnu ar adnoddau, ond cytunodd y dylai Craffu chwarae rhan mewn digartrefedd.

Teimlai Aelod y byddai rhoi Digartrefedd ar y Flaenraglen Waith Craffu yn ddyblygiad gan ei fod yn rhywbeth yr oedd eisoes yn cael sylw. Roedd yr Awdurdod eisoes wedi ystyried hawlio rhywfaint o'r £20M a ddarparwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer y llety dros dro i'r digartref ac mae'n aros am ateb. Rhaid i'r Awdurdod allu ailgartrefu'r bobl hynny sydd wedi'u rhoi mewn llety dros dro ar draws y fwrdeistref rhag iddynt ddychwelyd i fyw ar y strydoedd. Cytunodd y Cadeirydd fod angen i ni edrych ar ba mor llwyddiannus yr ydym wedi bod wrth ddatrys problem digartrefedd yn y dyfodol.

Gofynnodd Aelod a allai'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Corfforaethol edrych ar y BGC ym mis Medi i gyd-fynd â chwblhad disgwylledig yr Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned. Bydd hyn yn cael mwy o effaith ar yr hyn y dymuna'r Panel fynd i'r afael â hwy. Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Cadeirydd y byddai'r Panel yn cyfarfod â Thîm y BGC cyn bo hir. Eglurodd yr Aelod ymhellach y bydd Asesiad o'r Effaith ar y Gymuned yn nodi'r hyn sydd wedi'i wneud yn dda a'r pethau yr oedd angen eu gwneud yn y tymor hwy i reoli pegynau pellach mewn pandemig. Er enghraifft, mewn perthynas ag ysgolion, eu hagog i bob disgybl ar 14 Medi gydag oediad o 2 wythnos i roi'r holl fesurau angenrheidiol ar waith. Felly, erbyn canol mis Medi gellid gweld problemau gydag ysgolion, ac mae sawl mater arall hefyd sydd angen sylw. Dadleuodd fod digartrefedd yn fater hirdymor y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru fod wedi'i ariannu amser maith yn ôl, a bod angen i lywodraeth leol fod yn llafar am y diffyg cyllid sydd ar gael, mae'n rhywbeth y mae angen i'r Panel ei ystyried wrth symud ymlaen.

Gofynnodd Aelod a allai Craffu fod â rhan yn rôl llywodraethwyr a sut y cant eu penodi, eu trefnu, a'u hyfforddi. Teimlai fod angen i ysgolion, yn awr yn fwy nag erioed, gael eu llywodraethu mor sefydlog a phroffesiynol â phosibl, a bod ysgolion yn cael eu siomi ar y funud. Teimlai nad oedd llywodraethwyr yn cael eu recriwtio'n iawn, nad oedd y bobl iawn yn eistedd ar gyrff llywodraethu, ac nad oedd yr hyfforddiant gan Gonsortium Canolbarth y De yn ddigon effeithiol na chyson. Nid oedd yr Aelod yn teimlo bod gan bob ysgol gyflenwad llawn o lywodraethwyr effeithiol, a phe byddent yn cael hynny byddai'n gwneud gwahaniaeth enfawr i'r ffordd yr ydym yn ymateb i'r argyfwng pandemig.

Mewn ymateb, mynegodd y Cadeirydd ei dealltwriaeth mai'r unig lywodraethwyr y gallai'r Awdurdod eu dewis oedd cynrychiolwyr yr AALI. Rhieni sy'n ethol y gweddill, neu'r corff llywodraethu swrth gytuno i benodi aelod o'r gymuned. Er y gall Craffu gynghori'r Cabinet, nid oedd o fewn ei gylch gwaith i benodi. Teimlai fod meini prawf y Cabinet ar y cyfan yn dda ar gyfer ethol aelodau o'r Awdurdod, y Dref, a'r Gymuned neu wrth ethol athrawon sydd wedi ymddeol sydd â'r profiad angenrheidiol i wneud cyfraniad.

Cytunodd Aelod ar fater y cyrff llywodraethu. Er ei bod yn credu bod y cyrff llywodraethu wedi dod yn llawer mwy effeithiol, nid oedd yn teimlo eu bod yn ddigon effeithiol. Dywedodd Aelod mai ei ddealltwriaeth ef oedd mai dim ond llywodraethwyr AALI a benodir gan yr Awdurdod Lleol. Penodir pob swydd llywodraethwr arall gan yr ysgol. Yn y gorffennol, roedd yr Aelod wedi cynnig y dylid canoli mwy i arbed Penaethiaid rhag gorfod bod yn arbenigwyr ym mhob maes yn ogystal â'r ysgol. Ond byddai hyn yn golygu newid mewn trefniadau cyllidebu oherwydd bod gan ysgolion ymreolaeth o ran sut y maent yn gwario eu harian. Cytunodd yr Aelod ei bod yn ymddangos nad yw pob llywodraethwr yn meddu ar y gallu na'r sgiliau cywir, ond, mewn ysgolion llai, y broblem yw sicrhau llywodraethwyr o gwbl, heb sôn am allu dewis o restr. Daeth yr Aelod i ben drwy ddweud ei fod yn faes cymhleth.

Yna, atgoffodd y Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor o'r Argymhellion ym mharagraff 9.1 o'r Flaenraglen Waith. Cytunwyd ar yr Argymhellion ym mharagraff 4.2 a chadarnhawyd:

Argymhellion

(1) Cadarnhau'r eitemau a flaenoriaethir ym mharagraff 4.2 a'r eitemau hynny a ddirprwyir i'r Pwyllgorau Trosolwig a Chraffu Pwnc;

(2) Bod unrhyw eitemau ychwanegol yn cael eu nodi gan ddefnyddio'r Ffurflen Meini Prawf ar gyfer ystyriaeth yn y dyfodol ar y Flaenraglen Waith Craffu.

174. EITEMAU BRYD

Dim

COFNODION CYFARFOD Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU CORFFORAETHOL A GYNHALIWYD YN SIAMBR Y CYNGOR, SWYDDFEYDD DINESIG, STRYD YR ANGEL, PENYBONT AR OGWR CF31 4WB DYDD LLUN, 7 MEDI 2020, AM 14:00

Presennol

Y Cynghorydd CA Green – Cadeirydd

JPD Blundell	NA Burnett	N Clarke	J Gebbie
T Giffard	M Jones	RL Penhale-Thomas	KL Rowlands
RMI Shaw	JC Spanswick	T Thomas	

Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb

Swyddogion:

Meryl Lawrence	Uwch Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democraidd - Craffu
Rachel Pick	Swyddog Craffu
Mark Shephard	Prif Weithredwr
Tracy Watson	Swyddog Cymorth Craffu

Gwahoddedigion:

Cynghorydd Stuart Baldwin
Cynghorydd Richard Collins
Cynghorydd Alex Williams
176. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT

Datganodd y Cynghorydd Nicole Burnett fuddiant personol gan ei bod yn gadeirydd Neuadd Evergreen.

177. CADARNHAU COFNODION

PENDERFYNIAD: Cymeradwywyd Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 4 Tachwedd 2019 yn amodol ar y newid canlynol:
Datganodd y Cynghorydd Blundell fuddiant personol oherwydd ei fod yn aelod di-chwarae o'r Cardiff Saracens a oedd yn yr un gynghrair â Chlwb Rygbi Bracla.

Cymeradwywyd Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 24 Ionawr 2020.

178. PANEL ADFER TRAWSBLEIDIOL - CANFYDDIADAU AC ARGYMHELLION CAM 1

Aeth Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol â'r Pwyllgor drwy'r adroddiad. Diben yr adroddiad oedd cyflwyno Canfyddiadau ac Argymhellion Cam 1 y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol i'r Pwyllgor. Nododd Adran 2 y cysylltiad ag amcanion llesiant corfforaethol a blaenoriaethau corfforaethol eraill. Rhoddodd adran 3 y cefndir mewn perthynas â'r pandemig Covid-19 a'r cyfnod clo, a sefydlu'r Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol ac aelodaeth ynghyd ag Aelodau ychwanegol a siaradwyr gwadd a wahoddwyd o'r ardaloedd dethol yr oedd y Panel am ymchwilio ymhellach iddynt. Roedd Cam 1 y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol wedi mabwysiadu dull strwythuredig o dethol meysydd allweddol o'r rhai a nodwyd i gael blaenoriaeth i fwydo i mewn i'r broses adfer ac wedi nodi materion allweddol yn dilyn archwiliad. Roedd yr adroddiad hefyd yn cynnwys goblygiadau Deddf

Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015. Nid oedd unrhyw oblygiadau ariannol yn uniongyrchol gysylltiedig â'r adroddiad hwn. Roedd Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol am ddiolch i'r holl Aelodau dan sylw am yr hyn a ystyriai'n ddull cyfranogol strwythuredig a gobeithiai y byddai'n parhau.

Roedd Is-gadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol yn dymuno adleisio geiriau Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer. Cyfeiriodd at Argymhelliad 8 a'r ffaith bod angen iddo fod yn fwy eglur drwy argymhell Cynllun Tai yn Gyntaf a oedd yn rhoi tai i bobl agored i niwed cyn mynd i'r afael ag unrhyw anghenion pellach gan nad oedd yn credu bod cynllun o'r fath ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Cadarnhaodd Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol fod V2C yn gweithredu Cynllun Tai yn Gyntaf ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Cymerodd y Cadeirydd bwynt yr Aelod ond teimlai y byddai'n annheg gwneud unrhyw beth ymhellach gyda'r argymhellion o ystyried mai'r rhain oedd yr argymhellion a gyflwynwyd gan y Panel ac na chodwyd y pwynt yng Nghyfarfod y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol.

Yna cyfeiriodd yr Aelod at Argymhelliad 16. Er ei fod yn cytuno mewn egwyddor ei bod yn bwysig i'r Awdurdod gydweithio ag Awdurdodau eraill, roedd yn pryderu nad oedd Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cyd-fynd â nodweddion y cynghorau dinesg a ffurfiodd y fenter gydweithredol. Teimlai ei bod yn well i Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr gydweithio ag awdurdodau cyfagos. At hynny, nododd fod gan Gymru gyfreithiau ac egwyddorion gwahanol i'w chymheiriaid yn Lloegr a bod angen parchu datganoli yng Nghymru.

Atgoffodd y Cadeirydd yr Aelod fod yr argymhellion yn awr i'w hystyried gan y Cabinet, a fyddai'n ymateb yn briodol pe bai'n amlwg nad oedd Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cyd-fynd â menter gydweithredol. Nododd y Cadeirydd y gallai'r Pwyllgor ofyn i'r Cabinet roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf iddynt am eu canfyddiadau pe baent yn bwrw ymlaen â'r argymhelliad. Cytunodd yr Aelod ar hyn.

Nododd Aelod fod y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol o ran ei amlder a'i gynnwys. Dangosodd y gwaith a wnaed gan y Panel yr hyn y gallai Grwpiau Gorchwyl a Gorffen ei gyflawni ac roedd yn hapus iawn â'r ffordd yr oedd wedi gweithio hyd yma ac yn dymuno iddo barhau. Roedd yn llwyr gefnogi'r argymhellion, yn enwedig Argymhelliad 1. Teimlai nad oedd cynaliadwyedd a gwerth diwylliant, hamdden a manau gwyrdd yn y dyfodol wedi'u gwerthfawrogi hyd yma ac felly'n cymeradwyo y dylid ei ychwanegu at y rhestr o flaenoriaethau allweddol a nodwyd yn adroddiad y Cabinet ar gynllunio adferiad ar 30 Mehefin 2020, er mwyn hwyluso iechyd, ymarfer corff a lles.

Dywedodd Aelod ei bod yn cefnogi Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i ddod yn Gyngor Cydweithredol a nododd ei fod yn cyd-fynd yn llawn ag agenda Llywodraeth Cymru. Cyfeiriodd at bapur gan Lywodraeth Cymru a gyhoeddwyd yn 2013 a oedd yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd mentrau cydweithredol yng Nghymru. Gwerthusodd papur ymchwil pellach a gyhoeddwyd yn 2016 y datblygiadau tai corfforaethol yng Nghymru ac roedd yn cynnwys astudiaethau achos cadarnhaol. Nododd fod llawer o gynghorau'n gweithio ochr yn ochr â llinellau cydweithredol. Teimlai'r Aelod nad oedd a wnelo bod yn rhan o fenter gydweithredol ddim â datganoli ond ei fod yn ymwneud â modelau cydweithredol sy'n eiddo i waith a democrateiddio'r economi. Y ffaith bod cynghorau mwy yn cael eu cyfrif fel cynghorau cydweithredol ar hyn o bryd oedd mai hwy oedd yr ymatebwyr cynnar a gosodwyr y cyflymder. Ni welodd yr Aelod unrhyw reswm pam na ddylai Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ymuno â nhw.

Tynnodd Aelod sylw at y ffaith na allai hi chwaith weld unrhyw reswm pam nad oedd Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, dim ond am ei fod yng Nghymru, yn bodloni unrhyw fodel

cydweithredol. Cyfeiriodd at nifer y modelau cydweithredol, er am dymor bach ac ar raddfa fach, a oedd wedi gweithredu'n llwyddiannus drwy gydol y pandemig.

Diolchodd y Prif Weithredwr i'r Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol am y ffordd effeithlon a phrydlon yr oeddent wedi llunio'r hyn a ystyriodd yn rhestr o argymhellion synhwyrol ar y cyfan. Roedd yn sicr y byddai'r Cabinet hefyd yn ei weld yn yr un ffordd. Awgrymodd y byddai'n ddefnyddiol cael rhywfaint o eglurhad a thystiolaeth ynghylch pob argymhelliad fel bod y Cabinet yn glir ar ba sail y gofynnwyd iddo ymgymryd â rhai o'r argymhellion. Yn fras, byddai'r argymhellion hyn, ynghyd â'r rhai a fyddai'n dod o'r Tasglu Economaidd, yn ffurfio rhestr o flaenoriaethau i'w datblygu ar gyfer adferiad Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Nododd Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol y cynhyrchwyd cofnodion helaeth a oedd yn cyd-fynd â'r argymhellion. Byddai'r rhain yn llunio tystiolaeth a chyd-destun pob argymhelliad. Dewisodd y Panel osod lefel benodol o gyd-destun yn unig yn yr adroddiad at ddibenion effeithlonrwydd. Cyfeiriodd at rai o'r meysydd trafod a oedd yn arbennig o hir, e.e. digartrefedd ac agenda'r Awdurdod ar fynd i'r afael â grwpiau agored i niwed. Gellid darparu'r cofnodion i'r Cabinet.

