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## Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

### Bridgend County Borough Council



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

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Annwyl Cyngorydd,

#### **CABINET**

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Cabinet O bell trwy Dimau Microsoft ar **Dydd Mawrth, 19 Hydref 2021 am 14:30.**

#### **AGENDA**

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Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Aelodau.
2. Datganiadau o fuddiant  
Derbyn datganiadau o ddiddordeb personol a rhagfarnol (os o gwbl) gan Aelodau /  
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Cyngor o 1 Medi 2008.
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- |     |  |           |
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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](mailto:cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk) neu ffoniwch 01656 643147 / 643148.

Yn ddiffuant

**K Watson**

Prif Swyddog, Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Rheoleiddio, AD a Pholisi Corfforaethol

#### **Dosbarthiad:**

Cynghowrwyd

HJ David  
CE Smith

Cynghorwyr

HM Williams  
D Patel

Cynghorwyr

NA Burnett  
SE Baldwin

COFNODION CYFARFOD Y CABINET A GYNHALIWDYD O BELL TRWY TIMAU MICROSOFT  
DYDD MAWRTH, 14 MEDI 2021, AM 14:30

Presennol

Y Cyngorydd HJ David – Cadeirydd

CE Smith  
SE Baldwin

HM Williams

D Patel

NA Burnett

Swyddogion:

Claire Marchant	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles
Janine Nightingale	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Cymunedau
Kelly Watson	Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio
Mark Shephard	Prif Weithredwr
Andrew Rees	Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd
Deborah Exton	Dirprwy Bennaeth Cyllid dros dro
Lindsay Harvey	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg a Chymorth i Deuluoedd
Rachel Jones	Rheolwr Caffael Corfforaethol
Gaynor Thomas	Rheolwr Rhaglen Ysgolion
Mark Wilkinson	Rheolwr Grwp, Anabledd Dysgu, Iechyd Meddwl a Chamdddefnyddio Sylweddau

698. DATGANIADAU O FUDD

Dim.

699. CYMERADWYO COFNODION

PENDERFYNWYD:

Y dylid cymeradwyo cofnodion cyfarfod y Cabinet ar  
20/07/21 fel cofnod gwir a chywir.

700. DARPARU GWASANAETH YN Y DYFODOL

Adroddodd y Prif Weithredwr ar waith y Cyngor hyd yma a chynlluniau ar gyfer ei fodel darparu gwasanaeth yn y dyfodol wrth iddo wella o bandemig Covid-19.

Adroddodd y Prif Weithredwr fod y pandemig wedi cyflwyno'r her fwyaf i wasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol mewn cenhedlaeth ac wedi arwain at newidiadau cyflym a sylweddol i'r ffordd y mae'r Cyngor a'i bartneriaid yn darparu gwasanaethau. Er mis Mawrth 2020, ffocws y Cyngor oedd cadw bywyd, lleihau lledaeniad y firws a chefnogi ei holl gymunedau. Diolchodd i'r staff am eu dewrder, ystwythder, ymrwymiad a'u parodrwydd i ddarparu gwasanaethau i'w cymunedau. Bu buddsoddiad sylweddol a chyflwynwyd offer TGCh a DSE ychwanegol i staff a gwnaed buddsoddiad sylweddol mewn seilwaith TGCh craidd i gefnogi'r newidiadau hyn a darparu gwasanaeth gweithio gartref dibynadwy.

Hysbysodd y Prif Weithredwr y Cabinet fod y broses o ddarparu gwasanaethau wedi cael ei chynnal yn llwyddiannus gyda'r Cyngor yn ymateb yn effeithiol i'r heriau ychwanegol o ddarparu gwasanaethau newydd sy'n gysylltiedig â Covid fel tracio ac olrhain a helpu i roi'r rhaglen frechu lwyddiannus ar waith. Dywedodd fod natur ddigynsail yr heriau wedi codi risgiau a materion a nodwyd yn yr asesiad risg corfforaethol, a oedd yn cynnwys risgiau i sicrhau newid trawsnewidiol ac arbedion ariannol cytunedig, adfer ac ailddechrau gwasanaethau wrth sicrhau amgylchedd Covid-

ddiogel i'r cyhoedd a staff. Materion y gweithlu sy'n ymwneud â denu, datblygu a chadw staff sydd â'r sgiliau angenrheidiol i ateb y gofynion a osodir ar y Cyngor a'i wasanaethau.