Aeth y Cadeirydd ymlaen ag Argymhellion 1 i 16 a gwahoddodd unrhyw sylwadau.

Gofynnodd y Prif Weithredwr am fwy o eglurder ar gyfer Argymhellion 11 a 12. Roedd o'r farn bod y ddau argymhelliad hyn yn enghreifftiau da o ble y byddai'r dystiolaeth/dogfennau'n ddefnyddiol er mwyn i'r Cabinet ddeall ar ba sail y gofynnwyd iddo ysgrifennu at V2C. Deallodd y pwynt cyffredinol a phe bai rhagor o gyfnodau clo, byddai Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr am ddysgu gwersi.

Cytunodd y Cadeirydd â'r uchod, gan ychwanegu bod y ffigurau a gyflwynwyd i'r Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol a gasglwyd yn y Cofnodion wedi ysgogi'r argymhelliad i ysgrifennu at V2C fel y darparwr RSL mwyaf.

Tynnodd y Prif Weithredwr sylw ymhellach at y ffaith bod y cyd-destun yn bwysig wrth geisio meithrin a chynnal perthynas â RSL mwyaf Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wrth symud ymlaen.

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd y byddai'n hapus i siarad â'r Cabinet ar y pwynt uchod ac i ddarparu unrhyw wybodaeth bellach sydd ei hangen.

Nododd Aelod y teimlid rhwystredigaeth glir, fel yr oedd yn ei deall, nad oedd V2C yn cydweithredu cystal ag y gallent, yn enwedig yn ystod Covid-19, yn gyntaf drwy roi eu staff ar ffyrlo fel nad oeddent yn gallu gwneud atgyweiriadau, ac yn ail wrth geisio cartrefu pobl mewn angen. Roedd yn ymddangos eu bod yn llai o landlord cymdeithasol ac yn fwy o landlord yn y ffordd yr oeddent yn gweithredu. Dywedodd mai dyma fu'r duedd ers tro yn anffodus, a bod angen taro gwell bargaen yn y dyfodol.

Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr ei fod yn deall pwynt yr Aelod. Esboniodd y bu nifer o gyfarfodydd cadarnhaol yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf gyda Phrif Weithredwr newydd V2C a oedd, hyd at y cam hwn, wedi bod yn barod i weithio gyda'r Awdurdod. Roedd yn gobeithio y byddai'r Cabinet yn ystyried beirniadaethau'r Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol ac yn gwneud cynnydd.

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd fod y Panel yn teimlo'n gryf am geisio datblygu gwell perthynas â V2C a chael mwy o gydweithredu o ran eu swyddogaeth a swyddogaeth a chyfrifoldebau'r Awdurdod.

Gofynnodd y Prif Weithredwr am eglurhad pellach ar Argymhelliad 14 a beth oedd y disgwyliadau.

Eglurodd Cadeirydd y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol fod Argymhelliad 14 yn ymwneud ag a fyddai'r Arweinydd o bosibl yn gwneud defnydd o swydd wag yr Aelod Cabinet. Yr argymhelliad oedd rhoi'r strategaethau ariannol priodol ar waith pe bai ail/trydedd don o Covid-19 yn digwydd.

Eglurodd Aelod ymhellach fod Argymhelliad 14 yn ymwneud â'r gwersi a ddysgwyd o reolaeth yr Awdurdod o'i gyfrifoldebau yn ystod y don gyntaf, h.y. yr hyn a wnaed yn dda a'r hyn y gellid ei wella. Gofynnodd yr argymhelliad am roi cynllun ar waith pe bai ail gyfnod clo wedi'i gyflwyno ar draws Bwrdeistref Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Roedd angen i'r cynllun fod yn gyfnewidiol a chael cydnerthedd ariannol i gefnogi'r costau sefydlu cyllid cyfalaf i gefnogi sefydliadau fel BAVO, yn ogystal â chyllideb wrth gefn i fynd â Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr drwy gyfnod clo. Roedd yr argymhelliad yn ymwneud â chynhyrchu a gweithredu cynllun clo Covid-19 pwrpasol.

PENDERFYNIAD:

Mae'r Pwyllgor:

a) Yn cymeradwyo Canfyddiadau ac Argymhellion y Panel Adfer Trawsbleidiol sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad A i'w cyflwyno i'r Cabinet ar 15 Medi 2020 fel rhan o'r broses adfer, er mwyn bwydo i mewn i adlinio Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig yr Awdurdod a'r Cynllun Corfforaethol;

b) Nodi'r camau nesaf a gynigwyd ar gyfer y Panel Adfer fel yr amlinellir ym Mharagraff 4.5 o'r adroddiad, ac yn cytuno ar waith y Panel i barhau y tu hwnt i fis Medi.

179. **PERFFORMIAD Y CYNGOR YN ERBYN EI AMCANION LLESIANT AR GYFER 2019-20**

Roedd y Cadeirydd yn pryderu bod yr adroddiad wedi'i anfon fel adroddiad gwybodaeth yn cynnwys eitemau statws coch, a byddai wedi bod yn fuddiol gofyn cwestiynau ar yr eitemau hynny. Ymddiheurodd am nad oedd swyddog yn bresennol. Gofynnodd a oedd unrhyw sylwadau ar yr adroddiad.

Awgrymodd y Prif Weithredwr, fel eitem Pwyllgor wrth symud ymlaen, y dylai Cyfarwyddwyr fod yn bresennol i roi trosolwg o'u hardal ac i fynd drwy eitemau statws coch ac ambr. Ei farn bersonol ef oedd y byddai hyn yn creu craffu cryfach a mwy o gyfle i Aelodau gymryd rhan ac i ddeall y rhesymau pam nad oedd targedau wedi'u cyrraedd neu, mewn rhai achosion, y rhagorwyd arnynt. Nododd y Prif Weithredwr, gyda chaniatâd y Cadeirydd, pe bai hwn yn argymhelliad yr oedd yr Aelodau'n dymuno'i wneud, y gallai'r Cyfarwyddwyr a'r Prif Weithredwr fynychu'r Pwyllgor yn flynyddol er mwyn ateb y cwestiynau manwl.

Diolchodd y Cadeirydd i'r Prif Weithredwr. Dywedodd y dylai fod cyfle i Aelodau'r Pwyllgor ofyn cwestiynau i'r Cyfarwyddwyr/cynrychiolydd mwyaf priodol i egluro beth oedd yn cael ei wneud a pha dargedau oedd yn cael eu cyrraedd. Roedd angen mwy o graffu ar eitemau statws coch, a heb ofyn cwestiynau nid oedd craffu'n cael ei wneud fel y dylai. Nid oedd angen eglurhad pellach o eitemau statws gwyrdd, h.y. lle'r oedd targedau'n cael eu cyrraedd.

Dywedodd yr Aelodau y byddent am i'r Cyfarwyddwyr/cynrychiolydd mwyaf priodol ateb cwestiynau ar eitemau adrodd nad oeddent yn symud ymlaen yn y dyfodol. Cytunodd y Prif Weithredwr i ddatblygu hyn.

PENDERFYNIAD: Nododd y Pwyllgor yr adroddiad perfformiad, a chytunodd y dylai Cyfarwyddwyr/y person mwyaf priodol fod yn bresennol i ateb cwestiynau am y meysydd hynny nad oeddent yn cyflawni mewn adroddiadau perfformiad yn y dyfodol.

180. EITEMAU BRYD

Dim.

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

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

BUDGET MONITORING 2020-21 – QUARTER 2 REVENUE FORECAST

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the committee with an update on the Council's revenue financial position as at 30th September 2020, and virements between £100,000 and £500,000 as required by the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

2.0 Connections to corporate wellbeing 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 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 focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of 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** – ensuring 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 deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

2.2 The allocation of budget determines the extent to which the Council's well-being objectives can be delivered.

3.0 Background

3.1 On 26th February 2020, Council approved a net revenue budget of £286.885 million for 2020-21. As part of the Performance Management Framework, budget projections are reviewed regularly and reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis. The delivery of agreed budget reductions is also kept under review and reported to Cabinet as part of this process.

4.0 Current situation / proposal

4.1 Summary financial position at 30th September 2020

4.1.1 The Council's net revenue budget and projected outturn for 2020-21 is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1- Comparison of budget against projected outturn at 30th September 2020

Directorate/Budget Area	Original Budget 2020-21 £'000	Revised Budget 2020-21 £'000	Projected Outturn Q2 2020-21 £'000	Projected Over / (Under) Spend 2020-21 £'000	Projected Over / (Under) Spend Qtr 1 2020-21 £'000
Directorate					
Education and Family Support	120,931	120,968	122,462	1,494	1,992
Social Services and Wellbeing	70,894	72,111	72,531	420	1,182
Communities	27,790	27,810	28,266	456	(1,048)
Chief Executive's	18,228	18,228	19,346	1,118	677
Total Directorate Budgets	237,843	239,117	242,605	3,488	2,803
Council Wide Budgets					
Capital Financing	7,329	7,329	7,129	(200)	0
Levies	7,459	7,460	7,471	11	11
Apprenticeship Levy	650	650	636	(14)	(14)
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	15,254	15,254	15,255	1	317
Insurance Premiums	1,438	1,438	1,387	(51)	(66)
Repairs & Maintenance	870	790	790	0	0
Pension Related Costs	430	430	430	0	0
Other Corporate Budgets	15,612	13,917	10,651	(3,266)	0
Total Council Wide Budgets	49,042	47,268	43,749	(3,519)	248
Earmarked Reserves	0	500	500	0	0
Total	286,885	286,885	286,854	(31)	3,051

4.1.2 The overall projected position at 30th September 2020 is a net under spend of £31,000, comprising £3.488 million net over spend on directorates and a £3.519 million net under spend on corporate budgets. The projected position is based on:-

- Inclusion of reimbursed expenditure/loss of income to date on areas impacted by COVID-19 received from Welsh Government (WG).
- Exclusion of COVID-19 expenditure/loss of income claims that are currently being reviewed by WG at the time of writing this report.
- Exclusion of COVID-19 expenditure/loss of income claims that have not yet been submitted as they relate to quarters 3 and 4 of 2020-21.

A detailed analysis of the more significant projected under and over spends is set out in section 4.3.

COVID-19

- 4.1.3 The UK was put into lockdown on 23rd March 2020 in an unprecedented step to attempt to limit the spread of coronavirus. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has had an inevitable impact on the Council's financial position in a number of ways:

Additional cost pressures	Some have been one-off and some recurrent. The majority of one-off cost pressures have been submitted for funding to the WG Hardship Fund, e.g. PPE, ICT, voids etc. It is unlikely that recurrent pressures will be met in the medium term.
Lost income	Again, some have been one-off losses, others will be deferred losses (e.g. potentially planning income), and others could be permanent recurrent losses. Claims have been submitted to WG covering loss of income for Quarter 1. Main areas claimed were car parking and school meals.
2020-21 MTFS savings not met	Total MTFS savings for the year of £2.413m which may not be achieved (e.g. staffing restructures, remodelling of services, income generation) or which may be achieved fortuitously due to circumstances, but will require decisions going forward on whether or not to proceed or revisit.
Unanticipated savings	For areas where service provision has reduced or stopped and subsequent savings have been made e.g. home to school transport, premises and fuel.
Council Tax	There is likely to be a shortfall in council tax collection, especially given the delay in starting recovery, and an increase in council tax benefits.

- 4.1.4 As reported to Cabinet on 30th June 2020, a COVID Earmarked Reserve of £3 million was created at the end of 2019-20. Also on 30th June Cabinet agreed a proposed approach to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic to allow the council to re-start, recover and renew its service provision. A Recovery Panel to help shape, inform and advise Cabinet on the Council's recovery planning has been established. Phase 1 findings were reported to Cabinet on 15th September 2020.
- 4.1.5 Cabinet and Corporate Management Board (CCMB) agreed to establish a COVID-19 Recovery Fund for 2020-21 on a 'one off' basis to provide funding for conscious and proactive decisions aimed at boosting recovery that were unlikely to be paid for by WG, with £500,000 being utilised from the 2020-21 Public Realm fund (see section 4.3.3) and a further £500,000 being ring-fenced from the COVID Earmarked Reserve to create a fund of £1 million.