Adroddodd mai her hanfodol i'r Cyngor trwy gydol y cyfnod adfer o'r pandemig yw sut i gynllunio ar gyfer yr hyn sydd wedi gweithio'n dda dros y 18 mis diwethaf yn fwyaf effeithiol, gan fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion a'r pryderon a oedd wedi codi ynghylch lles staff, datblygu tîm a mynediad at rai gwasanaethau. Dywedodd fod cyfle i ddatblygu a gweithredu model gweithredu newydd ar gyfer darparu llawer o wasanaethau'r Cyngor, gan sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn 'addas at y diben' wrth symud ymlaen, gyda ffocws ar fod mor ystwyth â phosibl a chanolbwyntio ar y cwsmer cymaint â phosibl. Yn ogystal, canolbwyntiwyd ar rannau eraill o'r adferiad, gan gynnwys gweithredu argymhellion y Panel Adferiad Trawsbleidiol.

Adroddodd fod y pandemig wedi creu cyfle i drawsnewid y ffordd y mae'r Cyngor yn gweithredu, gan adeiladu ar y gwersi a'r profiadau sy'n deillio o'r pandemig a'u rhoi ar waith, pan roedd mwy o wasanaethau'r Cyngor yn cael eu darparu o bell ac yn rhithiol, a'r cyhoedd yn cofleidio ffyrdd newydd o wneud busnes gyda'r Cyngor. Roedd bwrdd prosiect wedi'i sefydlu i yrru'r gwaith hwn yn ei flaen a chreu model gweithio ystwyth cyfunol newydd, gan fanteisio ar gyflymu trawsnewid digidol yn ystod pandemig Covid-19, sy'n ceisio cynyddu effeithlonrwydd gwasanaethau. Amlinellodd y set o egwyddorion strategol a ddatblygwyd i arwain datblygiad a gweithrediad effeithiol y rhaglen waith darparu gwasanaeth yn y dyfodol ac amlygodd y buddion posibl sy'n deillio o fodel diwygiedig o ddarparu gwasanaeth yn y dyfodol, gan gynnwys alinio'n agos ag amcanion cenedlaethol a chorfforaethol y cytunwyd arnynt, gan gydnabod y byddai'n rhaid rheoli a monitro'r rhain yn ofalus.

Hysbysodd y Cabinet y byddai angen gwneud gwaith mewn 2 gam; cyfnod dros dro, y mae'r Cyngor yn gweithredu ynddo ar hyn o bryd. Cyhoeddwyd Holiadur Gweithio o Bell gan Archwilio Mewnol, a'i bwrpas oedd nodi unrhyw newidiadau a wnaed i drefniadau rheoli neu lywodraethu o ganlyniad i'r cynnydd mewn gweithio o bell oherwydd Covid-19. Yn dilyn dadansoddiad o'r ymatebion, daeth yr Archwiliad Mewnol i'r casgliad yn ei adroddiad bod effeithiolrwydd yr amgylchedd rheolaeth fewnol yn rhesymol ac ni wnaed unrhyw argymhellion penodol. Roedd staff, ar ôl cwblhau arolwg ar y model dosbarthu o bell, yn croesawu model hybrid neu o bell. Dywedodd fod cael gwasanaeth TGCh ag adnoddau digonol yn cael ei ystyried yn hollbwysig ac roedd rheolwyr yn awyddus i archwilio datrysiadau digidol pellach i'w cyflwyno, i sbarduno nod y Cyngor o ddod yn Gyngor Digidol erbyn 2024, gan gynnwys opsiynau ar gyfer rheoli cyfarfodydd aelodau yn y dyfodol. Y nod tymor hir, ar yr amod y gellir dod o hyd i atebion TG addas i'w ganiatáu, (prosesau pleidleisio ac ati) fyddai i aelodau etholedig gael y dewis a ydynt yn mynychu cyfarfodydd y Cyngor yn bersonol neu o bell.