Estimated costs of the Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

- 4.1.6 In response to the pandemic, the Council, alongside other organisations, has providing direct support to its community / residents in a number of ways. Welsh Government has provided specific eligibility criteria for each of its funding streams, and all directorates have been made aware of them, and are capturing costs

accordingly. Any COVID-19 costs which are not identified and claimed will need to be funded from the normal service budgets. Claims submitted to WG covering expenditure to August 2020, and the outcome of these claims are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – COVID-19 expenditure claims up to August 2020

Specific Hardship Fund	Claimed	Paid	On hold	Disallowed
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General	1,435	880	24	531
Homelessness	743	743	0	0
Free School Meals	1,328	605	617	106
Schools (including HUB costs)	609	546	33	30
Adult Social Services	2,230	2,194	17	18
Total	6,345	4,969	691	685

- 4.1.7 The majority of the disallowed expenditure (£461,000) relates to ICT costs incurred by the Council primarily to establish home working arrangements. The WG hardship panel agreed that these costs may be additional and not within the council's financial plans, however they also felt that having such assets in place provides longer term benefits to local authorities. A contribution of 50% was therefore agreed with the majority of the balance being funded from the annual ICT Capital budget. The majority of the £106,000 disallowed expenditure under the Free School Meals category relates to the delivery costs of the food parcels which took the cost of the provision over the funding threshold set by Welsh Government.
- 4.1.8 The majority of the £691,000 of claims that have been placed on hold relates to Free School Meal claims. A separate panel meets to determine the Free School Meal claims and at the time of writing this report, the outcome of the claims for July and August are not known. As there is no certainty at the time of writing this report in relation to the outcome of the items placed on hold, the reimbursement of costs has not been assumed in the quarter 2 projections (see 4.3.1).
- 4.1.9 The Council has also submitted claims for loss of income to the Welsh Government for the first quarter of 2020-21 totalling £2.507 million as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 – COVID-19 loss of income for Quarter 1 2020-21

Directorate	Claimed (covers to end of Qtr 1)	Paid	Delayed (50% paid)	On hold	Disallowed	Main areas
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Education and Family Support Directorate	1,253	1,047	0	205	0	£1.047m - School meal income, £205K - recoupment income
Schools	188	188	0	0	0	£90K - school meal income, £98K - loss of income from hire of school premises
Social Services & Wellbeing Directorate	314	184	0	130	0	£154K – contribution to Council’s leisure service provider, £130K - Residential and non-residential client contribution income
Communities Directorate	600	577	1	22	0	£210K - Car Park Income, £160K - rental income from properties due to 3 month rent holiday, £53K – civil enforcement income, £72K Green/Bulky/Trade waste income
Chief Executive's Directorate	152	9	29	41	74	£117K – legal, democratic and regulatory services, £29K - registration fees
Total	2,507	2,005	30	398	74	

4.1.10 £2.005 million has been approved. £30,000 has been received as a 50% contribution towards some services areas as WG predict that income might catch up in these areas by 31st March 2021. £398,000 is currently on hold whilst we provide further evidence to WG (mostly £160,000 special school recoupment income and £130,000 for residential care home voids). The quarter 2 projections have excluded the ‘delayed’ or ‘on hold’ loss of income categories as there is no certainty at the time of writing this report in relation to the outcome of these claims. £74,000 has been disallowed – this mainly relates to court cost income that WG have indicated is related to Council Tax income and not eligible from the hardship fund (See 4.3.4).

4.1.11 Cabinet has also committed £306,000 from the COVID Recovery fund to support the free car parking offer for Town Centres, a phased rental income increase for its own premises, waived sports fees for the current season and wider economic resilience schemes. These have been built into the quarter 2 projections.

4.1.12 In addition to lost income from service provision, the Council is also likely to see a reduction in council tax income over the 2020-21 financial year as more people have suffered financial hardship through the pandemic. A number of measures were put in place to support those facing difficulty in paying their council tax, but it is estimated that there is still likely to be a lower collection rate than normal. A 1% reduction in the council tax income collection rate could result in an

additional pressure to the Council of around £1 million. Given the range of measures put in place to support council tax payers, it is too early to provide a realistic indication of projected council tax for this financial year, but it will be monitored continuously throughout the year and reported accordingly. Whilst no funding has been identified by WG for reduced council tax income, WG are monitoring this across all Welsh Local Authorities.

- 4.1.13 Alongside this, the impact of a significant increase in claims for universal credit is manifesting itself in an increase in eligibility for council tax reduction support, and the additional cost of this could be between £500,000 to £1 million over the 2020-21 financial year. Funding has been received from WG for the first quarter of 2020-21 (£133,000) and there is ongoing commitment from WG to support this area. However, it is difficult to predict the full year impact as we have yet to see the impact of the end of the furlough scheme/newly unemployed and a likely increase in the number of benefits claimants, but the cost will at least be partly mitigated.

Budget virements/technical adjustments

- 4.1.14 There have been a number of budget virements and technical adjustments between budgets since the MTFS was approved by Council in February 2020. The budget position is reported on the assumption that these virements will be approved. The main virements and technical adjustments are outlined below:

Budget Virements

Service vired from / to	Amount
One-off contribution from Public Realm Fund (Communities Directorate) to fund in-year COVID-19 Recovery Fund (see paragraph 4.1.5).	£500,000
One-off contribution from Corporate Contingency to fund the shortfall on the Home to School Transport savings within the Education and Family Support Directorate (see paragraph 4.1.22)	£344,000

Technical Adjustments

Service vired from / to	Amount
Transfer of inflationary uplifts not confirmed when the MTFS is agreed that are held centrally until evidence of the uplift is provided by the service areas	£281,305
Transfer of National Living Wage uplifts on commissioned contracts within Social Services and Wellbeing. This was an agreed Budget Pressure when the MTFS was approved but had been held centrally until evidence of the uplift was provided by the service areas.	£1,037,157
Transfer of Real Living Wage uplifts to School Budgets that were held centrally until evidence of the uplift was provided.	£75,541
Transfer of prudential borrowing from centrally held funding to corporate landlord – borrowing costs for buildings managed by the corporate landlord service.	£80,000

Pay/Price Inflation

- 4.1.15 When the budget for 2020-21 was set, directorates were provided with funding for known pay and price inflation. The remaining provision was retained centrally within Council wide budgets, to be allocated as further information was known about specific contractual price increases e.g. for energy. The technical adjustments table above presents the start of the release of these budgets as and when evidence is provided by the service areas.
- 4.1.16 Inflationary pressures include those 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 the recent implementation of the real living wage by the Council, but also the recently agreed pay award of 2.75% for National Joint Council (NJC) workers. An estimated £2.6 million is due to be transferred shortly from centrally held budgets to individual directorates/schools to reflect the uplift required for the NJC award.
- 4.1.17 In addition, consultation has recently ended on the teachers' pay award and the estimated impact of the outcome of this is a further £1.2 million transfer from centrally held budgets to schools.
- 4.1.18 The specific amounts transferred for the NJC award and teachers' pay award will be reported in the Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast to Cabinet in January 2021.
- 4.1.19 Inflation rates have fluctuated since the budget was set (CPI was 1.7% in February 2020 and had reduced to 0.2% by August 2020). With the uncertainty around Brexit and COVID-19, and the possible economic fallout arising from these, the budget will need to be monitored closely during the remainder of the year.

Budget Reduction Proposals

- 4.1.20 The net budget for the financial year has been set assuming full implementation of the current year budget reduction requirements across the Council's budget, which amount to £2.413 million. Where proposals to meet this requirement have been delayed or are not achievable directorates have been tasked with identifying alternative proposals to meet their requirements such as vacancy management, or bringing forward alternative budget reduction proposals.
- 4.1.21 In February 2020 Council approved the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020-21 to 2023-24. This identified the need to develop recurrent budget reduction proposals, based on the most likely scenario, amounting to £29.293 million over the next four years. Against that background it is essential that expenditure is kept within the overall approved budget and that longer term proposals continue to be developed so that the Council has as much flexibility as possible to meet the challenges which lie ahead.
- 4.1.22 On 15th September 2020 Cabinet considered the outcome of the consultation exercise regarding proposed changes to the local authority's Learner Travel Policy. It was resolved to defer the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learner Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government

in March 2021. For 2020-21 the overall shortfall of £344,000 on the Home to School Transport savings will need to be funded from the Council's contingency budget. For future financial years the Education and Family Support Directorate will be required to submit a budget pressure as part of the 2021-22 MTFs process to cover this shortfall along with the additional pressure on the Home to School Transport budget as set out in section 4.3.1.

4.1.23 At year end consideration will be given to requests from directors to carry forward any planned directorate under spends for specific purposes into the following year, in line with the Council's Reserves and Balances Protocol, as long as these can be met from within the Council's cash limited budget for 2020-21. This is in line with the reports to Cabinet and Council on the MTFs, and the Council's Financial Procedure Rules. Similarly, consideration will be given to any budget over spends to determine how these will be funded, including whether or not they can be met from the Covid earmarked reserve, or whether these should be carried forward as a first call on the directorate budget for the following year. Finally, outstanding prudential borrowing will be repaid, where possible, to reduce future capital financing charges. However, a decision will not be made until towards the end of the financial year when the overall outturn position is more definite.

4.2 Monitoring of Budget Reduction Proposals

Prior Year Budget Reductions

4.2.1 A report was presented to Cabinet on 30th June 2020 on Revenue Budget Outturn 2019-20. In the report it was highlighted that, for 2017-18 to 2018-19, there were £2.342 million of budget reduction proposals that were not met in full, with a total outstanding balance to be met of £459,000. In addition, of the 2019-20 budget reduction proposals of £7.621 million, it was reported that there was a total outstanding balance to be met of £806,000. Directors have been asked to identify if any of these proposals are still not likely to be achieved in full during the 2020-21 financial year, and to identify mitigating actions that will be undertaken to achieve them. A summary of the latest position is attached as Appendix 1 with a summary per directorate provided in Table 4.

Table 4 – Outstanding Prior Year Budget Reductions

	Total Budget Reductions Required	Total Budget Reductions Likely to be Achieved	Shortfall
DIRECTORATE /BUDGET REDUCTION AREA	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education and Family Support	269	0	269
Social Services and Wellbeing	452	452	0
Communities	1,750	1,310	440
Chief Executive's	30	30	0
TOTAL	2,501	1,792	709

4.2.2 Table 4 shows that of the £2.501 million outstanding prior year reductions, £1.792 million is likely to be achieved in 2020-21 leaving a shortfall of £709,000. Proposals still not likely to be achieved include:

- Learner Transport Policy and Transport Route efficiencies (£194,000) and Review of Special Schools Home to School Transport (£75,000). As noted in paragraph 4.1.22, the shortfall will need to be funded from the Council's contingency budget in 2020-21.
- Permitting Scheme for Road Works (£100,000) due to delays in approval process with Welsh Government.
- Reductions to the budget for the MREC (£1.3 million). As reported to Cabinet on 21st July 2020 the shortfall will be funded from the Council's contingency budget in 2020-21, and for future years the Communities Directorate will be required to submit a budget pressure request as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.

4.2.3 As outlined in the MTFS reports to Cabinet and Council, MTFS Principle 7 states that *"Savings proposals are fully developed and include realistic delivery timescales prior to inclusion in the annual budget. An MTFS Budget Reduction Contingency Reserve will be maintained to mitigate against unforeseen delays"*. An MTFS Budget Reduction Contingency reserve was established in 2016-17. This reserve has been used to meet specific budget reduction proposals in previous years on a one-off basis pending alternative measures. During the financial year, the Section 151 Officer will consider applications from Directorates to the MTFS Budget Reduction Contingency reserve to mitigate some of the shortfalls.

Budget Reductions 2020-21

4.2.4 The budget approved for 2020-21 included budget reduction proposals totalling £2.413 million, which is broken down in Appendix 2 and summarised in Table 5 below. The current position is a projected shortfall on the savings target of £451,000, or 18.6% of the overall reduction target.

Table 5 – Monitoring of Budget Reductions 2020-21

	Total Budget Reductions Required	Total Budget Reductions Likely to be Achieved	Shortfall
DIRECTORATE /BUDGET REDUCTION AREA	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education and Family Support	239	139	100
Schools	0	0	0
Social Services and Wellbeing	820	537	283
Communities	646	578	68
Chief Executive's	508	508	0
Council Wide Budgets	200	200	0
TOTAL	2,413	1,962	451

- 4.2.5 The most significant budget reduction proposals unlikely to be achieved in full include:
- EFS1 - Phased Implementation of Learner Transport Policy (£75,000). As noted in paragraph 4.1.22, the shortfall will be funded from the Council's contingency budget in 2020-21.
 - SSW20 – Further savings from leisure centres and swimming pools (£70,000)
 - SSW27 – Increase income generation from mobile response and telecare charging (£75,000)
 - SSW29 – Further review of staffing structures across Adults' and Children's Services (£175,000)
- 4.2.6 Appendix 2 identifies the projected amount of saving against these proposals in detail and action to be taken by the directorate to mitigate the shortfall. Directors continue to work with their staff to deliver their proposals or alternatives and this is reflected in the forecast outturn for the year. During the financial year the Section 151 Officer will also consider applications from directorates to the MTFs Budget Reduction Contingency reserve to mitigate some of the shortfalls.
- 4.2.7 In the longer term, these proposals must be realised or must be met through alternative budget reduction proposals in order to deliver a balanced budget position. These will continue to be closely monitored and further draw down from the MTFs Budget Reduction Contingency reserve will be made as part of the overall review of earmarked reserves during quarter 3.

4.3 Commentary on the financial position at 30th September 2020

Financial position at 30th September 2020

A summary of the financial position for each main service area is attached as Appendix 3 to this report and comments on the most significant variances are provided below. The main impact of COVID-19 on the budget, if we assumed that no further funding was forthcoming from WG, is summarised in Table 6 below. This outlines the areas where there would be over spends as a result of the pandemic, alongside areas where we would make savings from reduced provision of services. If funding was received for all our additional cost pressures, the net position could improve by £2.7 million:-

Table 6 – Net impact of COVID-19 on the financial position at 30th September 2020

Directorate	Covid Related Over spends £'000	Covid Related Under spends £'000	Net Over spend £'000	Comments
Education and Family Support	1,020	-337	683	Net loss on the provision of school meals and shortfall in special school recoupment income, offset by reduced payments to bus contractors.
Social Services and Wellbeing	170	0	170	Level of voids in Local Authority Residential Care Settings.
Communities	125	-262	(137)	Reduced income from car parks and civil parking enforcement, and costs of providing rent free holidays, offset by net reduction in seasonal staff costs for parks and playing fields.
Chief Executive's	1,442	0	1,442	Additional costs of facilities for homeless plus lower income from registrars, licensing and public health.
Total	2,757	-599	2,158	

4.3.1 Education and Family Support Directorate

The net budget for the Directorate for 2020-21 is £120.968 million. Current projections indicate an over spend of £1.494 million at year end. COVID-19 expenditure and loss of income included in this projection amount to £1.020 million - if these were to be successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an over spend of £474,000. The main variances are:

EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT DIRECTORATE	Net Budget	Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance	Over/ (under) specifically COVID-19 related
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Inclusion	2,314	2,832	518	22.4%	160
Home to School Transport	5,509	5,948	439	7.97%	(337)
Catering Services	896	1756	860	96.0%	860
Integrated Working and Family Support	1,472	1,378	(94)	-6.4%	-
Health & Safety	379	313	(66)	-17.4%	-
Youth Justice Service	350	300	(50)	-14.3%	-

Schools' Delegated Budgets

Total funding delegated to schools in 2020-21 is £99.686 million.

The schools' delegated budget is reported as balanced as any under or over spend is automatically carried forward into the new financial year before being considered by the Corporate Director - Education and Family Support in line with the 'Guidance and Procedures on Managing Surplus School Balances'.

At the start of 2020-21, projections indicated an overall deficit balance for school delegated budgets of £1.146 million at year end. At quarter 2 this has improved to a projected deficit of £848,700. There are 25 primary schools, 4 secondary schools and 1 special school (51% of all schools) projecting a deficit balance at year end.

Central Education and Family Support Budgets

Inclusion

- There is a projected over spend of £518,000 for Inclusion which primarily relates to the shortfall in recoupment income for other Local Authority (LA) placements at Heronsbridge School and Ysgol Bryn Castell. £160,000 has been included in our claim to WG for 'loss of income' for the first quarter of 2020-21 which is currently on hold, hence the income has not been included in the above projection. If the claim is successful the projected over spend will reduce accordingly. The balance of the projected over spend is due to a reduction in the number of other LA pupils in Bridgend schools from 20 in the summer term 2020 compared with 13 currently projected for the Autumn term. It should be noted that some places can result in income in excess of £100,000.

Home to School Transport (HTST)

- There is a projected over spend on Home to School Transport of £439,000 in 2020-21. Whilst the schools were closed for the majority of the first quarter of 2020-21 due to COVID-19, the Minister for Economy, Transport and North

Wales recommended that local authorities continue to pay a minimum of 75% of the contract value for school and other contracted local passenger services in order for them to remain viable whilst longer-term measures were developed. It is estimated that £337,000 was saved during this period. However, at quarter 2 the projections still indicate a projected overspend of £439,000 illustrating the significant ongoing pressure on the Home to School Transport budget.

- In September 2015, Cabinet agreed changes to the local authority's Home to School/College Transport Policy in order to meet MTFS savings identified from 2016-17 to 2019-20. The policy change was implemented in September 2016 and Cabinet resolved to protect the entitlement of all pupils currently benefitting from home to school transport at the former distances until they moved schools or moved from one phase of education to another. Furthermore protection was provided for siblings of children already in receipt at the former distances, where they too would benefit from free transport at the same distance. Parents who were aggrieved that their child was at detriment in comparison with their peers challenged the safety of walked routes to schools. Therefore, the local authority agreed in August 2017 to progress the formal assessments of walking routes to schools. It was then proposed to seek the views of the public on a number of policy proposals, not least the implementation of available walked route assessments. In July 2019, Cabinet agreed to undertake a full 12-week public consultation on a new set of proposals that would provide sufficient savings to support the MTFS.
- On 15 September 2020 Cabinet were updated on the outcomes of the consultation exercise and resolved to defer the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learner Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government in March 2021. It is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by Welsh Government will follow until 2022 at the earliest and therefore even if the statutory distances reduce as a result of this review, the RSG would unlikely reflect this until 2022-23 at the earliest. In the meantime there are ongoing historic pressures associated with budget reductions that have not been supported by a policy change of £269,000 and an in year MTFS savings target of £75,000 which remains undeliverable. As noted in paragraph 4.1.22, for 2020-21 the overall shortfall of £344,000 on the HTST savings will be funded from the Council's contingency budget.
- By combining the £337,000 in-year saving, the £344,000 funding from the Council's contingency budget and the projected overspend of £439,000, the underlying budget pressure on the HTST budget amounts to £1.120 million.

Catering Services

- The projected over spend of £860,000 has primarily arisen as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The projection includes the claim for provision of free school meals (FSM) of £617,000 that is currently on-hold by WG until further supporting evidence is received and therefore not included in our projections (see Table 2).
- The remaining over spend relates to an early projection on a reduction in forecast levels of school meal income due to reduced take up of schools meals since the return to school in September. It is anticipated that claims for shortfalls in school meal income will be included in our future claims to WG, however the income is not assumed in our current projections. The impact of reduced take up will require close monitoring for the remainder of 2020-21.

Integrated Working and Family Support

- The projected under spend of £94,000 relates primarily to staff vacancies within the service and maximising grant income. The vacant posts are expected to be filled during the year and this is built into the current projection.

Health & Safety

- The projected under spend of £66,000 relates to staff vacancies within the service. The vacant posts are expected to be filled during the year and this is built into the current projection.

Youth Justice Service

- There is a projected under spend of £50,000 within the Youth Offending Service. This is primarily due to current staff vacancies within the service. A planned re-structure this calendar year will result in the full budget being committed moving forward.

4.3.2 Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate

The Directorate's net budget for 2020-21 is £72.111 million. Current projections indicate an over spend of £420,000 at year end. Loss of income included in this projection amounts to £170,000 – if these were successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an over spend of £250,000. The main variances are:

SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING DIRECTORATE	Net Budget	Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance	Over/ (under) specifically COVID-19 related
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Adult Social Care	47,977	48,499	522	1.1%	170
Prevention and Wellbeing	5,180	5,151	(29)	-0.6%	-
Childrens Social Care	18,954	18,881	(73)	-0.4%	-

Adult Social Care

There is a projected over spend of £522,000 on the Adult Social Care budget. The main areas contributing to this over spend are:-

- Residential Care – there is projected over spend of £530,000 due to increased placement costs and reduction in personal contributions. £130,000 has been included in the claim to WG for 'loss of income' for the first quarter of 2020-21, and a further £40,000 is estimated for the quarter 2 claim.
- Care at Home for Older People – this includes domiciliary care services, local authority homecare services and the provision of direct payments. The under spend of £271,000 is a combination of an over spend on the Direct Payments budget (£227,000) due to an increase in the number of cases, offset by an under spend on the homecare budget primarily due to staffing vacancies and delays implementing a reorganisation due to Covid-19.
- Physical Disability/Sensory Impairment - there is a projected under spend of £108,000 which due to a combination of an under spend on the Residential Care budget (£146,000) due to increases in client contributions and a reduction

in placements, and an under spend due to staff vacancies on Assessment & Care Management (£30,000), offsetting an over spend on Care at Home (£76,000) - mainly due to an increase in Direct Payment costs.

- Mental Health – there is a projected over spend of £251,000. This is mainly due to increased homecare costs due to additional placements relating to independent domiciliary care and high cost supported living placements.
- Management and Central Services – there is a projected over spend of £107,000 primarily due to the delay in the implementation of the staffing MTFs proposal linked to staffing structures across Adults' and Children's services.

Prevention and Wellbeing

- The projected outturn for Prevention and Wellbeing has improved from quarter 1, from an over spend of £982,000 to an under spend of £29,000. The Council has received WG funding to compensate for the quarter 1 loss of income (£153,000), however there is deficit for the remainder of 2020-21 due to COVID-19. If no further funding is received from WG towards the net loss of running the leisure services for the remainder of 2020-2, a contribution will be made from the Public Realm budget within the Communities Directorate towards this (see section 4.3.3). At quarter 1, the full net loss for running the leisure services was included within the Social Services and Wellbeing projections.

Childrens Social Care

There is a projected net under spend of £73,000 on Children's Social Care. The main areas contributing to this under spend are:-

- The Looked After Children (LAC) budget is projected to over spend by £79,000. Average LAC numbers were 376 in 2018-19, 384 in 2019-20 and are currently 395. However, the average number of children in independent residential placements has reduced from an average of 9 placements in 2019-20 to 5 at quarter 2. Some individual placements can cost around £300,000 per annum, therefore the reduction in numbers has seen a positive impact on the projected year end position. Number can fluctuate month to month so will require close ongoing monitoring for the remainder of the financial year.
- Family Support Services is projected to over spend by £131,000 primarily due to the increased demand for Direct Payments (DP). There are currently 112 Direct Payment clients compared with 114 at the end of 2019-20 however the projected overspend is primarily because of increased costs due to complexity of cases.
- The above over spends have been offset by a projected under spend of £220,000 on staffing vacancies within Commissioning and Social work due to a challenging recruitment environment and maximising grant income to offset staffing costs.

4.3.3 Communities Directorate

The net budget for the Directorate for 2020-21 is £27.810 million. The current projection is an anticipated over spend of £456,000. Loss of income included in this projection amounts to £125,000 - if this were successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an under spend of £331,000. The main variances are:

COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE	Net Budget	Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance	Over/ (under) specifically COVID-19 related
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Parks & Open Spaces	2,228	1,966	(262)	-11.8%	(262)
Parking Services	-296	2	298	-100.7%	50
Corporate Landlord	2,863	3,352	489	17.1%	75

Parks and Open Spaces

- There is a projected under spend of £262,000 on the parks and open spaces budget. This is primarily due to a reduction in the use of seasonal staff due directly to COVID-19.

Parking Services

- There is a projected over spend on the parking services budget of £298,000. This is an improved position compared with the projection at quarter 1 of £355,000, due to the successful claims from WG for 'loss of income' for the first quarter of 2020-21 (Table 3) and funding confirmed from the COVID recovery fund as noted in 4.1.11. However, the shortfall still appears to be significant as it was hoped that by quarter 2 more staff would have returned to work in council offices and lockdown would have been completely lifted encouraging more footfall in the town centres. The ongoing restrictions have placed additional pressures in this service area. There are also reduced levels of civil enforcement income.

Corporate Landlord

- There is a projected over spend on the corporate landlord budget of £489,000. Again, this is despite successful claims to Welsh Government of £160,000 (Table 3) and support from the COVID Recovery Fund towards rental holidays (See 4.1.11). It is anticipated that a further £75,000 will be claimed from WG but this has not been built into the projections.
- There are other shortfalls in income generated from properties run by the Council that are not necessarily COVID-19 related, but relate to occupancy shortfall. These include:-
 - Science Park £28,000
 - Watersports Centre £15,000
 - Bridgend Market £60,000
 - Maesteg Market £24,000
 - Village Farm £28,000

- The balance of the shortfall in Corporate Landlord is primarily due to a reduction in productivity levels in the Facilities Management team in the first quarter of 2020-21, due to social distancing requirements in the workplace, and staff being re-deployed to support COVID-19 related activities – e.g. supporting FSM deliveries.

Public Realm Infrastructure

- Council approved a £2 million public realm budget pressure for 2020-21 as part of the MTFs in February 2020. At quarter 1 there was a projected under spend of £1.716 million against this budget heading. As reported in para 4.1.5 CCMB agreed to establish a COVID-19 Recovery Panel with £500,000 being utilised as a one-off from the Public Realm fund. In addition, unless further funding is received from WG towards the net loss of running the leisure services due to COVID-19, the Public Realm budget will be used to contribute towards this. CCMB have also approved a list of schemes to be funded from this budget in 2020-21, hence a break even position is projected at quarter 2.

4.3.4 Chief Executive's

The net budget for the Directorate for 2020-21 is £18.228 million. Current projections anticipate an over spend against this budget of £1.118 million. COVID expenditure and loss of income included in this projection amount to £1.442 million - if these were to be successfully claimed from WG then the projection would improve to an under spend of £324,000. The main variances are:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S	Net Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget £'000	% Variance	Over/ (under) specifically COVID-19 related £'000
Housing & Homelessness	1,126	2,316	1,190	105.7%	1,225
Finance	3,579	3,575	(4)	-0.1%	192
HR and Organisational Development	1,790	1,614	(176)	-9.8%	-
ICT	3,316	3,461	145	4.4%	-
Legal, Democratic & Regulatory	4,867	4,991	124	2.5%	217
Customer Services & Engagement	1,585	1,430	(155)	-9.8%	-

Housing & Homelessness

- The projected over spend of £1.190 million on Housing & Homelessness is primarily due to the additional costs due to COVID-19 – e.g. provision of facilities to isolate homeless individuals (B&B, hotels etc) and provision of essential supplies. As shown in Table 2, £743,000 has been successfully claimed for COVID-19 homelessness costs incurred to August 2020. The current projection does not include the value of future claims to WG to cover COVID-19 costs for the remainder of 2020-21. The final claim is estimated to be an additional £1.225 million and if the claims are successful, the projections would improve by this amount.

Finance

- Whilst there is only a projected under spend of £4,000 on Finance, included in this projection is a shortfall of £192,000 relating to court cost income. As noted in paragraph 4.1.10, WG have indicated this shortfall is related to the impact on Council Tax income and not eligible to be claimed from the hardship fund. The shortfall has been offset by staffing vacancies across Finance and Housing Benefits.

HR and Organisational Development

- There is a projected under spend of £176,000. This primarily relates to staffing vacancies (£115,000) which HR are actively recruiting to fill, or have already filled. In addition, whilst Council approved a £200,000 Council Wide Apprenticeship Programme budget pressure for 2020-21 as part of the MTFs in February 2020, the pandemic has impacted on the ability to appoint to the apprenticeship posts resulting in a projected £57,000 under spend.

ICT

- The projected over spend of £145,000 is primarily due to a shortfall in re-charge income due to reduced ICT day to day activities, such as printing, as there are more staff working from home as a result of the pandemic whilst the fixed costs remain the same – e.g long term lease costs.

Legal, Democratic & Regulatory

- There is a projected over spend of £124,000. This is primarily due to lower than forecast levels of income received for registrars, land charges, licencing fees and public health fees - £217,000. £68,000 has been included in our claim to WG for 'loss of income' for the first quarter of 2020-21 and is currently on hold so has not been included in the quarter 2 projections. The balance for anticipated loss of income (£149,000) for the remaining quarters of 2020-21 will be included in our future claims to WG. These shortfalls in income have been offset by staff vacancies.

Customer Services & Engagement

- The projected under spend of £155,000 is predominantly in customer services and is due to staff vacancies, changes in staffing hours, staff opting out of pension and annual leave purchases. Various recruitment activities have been actioned in order to fill vacant posts but appointments have been affected by COVID-19.

4.3.5 Council Wide budgets

This section includes budgets, provisions and services which are council wide, and not managed by an individual directorate. The budget for 2020-21 is £47.268 million. The projected outturn is £43.749 million, resulting in a projected under spend of £3.519 million. The main variances are detailed below:

COUNCIL WIDE BUDGETS	Net Budget	Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance	Over/ (under) specifically COVID -19 related
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Capital Financing	7,329	7,129	(200)	-2.73%	-
Other Corporate Budgets	13,917	10,651	(3,266)	-23.5%	-

Capital Financing

- There is a projected under spend of £200,000 on interest paid/received due to a combination of lower borrowing than anticipated as the Council uses its own internal resources to finance schemes, and additional interest from current investments.

Other Corporate Budgets

- Other corporate budgets includes funding for pay, price and pensions increases along with funding to deal with unexpected costs unforeseen when the budget was set. When the MTFS was approved in February 2020, the pay increases for NJC employees and teacher had not been finalised, but a claim for NJC staff had been submitted for an increase of 10% and whilst provision was made in the budget based on previous years' increases, an element of contingency was built in given that. Even a variance of 1% on the pay settlement for NJC staff alone can result in a swing of required funding of over £1 million per annum.
- In addition, inflation rates have fluctuated since the budget was set (CPI was 1.7% in February 2020 and had reduced to 0.2% by August 2020). The majority of the budget estimated for price inflation is retained centrally within Council wide budgets and allocated to directorates/schools as further information is known about specific contractual price increases e.g. for energy. Therefore, part of the under spend relates to the movement on inflation rates since budget setting, and the reduced requirement to allocate budget to service areas in-year.
- It is anticipated that when the detailed review of earmarked reserves is undertaken in the next quarter, that £700,000 of this under spend will be utilised to establish an earmarked reserve to meet the one-off pressures that have been identified for the 2021-22 financial year. In addition, based on the latest information available and the level of increase in recently agreed pay awards and the national living wage, it is likely that the provision currently set aside in the MTFS for 2021-22 will need to be supplemented by any funding not committed from the Council wide budgets this financial year.
- The decision to utilise the Corporate contingency reserve to fund the HTST and MREC budget pressures on a one-off basis has resulted in this budget being fully allocated for 2020-21 financial year.
- Given the uncertainty of Brexit and Covid-19 at this point in the financial year, it is prudent to assume that all other Council wide budgets will be fully spent by the year end.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme

- There is currently a projected break even position on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme based on spend to date, funding from WG for quarter 1 of £133,000 and comparison against 2019-20 outturn. This is a demand led budget and take-up is difficult to predict. As noted in paragraph 4.1.13, the Covid pandemic has resulted in a significant increase in claims for universal credit, with a subsequent increase in eligibility for the council tax reduction scheme. The final additional cost of this is difficult to predict as we have yet to see the impact of

the end of the furlough scheme/newly unemployed and a likely increase in the benefits claimants. This budget will require close monitoring during 2020-21.

4.4 Review of Earmarked Reserves

4.4.1 The Council is required to maintain adequate financial reserves to meet the needs of the organisation. The MTFs includes the Council's Reserves and Balances Protocol which sets out how the Council will determine and review the level of its Council Fund balance and earmarked reserves. At quarter 2 a review of the particular pressures that were to be covered by earmarked reserves was undertaken and Directorates have drawn down funding.

4.4.2 There have been net additions of £850,000, the cumulative draw down by directorates is £681,000 and £350,000 has been unwound, as shown in Table 7 below.

Table 7 – Usable Earmarked Reserves (Excluding Council Fund) – Quarter 2

Opening Balance 01-Apr-20	Reserve	Net Additions/Re classification	Draw-down	Unwound	Closing Balance 30-Sep-20
£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Corporate Reserves:				
(9,555)	Education & Family Support	(650)	-	-	(10,205)
(410)	Social Services & Wellbeing	-	35	-	(375)
(11,289)	Communities	-	48	-	(11,241)
(8,031)	Chief Executives	300	224	-	(7,507)
(14,004)	Non-Directorate	(500)	-	-	(14,504)
(43,289)	Total Corporate Reserves	(850)	307	-	(43,832)
	Directorate Earmarked Reserves:				
(289)	Education & Family Support	-	-	-	(289)
(2,027)	Social Services & Wellbeing	-	115	350	(1,562)
(4,991)	Communities	-	-	-	(4,991)
(824)	Chief Executives	-	98	-	(726)
(8,131)	Total Directorate Reserves	-	213	350	(7,568)
	Equalisation & Grant Earmarked Reserves:				
(961)	Education & Family Support	-	143	-	(818)
(65)	Social Services & Wellbeing	-	-	-	(65)
(1,902)	Communities	-	-	-	(1,902)
(767)	Chief Executives	-	18	-	(749)
(3,695)	Total Equalisation Reserves	-	161	-	(3,534)
(108)	School Balances	-	-	-	(108)
(55,223)	Total Usable Reserves	(850)	681	350	(55,042)

- 4.4.3 The net appropriation to earmarked reserves during Quarter 2 is £500,000 (£850,000 additions offset by £350,000 that have been unwound).
- 4.4.4 The main additions are £350,000 for the Children's Residential Accommodation Hub and £500,000 for the COVID Recovery Fund (See 4.1.5). The main reserve that was unwound related to Looked After Children which was then used to create the reserve for the Accommodation Hub in its place.
- 4.4.5 A more thorough review will be undertaken at quarter 3 when there is a clearer picture on pressures and projected year end balances.

5.0 Effect upon policy framework & procedure rules

- 5.1 As required by section 3 (budgetary control) of the Financial Procedure Rules; Chief Officers in consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Member are expected to manage their services within the approved cash limited budget and to provide the Chief Finance Officer with such information as is required to facilitate and monitor budgetary control.

6.0 Equalities Impact Assessment

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

7.0 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. 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.

8.0 Financial implications

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

9.0 Recommendation

- 9.1 That the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to:
- note the projected revenue position for 2020-21
 - note the virements between £100,000 and £500,000 as outlined in paragraph 4.1.14.

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

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Background documents: Individual Directorate Monitoring Reports
MTFS Report to Council – 26 February 2020

PRIOR YEAR BUDGET REDUCTIONS CARRIED FORWARD INTO 2020-21

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal		Original Reduction and RAG £000	Revised RAG £000	Total amount of saving likely to be achieved by 20-21 £000	Reason why not achievable	Proposed Action in 2020-21 to achieve
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RAG STATUS KEY

RED	Not likely to be achieved at all in this financial year or less than 25%.
AMBER	Reduction not likely to be achieved in full in financial year but greater than 25%
GREEN	Reduction likely to be achieved in full

EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT

EFS1 (2017-18)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		20		0	Shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
EFS2 (2017-18)	School transport route efficiencies.		40		0	Shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
EFS1 (2018-19)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		67		0	Shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
EFS27 (2018-19)	Review arrangements for Special Schools Home to School Transport with a view to achieving efficiency savings		75		0	Shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
EFS 1 (2019-20)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		67		0	Shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
Total Education & Family Support Directorate			269		0		

SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING

SSW010 (2018-19)	Increase in-house fostering provision		392		392	Savings were staggered over 3 year period. No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	Close monitoring of this budget will be required in 2020-21 - it is anticipated that the saving will be achieved in full.
SSW22 (2019-20)	Identify further savings from library and cultural facilities and related services including reviewing the numbers of facilities (libraries, community centres) and also reductions in services or opening hours.		60		60	No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	No action required. Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Social Services & Wellbeing Directorate			452		452		

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal		Original Reduction and RAG £000	Revised RAG £000	Total amount of saving likely to be achieved by 20-21 £000	Reason why not achievable	Proposed Action in 2020-21 to achieve
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COMMUNITIES

COM19 (2017-18)	Permitting Scheme road works net of existing income of £95,000		100		0	Timeline not in the direct control of BCBC officers as the business case is going through multiple steps in an approval process with WG. However ultimately a positive response is expected, and this is being lead by the group manager to ensure it is followed through.	The Streetworks review is reaching completion and will be submitted to WG for consideration. The responsible highways network budget area is committed to stay within budget irrespective of the delivery of the scheme.
COM 4 (2019-20)	Review of School Crossing Patrol service in line with GB standards		10		0	The level of service need is currently in excess of the available budget, hence saving is not likely to be fully achieved in 2020-21.	The provision of the service and the MTFS is predicated on sites meeting certain guidance. Assessment of sites continue to be reviewed in line with the Council protocol and if sites do not meet the criteria they could be considered for dis-establishment.
COM 20 (2019-20)	Highways Dept Management Structural Savings Target		100		100	No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	No action required. Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM 26 (2019-20)	Investigate the introduction of charging to users of the Shopmobility facility in Bridgend Town Centre to reduce/remove the current level of subsidy		5		0	Cabinet considered a report in January 2020 and approved the introduction of new hire fees and alteration to opening times to enable this saving to be achieved. However, whilst the new charges have been implemented in 2020-21, the lockdown of the town centre early in 2020-21 due to COVID-19 has impacted on the ability to fully achieve the savings proposal.	No further action required as shortfall is COVID-19 related. Close monitoring of the income levels will be required for the remainder of 2020-21.
COM 44 (2019-20)	Bridgend Bus Station - alternative measures to explore full cost recovery and external support will be pursued but, failing this, the likely required step to deliver this saving is closure.		45		45	Budget re-alignment from Public Realm budget actioned in 2020-21.	No action required. Budget re-alignment actioned in 2020-21.
COM 46 (2019-20)	Removal of budget for Subsidised Bus Routes		148		148	No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	No action required. Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM 52 (2019-20)	Reductions to the budget for the Materials Recovery and Energy Centre (MREC) to be achieved through the current procurement being undertaken with Neath Port Talbot CBC for the provision of new operator arrangements for the MREC facility at Crumlyn Burrows		1,300		1,000	Shortfall in savings identified of £300,000 - funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.	Budget Pressure to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process
COM 55 (2019-20)	Increase charge for Green Waste Service from £28.30 per household to £38.30		25		0	Whilst the new charges have been implemented, closure of the green waste processing facility and hence cessation of the green waste service for the first part of 2020-21 due to COVID-19 has impacted on the ability to fully achieve the savings proposal	No further action required as shortfall is COVID-19 related. Close monitoring of the income levels will be required for the remainder of 20-21.
COM 59 (2019-20)	Reduction to the opening hours of the Community Recycling Centres by 1 hour, per day.		17		17	No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	No action required. Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Communities Directorate			1,750		1,310		

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S

CEX10 (2019-20)	Review CCTV function with aim to create efficiencies		30		30	No reason why this saving should not be achieved in full in 2020-21.	No action required. Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Chief Executive's Directorate			30		30		

GRAND TOTAL OUTSTANDING REDUCTIONS			2,501		1,792		
REDUCTIONS SHORTFALL					709		

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT
CENTRAL EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT

EFS1	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savings should occur naturally as a result of the policy application year on year, however dispersed learners and contractual pressure from operators as routes become more untenable may mean it becomes increasingly difficult to find the identified savings. Risk of price increases from Contractors. 	75	0	On 15 September 2020 Cabinet resolved to defer the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learner Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government in March 2021. It is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by Welsh Government will follow until 2022 at the earliest and therefore even if the statutory distances reduce as a result of this review, the RSG would unlikely reflect this until 2022/23 at the earliest. The shortfall in savings identified to be funded from corporate contingency in 2020-21 with a Budget Pressures to be submitted as part of the 2021-22 MTFS process.
EFS44	Review of Childcare Team	Review existing staffing structure within the Childcare Team with a view to moving core funded staff to grant, where this option is eligible under grant conditions. In addition a review of the service demand placed on the Development Officers in supporting the private nursery settings throughout the county borough, ensuring a streamlined service that meets minimum statutory requirements. There are however, significant risks in making further reductions in this budget line (RSG) given Welsh Government's policy linked with both the national statutory Childcare Offer and Child Sufficiency requirements. In addition, this budget line has been reduced in previous years and existing demand (to fund placements) is exceeding budget.	10	10	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
EFS48	Efficiency saving targeting supplies and services budgets across the Education and Family Support Directorate	Limited impact as review has identified small historic underspends against this budget category.	87	87	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
EFS54	Further reduction to contribution to the Central South Consortium (CSC)	This would need to be agreed with other partners within the Consortium.	17	17	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
EFS57	Further review of staffing structures across the Education and Family Support Directorate	Potential delays in service delivery.	50	25	Delays to implementation of restructure due to COVID-19.
Total Education and Family Support			239	139	

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING

SSW19	Further review of HALO partnership contract, including the Council taking over the management and payment of utility bills currently incurred by HALO. This will result in VAT efficiencies for HALO and contribute towards the reduction in the management fee	Previous negotiations have proved successful. No adverse impact identified.	40	0	Ongoing detailed discussions and seeking advice from VAT consultants. Underspends held across the service area to mitigate the shortfall in the short term.
SSW20	Identify further savings from leisure centres and swimming pools including reviewing the number of facilities and also reductions in services or opening hours.	Reduced availability of services and accessibility to the public. Negative impact on healthier wales wellbeing goals.	70	0	COVID-19 has impacted on the delivery of this saving in 2020-21. Underspends being held across the service area to mitigate the shortfall in the short term.
SSW22	Identify further savings from library and cultural facilities and related services including reviewing the numbers of facilities (libraries, community centres) and also reductions in services or opening hours.	Reduced availability of services and accessibility to the public. Negative impact on healthier wales wellbeing goals.	20	20	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
SSW26	Remodelling day service provision for older people and learning disability services	Full review of services which could mean alternative methods of service delivery	90	90	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
SSW27	Increase income generation from mobile response and telecare charging	Limited impact on current services but would require commercial expertise to assist with the proposal	75	0	Commercial expertise involvement required to progress this proposal. Savings likely to be achieved will not be known until review has been completed.
SSW28	Increase non-residential charging limits from £90 to £100 per week. This is totally reliant on Welsh Government changing the limits within their non-residential charging policy in 2020/21	Limited impact on services	200	200	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21 as charging policy has been amended by Welsh Government.

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
SSW29	Further review of staffing structures across Adults and Children Services including:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management structures in the direct provider services as well as reviewing the demands on the service and the direct care hours needed to meet those demands. • The overall management structure across Adults, Children and Wellbeing services • The service will be reviewing its overall professional staff to ensure the levels of the staff meet current demands whilst being aware that the service need to ensure that the caseloads of qualified staff are in line with acceptable standard because if they are not it would impact on practice and performance and increase risk in the service as well as impacting on recruitment and retention and the Authority's ability to attract suitably experienced and qualified staff . 	This will mean reducing staff numbers, which will incur redundancy costs. There will also be reduced capacity within teams across the directorate	175	77	Shortfall due to timing of implementation of restructures. Close scrutiny of staff vacancy management will support the current shortfall.
SSW30	Further review of care packages linked to the assessment framework to include consideration of transport	It is envisaged that the number of care hours will reduce for service users across the directorate	150	150	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Social Services & Wellbeing Directorate			820	537	

COMMUNITIES

COM26	Investigate the introduction of charging to users of the Shopmobility facility in Bridgend Town Centre to reduce/remove the current level of subsidy otherwise closure of the facility will be necessary	The popularity of the service is generally declining with a significantly reduced number of users. Changes in technology have meant that lightweight, affordable scooters have now greatly increased in private ownership, compared to when the facility was introduced. The provision is non statutory and not one provided in other town centres in the County Borough or in many town centres of neighbouring authorities. On this basis in order to make the service viable it is proposed to introduce charging but if this does not present a realistic option to make the full required saving closure of the facility would be necessary. There is a risk that some members of the community with mobility issues may struggle to pay the necessary charges and therefore maybe unable to gain access to the town centre. It is proposed to engage with users of the facility to inform the way forward.	18	0	Cabinet considered a report in January 2020 and approved the introduction of new hire fees and alteration to opening times to enable this saving to be achieved. However, whilst the new charges have been implemented in 2020-21, the lockdown of the town centre early in 2020-21 due to COVID-19 has impacted on the ability to fully achieve the savings proposal.
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MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
COM42	Review of parks and playing fields service split over two financial years - 19/20 and 20/21:- 15% reduction to seasonal operatives budget (£75K). Corresponding reduction to large and small plant (£29k). Removal of bowls club grant (£34K).	The cut identified for both 2019-20 and 2020-21 will mean that there are reduced levels of maintenance and slower reaction times which will mean a degradation over time which will result in higher future capital costs i.e. maintenance of remaining pavilions.	69	69	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM43	End of management of Kenfig National Nature Reserve	The agreement between BCBC and Kenfig Corporation Trust (KCT) ends in December 2019. It is currently proposed that BCBC does not enter into any new agreement. KCT are underway with a process, supported by their agent HRT, to identify a new tenant. This process is being conducted in partnership with NRW. There is a risk that the level of management may be affected, however there is also the opportunity that the new tenant may be able to draw on resources that BCBC cannot.	35	35	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM51	Ongoing implementation of Corporate Landlord model	The savings will be delivered in a number of ways including operational efficiencies, streamlined business processes, IT investment, improved procurement and contract management, and some deletions of vacant posts.	350	325	Level of savings identified as at Quarter 2 2020-21. Service area will continue to identify efficiencies to meet shortfall
COM55	Increase charge for Green Waste Service from £28.30 per household to £38.30	The new waste contract related items would require both Contract Variation negotiations with Kier to confirm the saving levels proposed and public consultation regarding the charge changes and reduced levels of service.	25	0	Whilst the new charges have been implemented, closure of the green waste processing facility and hence cessation of the green waste service for the first part of 2020-21 due to COVID-19 has impacted on the ability to fully achieve the savings proposal
COM56	Increase charge for collection of 3 bulky waste items from £15.50 to £20.	The waste contract items would require both Contract Variation negotiations with Kier to confirm the saving levels proposed and public consultation regarding the charge changes and reduced levels of service.	10	10	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM59	Reduction to the opening hours of the Community Recycling Centres by 1 hour, per day.		17	17	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM73	BCBC to save the annual BID funding now BID no longer functions	No impact that is within the control of BCBC following a unsuccessful BID ballot.	15	15	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM76	Review of Porthcawl Marina with a view to it running on a full cost recovery basis. This will involve a review of the berth fees.	This would involve a review of the berth fees and other operational costs. Any approach to outsourcing management would likely require financial support and therefore negate any savings.	25	25	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
COM77	Direct Services Organisation (DSO) staffing restructure - the front line staffing for highways which deal with a range of highway issues such as Winter gritting, Traffic collisions clear up, Flooding, Gully maintenance, Maintenance of Traffic signs, streetlights and traffic signals. The team have a major role within the Borough in the maintenance and repair of the highway. Since the loss of work the team undertook on behalf of the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA) there is the potential to make a saving in the DSO staffing structure.	This would be potentially focused at a managerial level with the implication on the ability to deal with service requests in regard of local construction projects. It would also increase the single point failure in regard of sickness absence for remaining members of team.	50	50	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM79	Investigate reducing costs and increasing charging for running the Bridgend Business Forum for specific events to reduce/remove the current level of subsidy otherwise reduction in the service level will be necessary.	If reduced costs and increased charges are accepted impact should be minimal, there is a risk that the level of support / number of events may need to be reduced to support the saving.	18	18	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
COM96	WG National AHP Waste Programme - capital contribution from WG towards 7.5 tonne vehicle to collect AHP recycling	This would require Contract Variation negotiations with Kier to confirm the saving levels proposed based on a reduction in costs in relation to the current AHP vehicle that is leased	14	14	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Communities Directorate			646	578	

CHIEF EXECUTIVES

CEX1	Efficiencies from Shared Regulatory Service	May require restructuring within service and impact on response times, but will be managed across the 3 participating Councils and will aim to minimise impact.	37	37	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CEX11	The expansion of the shared internal audit service has created efficiencies resulting in reduced contribution for BCBC	No impact on service provision	40	40	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CEX12	Reduction of HR staffing budgets	Potential reduction of posts and redundancy costs	44	44	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CEX13	Reduction of Partnerships Services budgets - savings achieved through software rationalisation and removal of vacancies within the ICT service unit	Minimal service impact as savings a result of vacancies and efficiencies	200	200	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CEX15	Reduction of Legal fees budgets	Minimal impact	80	80	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
CEX16	Reduce Members' training budget	Less training opportunities for elected members.	7	7	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CEX17	Reduction of Business Support staffing budgets	Potential reduction of posts and redundancy costs	100	100	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
	Total Chief Executive's Directorate		508	508	

MONITORING OF 2020-21 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Proposed 2020-21 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2020-21 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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CORPORATE / COUNCIL WIDE

CWD6	Reduction in funding required for Apprenticeship Levy	No impact as budget historically been higher than required.	50	50	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
CWD11	Reduction in the budget to cover the cost to the Council of the outstanding liability for Employers Liability, Public Liability and Property following favourable insurance contract renewals in previous years.	No impact as favourable insurance contract renewals have been achieved, however no mitigation available for potential increases to premiums in future years.	150	150	Full saving should be achieved in 2020-21.
Total Corporate / Council Wide			200	200	

GRAND TOTAL REDUCTIONS	2,413	1,962
TOTAL BUDGET REDUCTION REQUIREMENT (MOST LIKELY)	2,413	2,413
REDUCTION SHORTFALL	0	451

1,023	1,535
996	575
394	303
2,413	2,413

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL	Budget 2020-21			Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance
	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget	Net Budget			
	£000	£000	£000			
EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT						
School Delegated Budgets	120,988	(21,302)	99,686	99,686	-	0.0%
Learning	9,779	(3,060)	6,719	7,101	382	5.7%
Strategic Partnerships & Comm	24,646	(10,462)	14,184	15,362	1,178	8.3%
Health and Safety	381	(2)	379	313	(66)	-17.3%
TOTAL EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT	155,794	(34,826)	120,968	122,462	1,494	1.2%
SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING						
Adult Social Care	66,081	(18,104)	47,977	48,499	522	1.1%
Prevention and Wellbeing	5,973	(793)	5,180	5,151	(29)	-0.6%
Safeguarding & Family Support	19,840	(886)	18,954	18,881	(73)	-0.4%
TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING	91,894	(19,783)	72,111	72,531	420	0.6%
COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE						
Planning & Development Services	1,754	(1,257)	497	566	69	13.9%
Strategic Regeneration	2,080	(420)	1,660	1,660	-	0.0%
Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	2,670	(1,672)	998	976	(22)	-2.2%
Cleaner Streets and Waste Management	12,415	(1,865)	10,550	10,686	136	1.3%
Highways and Green Spaces	21,914	(10,943)	10,971	10,760	(211)	-1.9%
Director and Head of Operations - Communities	271	-	271	265	(6)	-2.2%
Corporate Landlord	13,951	(11,088)	2,863	3,353	490	17.1%
TOTAL COMMUNITIES	55,055	(27,245)	27,810	28,266	456	1.6%
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S						
Chief Executive	509	-	509	514	5	1.0%
Finance	46,407	(42,828)	3,579	3,575	(4)	-0.1%
HR/OD	2,153	(363)	1,790	1,614	(176)	-9.8%
Partnerships	2,999	(1,037)	1,962	1,768	(194)	-9.9%
Legal, Democratic & Regulatory	5,855	(988)	4,867	4,991	124	2.5%
Elections	162	(60)	102	102	-	0.0%
ICT	4,646	(1,330)	3,316	3,461	145	4.4%
Housing & Homelessness	7,124	(5,998)	1,126	2,316	1,190	105.7%
Business Support	1,088	(111)	977	1,005	28	2.9%
TOTAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S	70,943	(52,715)	18,228	19,346	1,118	6.1%
TOTAL DIRECTORATE BUDGETS						
	373,686	(134,569)	239,117	242,605	3,488	1.5%
Council Wide Budgets	48,238	(970)	47,268	43,749	(3,519)	-7.4%
Earmarked Reserves	500	-	500	500	-	0.0%
NET BRIDGEND CBC	422,424	(135,539)	286,885	286,854	(31)	0.0%

NB: Differences due to rounding of £000's

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

CABINET RESPONSE TO THE CROSS-PARTY RECOVERY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) present the Committee with the Cabinet response to the Recommendations of the Cross-Party Recovery Panel attached as **Appendix A** submitted to Cabinet on 15 September 2020.

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 On 23 March 2020 the UK Government imposed a nationwide lockdown in an effort to help minimise the spread of coronavirus. The Council has undergone significant change during this period, in that some services have been created, some services stopped and some staff have been redeployed.

3.2 The Chief Executive presented a report to the meeting of Cabinet on 30 June 2020 for a proposed approach to recovery planning from Covid-19. The recovery programme had the following 3 strands - Restart, Recover and Renew.

3.3 It was agreed at the meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 July 2020 to establish a Cross-Party Recovery Panel. Membership of the Recovery Panel comprises the 12 Members of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee plus 4 additional Members: 2 Labour; 1 Independent Alliance and 1 Conservative, nominated by Group Leaders. The Panel was established with the aim of shaping, informing and advising Cabinet on the Council's recovery planning to form the basis of the recovery phase for the Covid-19 pandemic.

3.4 The Recovery Panel would select key areas for examination in greater depth and make recommendations to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for recommending to Cabinet on 15 September 2020, noting the extremely short timescales in order to feed into the realignment of the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Corporate Plan.

4. Current situation/proposal

4.1 The Panel met on six occasions during August and were supported by the Senior Democratic Officer – Scrutiny, two Scrutiny Officers and the Group Manager Legal & Democratic Services.

4.2 During its meetings, the Recovery Panel considered presentations from requested invitees including: Public Service Board (PSB) Team Officers; Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) Chief Executive, Operational Manager and a Community Navigator; the Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing and the Head of Adult Services; the Director of Bridgend County Care and Repair, and; the Head of Partnerships and Performance and Group Manager – Housing.

4.3 In Phase 1, the Cross-Party Recovery Panel has taken a structured approach to the selection of key areas from those identified for priority to feed into the recovery process and has identified key issues following examination.

4.4 It is recommended that the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the Cabinet response to the findings and recommendations attached in **Appendix A** submitted to Cabinet on 15 September 2020 and provide any feedback.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 This item relates to the role of Cross-Party Recovery Panel as consultees in respect of the recovery process.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications directly attached to this report.

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

7.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long-term - The consideration and approval of this report will assist in the recovery process for both the short-term and in the long-term.
- Prevention - The consideration and approval of this report will assist in the Recovery process by approving and shaping preventative measures provided by Directorates to generate savings.
- Integration - The report supports all the wellbeing objectives.
- Collaboration - The consideration and approval of this report will assist in the recovery process by approving and shaping collaboration and integrated working.
- Involvement - Publication of the report ensures that the public and stakeholders can review the work that has been undertaken by Recovery Panel Members.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the Cabinet response to the Cross-Party Recovery Panel's Recommendations attached in **Appendix A**, submitted to Cabinet on 15 September 2020 as part of the recovery process, and provide any feedback.

K Watson
Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services
26 November 2020

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Background Documents: None

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**CABINET RESPONSE TO THE CROSS-PARTY RECOVERY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
CABINET ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2020**

Recommendation 1

The Panel recommends that the future sustainability of culture, leisure and green spaces should be added to the list of key priorities that were identified in the recovery planning Cabinet report of 30th June 2020, in order to facilitate health, exercise and wellbeing.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet fully recognise and acknowledge the crucial role culture, leisure and green spaces play in ensuring opportunities for local people to participate in recreational activities, whether as a participant or as a spectator, and the impact that has on health, exercise and both physical and mental wellbeing. This has been demonstrated by the support that has already been given to our partners Halo Leisure and Awen Cultural Trust to ensure the long term sustainability of the services that they run on our behalf and promote a more rapid recovery from the impact of the Covid 19 lockdown. In addition Cabinet have, as part of our Covid response, introduced a range of measures to promote the continued use of green space both for formal and informal activity, including waiving playing fields charges and developing and publicising the use of rights of way across the County Borough. Cabinet are of the view therefore that these priorities are already implicit in the holistic 'public health' theme that has been identified and approved as one of the Council's four main recovery priorities moving forward. However, Cabinet are happy to make the link with culture, leisure and green spaces more explicit in line with the panel's recommendation.

Recommendation 2

The Panel recommends that the Economic Taskforce training that had already been offered to businesses should be offered to the Third Sector and Charities, to avoid duplication of effort.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet understands that a significant amount of training has been provided to businesses and also extended to small numbers of third sector and charity organisations. This includes nearly 2,700 business with one of the funding streams made available as a result of the coronavirus pandemic BCBC undertook a series of specific measures to support businesses in different sectors to 'start-back' as restrictions were lifted.

In response to an identified need within the retail community, the Council's Enterprise and Employability section led on a 'Retail start-back pack' which included the distribution of 2,000 sneeze guards. These provided a barrier between businesses and their customers, which in addition to other measures put in place by businesses following their own risk assessment, aided measures to support consumer confidence. In addition, the team secured the delivery of COSHH accredited Covid training courses to 350 business employees across the County. This course supported awareness and understanding amongst the business community in relation to health and safety measures in their properties when re-opening to customers. Additionally, the team supported

efforts within the tourism and hospitality sectors with 260 guest registers delivered to local businesses to support Test, Track and Trace process as part of the tourism and hospitality start-back pack. All of these measures were specifically created in Bridgend County and directly in response to identified business needs following research with the business community.

Cabinet are advised that certain aspects of the above may be suitable for some of those in third sector and charities. If this was to be taken forward, a period of research with the third sector and charities would be needed to identify need and determine demand. Based on this options could be considered and resources secured prior to options being deployed.

Recommendation 3

The panel recommends that through the Welsh Government Procurement, all organisations providing care across the County Borough have access to suitable and appropriate PPE following Welsh Government and HSE guidelines, for the activity being undertaken.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet are of the view that the circumstances regarding PPE has improved changed significantly. At the start of Lockdown, PPE was in short supply which resulted in the "Push delivery" that all Local Authorities received from and provided by Welsh Government was totally inadequate to meet demand. For example the first delivery received from Welsh Government included only 1500 masks. Initially PPE was intended to be provided to Independent Providers under emergency circumstances which meant that such allocations were rationed to ensure that the meagre supplies could be stretched to meet wider demand, and in those early days, PPE received was inadequate to meet the requirements of national guidelines. However during week 3, the Push delivery increased to include in excess of 22000 masks, which allowed the Council to arrive at a formula that enabled all Independent Providers (and Council provided services) to be apportioned a share that has since resulted in a weekly delivery of PPE to all Registered (in the region of 60) providers of Residential and Nursing Care, Domiciliary Care and Supported Living Care. Gradually BCBC Push delivery increased to a maximum of 102,000 masks (in addition to 300,000 gloves, 10,000 visors and 102,000 aprons) per week of which in the region of 75% is delivered weekly to all providers. This regular weekly delivery has been a game changer for the PPE service which is very much appreciated by the Independent Providers. In addition due to the regular volumes of a weekly delivery a substantial PPE reserve has been developed within BCBC and provides assurance that should there be any drop of supply in future, the essential weekly delivery of PPE can be maintained for a number of weeks.

Recommendation 4

The panel recommended that Cabinet formally approach and enter into discussions with Welsh Government in respect of funding to be held locally as local volunteer organisations should have a say in how that money is spent in their Communities, rather than it being held by the WCVA.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet recognise that whilst local volunteer organisations would benefit from being more involved in the allocation of funding rather than it being held by WCVA, such a change would require a national approach. Welsh Government in their publication on the Third Sector Scheme in Wales

Report 18/19 (published July 2020) identifies how the WG invests in the Third Sector Support Wales approach (ie. WCVA and the 19 County Voluntary Councils across Wales). The scheme aims to deliver a partnership between Welsh Govt and the third sector to support the growth of a stronger and more resilient third sector, better policy and better public services. At the risk of generalisation, it is known that CVC's work with grassroots organisations (local and regional activity) many of whom have complex support needs, whereas large, national organisations tend to have staff capacity, higher skills sets and different support needs. The relationship between WG and CVC's is mainly channelled through WCVA.

Given the importance of the local and hyperlocal third sector response to Covid to our local authority, there may be value in WG reviewing the proportion of funding distributed between the national and local delivery agents within the Third sector infrastructure so that local and regional partnership working is the focus and third sector activity is strengthened and sustained.

Additionally, the proportionality and methods of distribution of investment into the community and third sector should be reviewed.

As an example, the small VSEF fund (£25000) distributed via the local CVC quickly injected cash into those organisations delivering crucial support on the ground in our communities, and it did so with good local intelligence and through simple processes. The fund that was centralised and distributed via WCVA directly was millions in comparison.

The next iteration of that funding (Voluntary Services Recovery fund) was wholly centralised with no local distribution made available to CVC's. The related processes of this centralised approach can create barriers and is proving complex for many small local groups, some of whom are not connected to WCVA or struggle with working online or utilising the MAP system.

There may be benefit in WG recognising the value of local CVC's distributing investment directly into the communities, adding value to other local investment (as was the case with VSEF and indeed, the old CFAP community grants). The CVC's are directly connected into the PSB and RPB and are fully aware of the local needs assessments and are therefore able to make informed decisions that tie into the overall ambitions for our County.

Recognising that there is some potential benefits in funding allocations being made direct to CVCs, Cabinet will consider how it can engage other local authorities to approach Welsh Government to gain a Wales wide approach.

Recommendation 5

The Panel recommends that no further cuts are placed on Third Sector funding and that a whole Council approach to funding the Third Sector be adopted. The Panel also recommends that the appropriate resources be put in place for BAVO to facilitate this.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet are very much aware of the importance of the role provided by the Third Sector and have taken opportunities to protect and increase with other funding opportunities. Reduced funding has been considered each year as part of the MTFs proposals. Cuts to CAB and BAVO were part of the formal budget consultation last year and the proposals did not gain acceptance. The public and the

Cabinet were keen to continue support for the 3rd sector organisations and to maintain the successful partnership that has been built.

Consideration will be given to how we best work with our partners and ensure that resources are deployed in the most effective way.

Recommendation 6

The panel recommends that Cabinet approach Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board to understand their Covid-19 plan in relation to both Primary and Secondary health care plans and obtains copies of these.

Cabinet recognises that there is close working between our services and Health Board during the delivery of integrated services and through the exceptional circumstances experienced during the pandemic. It is normal expectations that local authorities in the region will contribute to appropriate Health Board plans. The Health Board are currently in the process of developing Winter Quarter 3 and 4 plans for submission to the Health Board on the 29th October. These plans will be developed for the Region but further work will be undertaken to identify the specifics for the Primary care response within BCBC.

Recommendation 7

The Panel noted the Covid-19 impact on people with dementia in Wales and the massive deterioration seen in sufferers and noted that BAVO had worked with BCBC on developing Dementia friendly communities, but that funding was coming to an end soon, and would be reverting back to the Alzheimer's Society. The Panel therefore recommended that Cabinet write to Welsh Government to ensure that this is adequately funded.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Developing Dementia Supportive Communities is a strategic priority within the "Ageing Well Plan for Bridgend". The funding identified had been previously provided by Western Bay to BAVO as opposed to via Welsh Government and this funding stream has concluded. There are other sources of investment provided by the Integrated Care Fund that Bridgend is accessing and also some core funding relating to the Older Persons strategy that can support the ongoing development of work. This work can be progressed with BAVO and other local partners. BCBC currently commissions the Alzheimers society to support people living with dementia and carers on an annual basis beyond this funding which was not a large sum. There is the potential for cross sector working and partnership with BAVO to develop a strategic approach that meets the needs of Bridgend.

Recommendation 8

The Panel recommended that Cabinet engage with Welsh Government on the continued financial support to eradicate homelessness and the use of more innovative approaches for organisations to do that.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet are fully engaged with the WG on this matter and share the ambition to tackle homelessness. Capital and revenue funding has been secured from WG to increase housing stock in Bridgend for this year through the WG Phase 2 Homelessness Scheme. This is for the financial year 20/21 only. This will only provide funding for a small number of premises. Cabinet will continue to request additional funding for on-going revenue and capital schemes that can target provision for homelessness cases. The cost of the increased guidelines for supporting homeless in accommodation is estimated at around £2m per year. This will increase further if our particular emergency provision such as Nightshelters and Floorspace provision is not supported by WG.

Recommendation 9

The Panel recommends to Cabinet that a holistic Service Level Agreement is set-up between the Authority and BAVO.

CABINET RESPONSE:

There is an annual SLA in place between BCBC and BAVO that provides financial support towards core resources and activity of the CVC. Additionally, from time to time opportunities may arise for project activities and funding will be put in place via an SLA or similar arrangement. Existing project funding to BAVO is currently linked primarily to joint work with the Wellbeing directorate. BAVO also act as a distributor for small amounts of funding to the sector on behalf of BCBC and other partners (such as Food poverty grant) for which an agreement is also in place. There is an opportunity as part of the "Building Resilient Communities" approach to explore how to make best use of overall resources and what this might mean in terms of further support of BAVO and the third sector

Recommendation 10

The Panel recommend that Cabinet investigate the establishment of an adapted housing register that works with all partners and covers the whole County Borough area.

CABINET RESPONSE:

BCBC has previously had an Adapted Housing Register which was removed as it was not seen to have real benefits. RSL's are key partners in the nomination and allocation process of all housing in Bridgend. In order to understand whether this is beneficial change to the new housing Jigsaw system that was established in January this year engagement will take place with RSL's to determine whether there is a need to introduce an adapted housing register and determine any operational changes, IT requirements and implementation timescale if required. Cabinet will be kept abreast of these developments and oversee appropriate service improvements.

Recommendation 11

The Panel recommend that Cabinet write to Valleys to Coast expressing its disappointment of their level of cooperation during Covid-19.

CABINET RESPONSE:

There have been some previous difficulties with V2C, however the Council and V2C are now engaging more successfully. The Council's routes for re-housing and meeting WG expectations during the initial lockdown were hampered by a number of external factors such as limited private sector access to accommodation and Covid 19 impacted on all RSL's during this period. However all local RSL's have subsequently responded positively to the need to introduce a Rapid Rehousing Panel to help resolve and move people on from temporary accommodation. V2C and Linc have also been supportive in our bids to WG for capital funding to increase the housing stock. The co-operation and collaborative nature of this work is crucial in delivering housing and support schemes in Bridgend and Cabinet will reinforce with all RSL's the joint responsibilities and collaborative efforts required to meet homelessness challenges of the future.

Recommendation 12

The Panel recommend that Cabinet write to Welsh Government regarding the decision of Registered Social Landlords to furlough their staff at a time of need, which has impacted on other public services.

Cabinet Response

The co-operation and collaborative nature in delivering housing and support schemes in Bridgend is crucial and Cabinet will reinforce the joint responsibilities and collaborative efforts required to meet homelessness challenges of the future and seek reassurances from WG that support will be provided to RSL's to ensure that furloughing is not required in the future.

Recommendation 13

The Panel recommend to Cabinet that the targeting of Social Housing Grant should be considered to develop housing options for the homelessness and people with support, to enable them to access suitable accommodation.

Cabinet Response:

Cabinet already have oversight over the targeting and spend of Social Housing Grant (SHG) in the Borough Council area. SHG is a planned 3 year programme of development which is decided by Welsh Government. Discussions take place with WG regularly on new developments and projects with the aim of increasing stock. Discussions have been held with all RSL's to develop schemes as quickly as possible which will support homelessness – primarily one bed stock. It is also important that all areas and communities have a balanced and sustainable approach and development of all stock to meet rehousing needs.

Capital and revenue funding has been secured from WG to increase housing stock in Bridgend for this year through the WG Phase 2 Homelessness Scheme. Cabinet will continue to request additional funding for on-going revenue and capital schemes that can target provision for homelessness cases in particular emergency provision.

Recommendation 14

That BCBC prepares a corporate contingency strategic Covid-19 plan that will involve all statutory partners and Third Sector support networks in line with their individual responsibilities to the citizens of the County Borough of Bridgend.

CABINET RESPONSE:

During the initial Lockdown period, BCBC was part of a range of strategic arrangements that included statutory and non-statutory partners. These arrangements include ILF Regional arrangements and PSB and played critical roles in ensuring that Bridgend services are aligned to partner organisations to meet the challenges of COVID-19 in our communities. In addition to this we have developed a local Recovery Plan that has been approved and is based on Lessons Learnt provided by services. In addition a corporate contingency budget has been created that has been used to support necessary responses to COVID-19 and will continue to be used as required. Nevertheless we will continue to work with RPB and PSB to ensure that BCBC plays its part in such arrangements and deliver some of the expectations set out in the developing Community Impact Assessment being overseen by the PSB.

Recommendation 15

The Panel recommend that Cabinet revisit the Authority's policy on the disposal of surplus land which could be made available for the development of affordable housing, in line with Welsh Government guidelines.

CABINET RESPONSE:

Cabinet are overseeing the development of a new acquisitions and disposals strategy, which builds on current practice around achieving the best disposal outcome for BCBC - balancing the best price against the benefits being offered through alternative uses including partnership working/ community asset transfers, in line with BCBC policies. In essence the current practice works dynamically to support BCBC corporate plan and policies, including working with RSLs on a number of projects and disposing of land to them off market, where appropriate.

If there is a Council policy for planning to identify more land for affordable housing this will potentially negatively impact on capital receipts and hence delivery of other corporate programmes, unless there is a mechanism to fund the gap from WG.

However If WG was to make funding available to bring sites forward for affordable housing that otherwise are not viable, particularly North of the M4, this may also be considered as an opportunity.

Local authorities have a clear statutory obligation to achieve “best consideration” in terms of any sale receipt. So if it is to restrict the sale for affordable housing, it will need to consider the legal means (including state aid) for doing this; particularly where there is likely to be challenge from house builders on the more attractive sites.

Recommendation 16

The Panel recommend that Cabinet consider exploring the potential of Bridgend County Borough Council becoming a Cooperative Council.

CABINET RESPONSE:

In efforts to make Bridgend CBC a better place for residents to live and businesses to thrive, Cabinet acknowledges this recommendation and will explore in more detail how the Council can achieve the status of becoming a cooperative Council and to identify what the benefits and costs to such an approach would be.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of report

- a) To present the proposed initial items for the draft interim Forward Work Programme, including those items delegated to the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- b) To request any specific information the Committee identifies to be included in the items for the next meeting, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) To request the Committee to identify any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme for the remainder of the municipal calendar of meetings, using the agreed criteria form.

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

Scrutiny Update

- 3.1 Following the Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown in March, Scrutiny Committees were initially postponed as the Council focused upon key priorities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. A report was presented to Cabinet in June 2020 requesting that the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) consider the creation of a Cross-Party Recovery Panel. The COSC met on 6th July 2020 and approved the establishment of a Recovery Panel with the aim of shaping, informing and advising Cabinet on the Council's recovery planning to form the basis of the recovery phase of the pandemic. The Panel met 6 times and heard from 5 sets of invitees between 4th and 25th August 2020 and produced recommendations to COSC on 7th September 2020 which were further reported to Cabinet on 15th September, and a formal response from Cabinet has now been received and is being reported to this Committee meeting. Members of the Recovery Panel have recently received the Public Service Board's Community Impact Assessment to read and reflect upon the content in full, prior to its next meeting in December, to utilise the information when the Panel considers and selects its next key area of focus to be examined in greater detail.
- 3.2 A Combined meeting of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees 1 and 2 was held remotely via Skype for Business on 13th July 2020. Scrutiny considered proposals for Post-16 Education and Learner Travel and made recommendations to Cabinet upon the proposals. Cabinet considered the Scrutiny recommendations for Post-16 Education on 21st July 2020 and took a decision on the preferred option, and considered the recommendations upon Learner Travel on 15th September 2020 and deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learner Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government in March 2021.
- 3.3 Planning and preparations for this year's cycle of Budget Research and Evaluation Panel (BREP) meetings commenced well ahead of the first meeting on 24th July 2020, with 3 meetings being supported to date, and arrangements are underway for the fourth meeting.

Recommencing of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.4 The Schedule of Meetings for the remaining municipal year was agreed at the Annual Meeting of Council on 30th September 2020. As the Recovery Panel has now been established, it is recognised that, moving forward, meetings of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees will need to be focused and strategic to avoid a duplication of work.

Forward Work Programme

- 3.5 Under the terms of the Council's Constitution, each Overview and Scrutiny Committee must publish a Forward Work Programme (FWP) as far as it is known.
- 3.6 An effective FWP will identify the issues that the Committee wishes to focus on during the year and provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected, as well as the approach that will be adopted; i.e. will the Committee be undertaking

a policy review/ development role (“Overview”) or performance management approach (“Scrutiny”).

- 3.7 The FWPs will remain flexible and will be revisited at each COSC meeting with input from each Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SOSC) and any information gathered from Forward Work Programme meetings with Corporate Directors and Cabinet.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 Following the approval of the schedule of Scrutiny Committee meeting dates at the Annual Meeting of Council on 30th September, the scheduling of standing statutory reports to Scrutiny Committees upon: the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Performance, the Corporate Plan, Budget Monitoring, Scrutiny Annual Report, etc. has been mapped.
- 4.2 Forward Work Programme Update reports have been submitted to Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees held in October / November for consideration, with the outcomes being fed back to this Committee to set a focused overall Scrutiny Forward Work Programme.
- 4.3 At the time of the reports, the Council had been advised that due to the revised timing of the Local Government financial settlement from Welsh Government, scrutiny of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) would need to be considered by Scrutiny Committees after Cabinet considers draft MTFS proposals on 19th January 2021 and not in the December cycle of meetings as originally planned. Consequently, arrangements have been made to move the date of the January meetings to facilitate this, as approved by Council on 18th November 2020.
- 4.4 At the first meeting of SOSC 1, 2 and 3 which were held in October and November, the Committees received Forward Work Programme Updates and agreed to receive updated briefings from the relevant Corporate Director upon the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic upon their Service areas and the operational response, in the next meetings in December and that the MTFS would be considered in the January cycle of meetings, for the reasons stated in paragraph 4.3 above.

Identification of Further Items

- 4.5 The SOSCs were also asked whether they wished to identify any further items for consideration on the interim Scrutiny Forward Work Programme for the remainder of the municipal calendar of meetings, using the prior agreed Criteria Form. The Committee are reminded of the Criteria Form which Members can use to propose further items for the FWP which the Committee can then consider for prioritisation at a future meeting. The Criteria Form emphasises the need to consider issues such as impact, risk, performance, budget and community perception when identifying topics for investigation and to ensure a strategic responsibility for Scrutiny and that its work benefits the Authority. The SOSCs agreed it would be prudent to wait until the Corporate Directors report to their December meetings, before identifying further items for consideration for inclusion in the Forward Work Programme.
- 4.6 The draft interim Forward Work Programme for COSC and the SOSCs is presented below:

First Cycle of Meetings (for information):

Scrutiny Committee:	Date:	Report:
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	19 th October 2020	- Forward Work Programme Update;
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	11 th November 2020	- Nomination to Corporate Parenting Committee;
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	16 th November 2020	- Nomination to Public Services Board Scrutiny Panel.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2 nd December 2020	- Nomination of a Chairperson; - Budget Monitoring 2020-21 Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast; - Cabinet response to Cross-Party Recovery Panel Recommendations; - Nomination to Corporate Parenting Committee; - Nomination to Public Services Board Scrutiny Panel; - FWP Update Report.

Second Cycle of Meetings:

Directors have been requested to present a verbal update upon the impact of Covid-19 upon their service area / their operational response, at the next SOSC meetings:

Scrutiny Committee:	Date:	Report:
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	7 th December 2020	Corporate Director - Education and Family Support
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	14 th December 2020	Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	17 th December 2020	Corporate Director – Communities
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 th January 2020	- Corporate Plan 18-22 reviewed for 21-22; - Quarter 2 Performance; - <i>Capital Strategy 21-22 onwards (may be at this meeting or with MTFS in January meetings below.)</i>

Third Cycle of Meetings:

Scrutiny Committee:	Date:	Report:
Combined Scrutiny Committee of all Scrutiny Members for	Wednesday 20 th January 2021 at 10am	Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for: - Education & Family Support; - Communities.
Combined Scrutiny Committee of all Scrutiny Members for	Thursday, 21 st January 2021 at 10am	Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for: - Social Services & Wellbeing; - Chief Executive's.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Monday, 1 st February 2021 at 10am	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Draft Budget Consultation Process (to present the Committee with the final report of the Budget Research and Evaluation Panel (BREP) and the responses from all the Subject the SOSCs and the final BREP Recommendations upon the Draft Budget Proposals and MTFs.

Corporate Parenting

- 4.7 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a Local Authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent', therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend.
- 4.8 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how each item they consider affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee assist in these areas.

Scrutiny Member Training

- 4.9 Members may recall that Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Questioning Skills Training for Scrutiny Members and Training for Scrutiny Chairs was postponed due to the national lockdown. However, WLGA can now offer the training via Microsoft Teams software, which has recently been installed on Members' devices. Following consultation with Scrutiny Chairs, the following training sessions have been arranged via Microsoft Teams:
- One session of Scrutiny Questioning Skills for all Scrutiny Members on Monday 30th November at 2pm;

- One session of Scrutiny Chairs' Training for 3 Scrutiny Chairs, the Chair of the Budget Research and Evaluation Panel, the Chair of the Cross-Party Recovery Panel and the Chair of the Public Services Board Scrutiny Panel on Wednesday, 25th November at 10am.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 The work of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend. Any changes to the structure of the Scrutiny Committees and the procedures relating to them would require the Bridgend County Borough Council constitution to be updated.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality impacts arising directly from this report.

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

- 7.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long-term - The approval of this report will assist in the planning of Scrutiny business in both the short-term and in the long-term on its policies, budget and service delivery.
- Prevention - The early preparation of the Forward Work Programme allows for the advance planning of Scrutiny business where Members are provided an opportunity to influence and improve decisions before they are made by Cabinet.
- Integration - The report supports all the wellbeing objectives.
- Collaboration - Consultation on the content of the Forward Work Programme has taken place with the Corporate Management Board, Heads of Service, Elected Members and members of the public.
- Involvement - Advanced publication of the Forward Work Programme ensures that the public and stakeholders can view topics that will be discussed in Committee meetings and are provided with the opportunity to engage.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The delivery of the Forward Work Programme will be met from within existing resources for Overview and Scrutiny support.

9. Recommendations

9.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Confirm the draft interim Forward Work Programme in paragraphs 4.6 above, including the items delegated to the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- b) Identify any specific information the Committee wish to be included in the item for the next meeting, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) Identify any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme for the remainder of the municipal calendar of meetings, using the agreed Criteria Form.

K Watson
Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services
26 November 2020

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Background documents: None

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPION NOMINATION REPORT

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Committee to nominate one Member as its Corporate Parenting Champion to represent the Committee as an invitee to meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.

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 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend. ¹

¹ Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Local Government Association 'If this were my child... A councillor's guide to being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers', June 2009

- 3.2 In order to further develop and enhance the Council's Corporate Parenting role with its partners, a Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting comprising all Members of Cabinet was established by Cabinet on 4 November 2008.
- 3.3 The inaugural meeting of the Cabinet Committee was held on 27 November 2008 where it was agreed that the Cabinet Committee will meet bi-monthly. The terms of reference for the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting are:
- to ensure that looked after children are seen as a priority by the whole of the Authority and by the Children and Young People's Partnership;
 - to seek the views of children and young people in shaping and influencing the parenting they receive;
 - to ensure that appropriate policies, opportunities and procedures are in place;
 - to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Authority in its role as corporate parent against Welsh Government guidance.
- 3.4 At its inaugural meeting, the Cabinet Committee requested that a Corporate Parenting "Champion" be nominated from each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to become permanent invitees to the Cabinet Committee.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The Committee is requested to nominate one Member as its Corporate Parenting Champion to represent the Committee as an invitee at meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.
- 4.2 The role of the Corporate Parenting Champion is to represent their Overview and Scrutiny Committee, partaking in discussions with Cabinet over items relating to children in care and care leavers.
- 4.3 It is also suggested that in this role each Champion considers how all services within the remit of Scrutiny affect children in care and care leavers and encourage their own Committee to bear their Corporate Parenting role in mind when participating in Scrutiny.
- 4.4 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 The work of the Subject Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.

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 Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long Term – The establishment of the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee demonstrates the Authority’s long term commitment to improving and strengthening their role as Corporate Parents to care leavers and Looked After Children.
- Prevention – The Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee are preventative in their nature and ensure that appropriate policies, opportunities and procedures are in place for all care leavers and Looked After Children.
- Integration – This report supports all the well-being objectives.
- Collaboration – All members are Corporate Parents and this report supports collaborative working with Cabinet and Members of Scrutiny and emphasises the role of Corporate Parents for all Elected Members.
- Involvement – Corporate Parent Champions provide practical support and guidance to children in care and care leavers to ensure they achieve their well-being goals.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Committee is asked to nominate one Member of the Committee as its Corporate Parenting Champion to represent the Committee at meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.

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26 November 2020

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Background Documents

None

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

NOMINATION TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SCRUTINY PANEL

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to request the Committee to nominate three Members to sit on the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel.

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 From 1 April 2016, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 introduced statutory Public Services Boards (PSB) across each local authority area in Wales. PSBs work together to improve the social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being of the board's area. The Act specified that one Committee take an overview of the overall effectiveness of the Board which the Authority determined to carry out via a PSB Scrutiny Panel which now sits under the remit of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 3.2 The purpose of the Panel is to review and scrutinise the efficiency and effectiveness of the PSB and its decisions as well as the governance arrangements surrounding it. The Panel will hold up to two meetings a year and will make reports or recommendations to the Board regarding its functions, with the aim of enhancing its impact. These recommendations are to be presented to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval prior to submission to the Board.
- 3.3 A copy of any report or recommendation made to the Public Service Board must be sent to the Welsh Ministers, the Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales.
- 3.4 The membership of the PSB Panel is determined annually and incorporates three Members from the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, one Member from each of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees and counterpart representatives that sit on the Public Service Board.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 In addition to the one Member nominated from each of the three Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the Committee is asked to nominate a further three Members to sit on the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 The work of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equalities 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 Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long-term - The establishment of the PSB Panel will assist in the long term planning of the business of the Council by the continuation of effective relationships with other organisations to improve wellbeing in Bridgend County now and in the future.
- Prevention - The PSB Scrutiny Panel will monitor the

Public Service Board's objectives and priorities within the Wellbeing Plan which address underlying causes of problems and prevent them getting worse or happening in the future.

- Integration - The report supports all the wellbeing objectives.
- Collaboration - The PSB Panel supports partnership working with other organisations both locally and regionally.
- Involvement - The PSB Panel will maintain a relationship with other Organisations through effective partnership working and act as a critical friend to ensure the PSB are involving citizens of Bridgend when making decisions that affect them.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Committee is asked to nominate three Members of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to sit on the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel.

K Watson
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26 November 2020

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Background Documents

None

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