Adroddodd fod cyfle i ddatblygu model gweithredu tymor hir ar gyfer y Cyngor a oedd yn cofleidio llawer o'r buddion a oedd wedi dod i'r amlwg o'r ffordd y mae'r Cyngor wedi gorfod gweithredu dros y 18 mis diwethaf yn ystod y pandemig, tra hefyd yn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r pryderon y mae staff a'r cyhoedd wedi'u mynegi ynghylch materion lles, cyfleoedd i gwrdd yn bersonol lle bo hynny'n briodol, a gwella gwasanaethau digidol ymhellach i foderneiddio gwasanaethau tra hefyd yn sicrhau nad oes unrhyw un yn cael ei eithrio. Dywedodd fod y rhaglen waith yn cynrychioli un o'r heriau gweithredol mwyaf sylweddol y mae'r Cyngor hwn wedi'i hwynebu ac y byddai angen iddi gael adnoddau priodol, ei chyfathrebu'n effeithiol a'i rhoi ar waith yn fedrus i sicrhau ei llwyddiant.

Gwnaeth Aelod y Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar sylwadau ar yr ymgysylltiad hynod gadarnhaol â staff a bod gweithio gartref bellach yn rhoi hyblygrwydd i ystyried amgylchiadau staff. Dywedodd y byddai angen edrych yn gyfannol ar yr effaith ar y gymuned ehangach fel darparu gofal plant a meithrinfa.



Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr y byddai angen ystyried darpariaeth o'r fath yn y tymor hwy a bod angen ystyried cyrchu gwasanaethau'n lleol.

Diolchodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Gymunedau i staff am y ffordd yr oeddent yn addasu i weithio mewn ffordd ystwyth ac roedd o'r farn y gellid datblygu cyfleoedd i staff weithio'n lleol mewn hybiau i'w gwneud hi'n haws cyrchu darpariaeth gofal plant, tra hefyd yn cyfrannu at yr agenda datgarboneiddio. Adleisiodd yr Arweinydd y gwerthfawrogiad i staff a bod ymgysylltu â staff ac undebau llafur yn hanfodol i lwyddiant y model darparu gwasanaeth yn y dyfodol, wrth gadw iechyd a diogelwch a chynghor Llywodraeth Cymru yn flaenllaw.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- nodi'r wybodaeth oedd yn yr adroddiad a'r cynnydd a wnaed o ran model gweithredu newydd i'r Cynghor, a
- dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Prif Weithredwr i ddatblygu opsiynau ar gyfer model gweithredu tymor hirach y Cynghor a darparu adroddiad pellach i'w gymeradwyo gan y Cabinet maes o law.

**701. DIWEDDARIAD I STRATEGAETH ARIANNOL TYMOR CANOLIG 2022-23 I 2025-26**

Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro ddiweddariad ar ddatblygiad y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig 2022-23 i 2025-26, yn dilyn yr adolygiad o ragdybiaethau mewnol, a chafodd gwybodaeth gyfredol a dderbyniwyd ers Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig 2021-22 i 2024-25 ei chymeradwyo gan y Cynghor ym mis Chwefror 2021.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro fod y Strategaeth Ariannol Terfynol Ganolig a gymeradwywyd gan y Cynghor ar 24 Chwefror 2021 wedi nodi bwlch posibl o £22m dros y cyfnod 2021-22 - 2024-25, a bod angen arbedion o £1.76 miliwn yn 2021-22 ac amlinellodd amcangyfrif o arbedion blynnyddoedd i ddod, yn seiliedig ar y senario orau, y senario fwyaf tebygol a'r senario waethaf. Dywedodd, ar yr adeg y gosodwyd y gyllideb, fod rhywfaint o ansicrwydd oherwydd codiadau cyflog a phrisiau, ynghyd ag effaith hirdymor y pandemig a Brexit. Hysbysodd y Cabinet fod y Cynghor wedi dibynnu ar gyllid grant a dderbyniwyd o gronfa caledi Llywodraeth Cymru o £24.643m i sicrhau cyllideb gytbwys. Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dyrannu £206m i'r gronfa caledi i gefnogi llywodraeth leol am y 6 mis cyntaf yn 2021-22 ac wedi cadarnhau estyniad o gymorth cysylltiedig â chost i ofal cymdeithasol oedolion hyd at ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol. Nid oedd unrhyw gymorth ariannol pellach ar gael ar gyfer gofal cymdeithasol ar gyfer y rhai nad ydynt yn oedolion, oedd yn rhoi pwysau ychwanegol ar y gyllideb.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro ar sefyllfa'r gyllideb ar gyfer 2021-22 sef £298,956, wedi'i ariannu o 3 ffynhonnell. Ar 30 Mehefin 2021, rhagamcaniad o £904k oedd y sefyllfa, oedd yn adlewyrchu'r pwysau ar ofal cymdeithasol oedolion. Amlinellodd y prif bwysau y mae angen eu hystyried ar gyfer strategaeth gyllideb 2022-23, sef dyfarniadau cyflog; chwyddiant prisiau a phwysau demograffig. Rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i'r gwahanol senarios o newidiadau i Gyllid Allanol Agregau a chodiadau treth gyngor a'r arbedion canlyniadol sy'n ofynnol. Ychydig iawn o gynigion lleihau cyllideb a gyflwynwyd a byddai gwaith yn parhau gyda'r Panel Ymchwilio a Gwerthuso Cyllideb i ddod â chynigion lleihau cyllideb ynghyd i'w hystyried ac ymgynghori arnynt dros weddill y flwyddyn ariannol.

Hysbysodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro fod Archwilio Cymru wedi cwblhau adroddiad ar gynaliadwyedd ariannol y Cynghor a daeth i'r casgliad bod y

Cyngor wedi cynnal sefyllfa ariannol gref yn ystod y pandemig ac nad oes unrhyw risgiau ymddangosiadol i gynaliadwyedd ariannol y Cyngor. Fodd bynnag, roedd Archwilio Cymru wedi cyngori bod yr effaith uniongyrchol ar gynaliadwyedd ariannol y Cyngor yn cael ei lliniaru gan gyllid Llywodraeth Cymru, ac er bod gan y Cyngor hanes o gyflawni mwyafri ei arbedion cynlluniedig yn ystod y flwyddyn, fel Cyngorau eraill, byddai nodi a chyflawni arbedion yn y dyfodol yn fwy heriol. Nododd Archwiliad Cymru hefyd fod Cyngorau sy'n dangos patrwm o ddefnydd heb ei gynllunio o gronfeydd wrth gefn i lenwi bylchau yn eu cyllideb refeniw sy'n arwain at ostyngiadau mewn gweddillion cronfeydd wrth gefn yn lleihau eu gwytnwch i ariannu pwysau cyllidebol annisgwyl yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro ar yr ymgynghoriad cyllideb a fydd yn cychwyn ar 20 Medi 2021, gan ddod i ben ar 14 Tachwedd 2021. Adroddodd hefyd ar y rhaglen gyfalaf, sy'n rhaglen 10 mlynedd ac yn cael ei diweddarau a'i hadolygu a'i hadrodd wrth y Cyngor bob chwarter. Byddai'r Cyngor yn parhau i geisio sicrhau cyllid grant allanol ar gyfer cynlluniau lle bo hynny'n bosibl, er mwyn lleihau'r effaith ar gyllidebau mewnol. Amlinellodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro yr amserlen gyllidebol debygol, gan ddechrau ym mis Medi 2021, gan ddod i ben ym mis Mawrth 2022.

Dywedodd Aelod y Cabinet dros Gymunedau fod camddealltwriaeth mewn perthynas â lefel cronfeydd wrth gefn y Cyngor, yn yr ystyr nad yw ei gronfeydd wrth gefn anghyfyngedig yn uchel. Hefyd, mae arbedion i gyllideb y Cyngor mewn gwirionedd yn doriadau cyllideb oherwydd mesurau cyni. Dywedodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid Dros Dro fod lefel y cronfeydd wrth gefn yn 9% ac na fyddai ond yn galluogi'r Cyngor i redeg am ychydig ddyddiau pe bai argyfwng. Dywedodd fod cronfeydd wrth gefn clustnodedig y Cyngor o £29m ar gyfer cynlluniau yn y rhaglen gyfalaf. Dywedodd hefyd fod lefel y cronfeydd wrth gefn cyffredinol yn isel a bod rhai Cyngorau yn casglu eu cyllidebau refeniw gan ddefnyddio cronfeydd wrth gefn. Dywedodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd fod cronfeydd wrth gefn wedi'u clustnodi yn cael eu blaenoriaethu i'w defnyddio i gefnogi'r rhaglen foderneiddio ysgolion a bod rhai yn benodol i grantiau. Dywedodd ei bod yn anarferol derbyn adroddiad canol tymor ar y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig, ond roedd cyllid caledi Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn hanfodol i gadw'r Cyngor i fynd a bod heriau ac ansicrwydd sylweddol o hyd ynghylch Covid o'i flaen.

Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod y pwysau a'r galw ar wasanaethau'n uwch nag erioed, heb unrhyw sicrwydd faint o'r cyfraniadau ychwanegol ar gyfer iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol a fyddai'n dod i Gymru. Byddai'r polisi hwn yn dod â phwysau pellach ar y Cyngor fel cyflogwr i orfod ariannu cyfraniadau Yswiriant Gwladol uwch.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet wedi nodi'r adroddiad ar Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig 2022-23 i 2025-26 wedi'i diweddarau.

**702. DARPARIAETH GWASANAETH CAMDDEFNYDDIO SYLWEDDAU YM MWRDEISTREF SIROL PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR**

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles ar ddiweddariad o'r gwaith i drosglwyddo gwasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau o hen Fwrdd Cynllunio Ardal Bae'r Gorllewin i Fwrdd Cynllunio Ardal Cwm Taf Morgannwg.

Hysbysodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles y Cabinet fod Byrddau Cynllunio Ardal (BCA) wedi'u sefydlu gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn 2010 i ddarparu fframwaith rhanbarthol i gryfhau gweithio mewn partneriaeth ac arweinyddiaeth strategol wrth gyflawni'r strategaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau; cyfoethogi a gwella

swyddogaethau allweddol cynllunio, comisiynu a rheoli perfformiad. Bwrdd aml-asiantaeth yw BCA Cwm Taf Morgannwg, sy'n atebol i'r Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus mewn perthynas â'i holl weithgareddau. Dywedodd fod y rhan fwyaf o wasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau yn cael eu hariannu trwy ddwy ffrwd ariannu Llywodraeth Cymru, y Gronfa Gweithredu Camddefnyddio Sylweddau: £4M a dyraniad camddefnyddio sylweddau wedi'i glustnodi gan y Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol: £3.5M, gyda Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf yn fanciwr enwebedig, sydd hefyd yn cyflogi tîm comisiynu bach i ymgysylltu â phartneriaid i gydlynu swyddogaethau gofynnol y BCA. Rheolir y tîm gan Brif Swyddog Camddefnyddio Sylweddau.

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles, fel rhan o broses foderneiddio i ymateb i newidiadau mewn deddfwriaeth ac angen defnyddwyr gwasanaeth, bod BCA Cwm Taf wedi comisiynu ymgynghorwyr, Ymchwil Iechyd a Chymdeithasol, i gynnal adolygiad o ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau yng Nghyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf a Merthyr Tudful, ac i ddatblygu model gwasanaeth. Dechreuodd y gwasanaeth integredig newydd ar 1 Ebrill 2019. Yn dilyn newid ffiniau'r bwrdd iechyd ym mis Ebrill 2019, gofynnwyd i Ymchwil Iechyd a Chymdeithasol gynnal asesiad o anghenion yn benodol ar gyfer ardal Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles y bydd gwasanaethau Haen 3 yn cael eu comisiynu a'u darparu gan Fwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg. Bydd gwasanaethau triniaeth a chymorth Haen 1 a 2 yn cael eu hail-gomisiynu a gwasanaeth integredig newydd gydag un darparwr yn cael ei benodi. Dechreuwyd datblygu'r broses gaffael ym mis Mawrth 2021, a rhagwelir y bydd y tendr yn cael ei gyhoeddi ar 1 Hydref 2021, a bydd y gwasanaeth newydd yn cychwyn ar 1 Ebrill 2022. Byddai contract yn cael ei ddyfarnu am ddwy flynedd gydag opsiwn i ymestyn am gyfnod pellach o flwyddyn a blwyddyn arall i gyd-fynd â chontract Cwm Taf. Bydd Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn parhau fel banciwr enwebedig a derbynnydd grantiau a chyflogwr y tîm comisiynu rhanbarthol ar gyfer y BCA, a bydd yn ymgymryd â'r broses gaffael trwy'r tîm comisiynu rhanbarthol. Byddai cytundeb cydweithredu yn cael ei drafod a'i gyuno rhwng Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf i lywodraethu eu priod rolau a'u cyfrifoldebau yn ystod y broses gaffael a nodi sut y bydd y partïon yn cydweithredu i oruchwylio'r broses o ddarparu'r gwasanaeth. Amlinellodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles gydrannau'r gwasanaeth newydd, a fyddai'n canolbwyntio ar yr unigolyn ac yn canolbwyntio ar wella canlyniadau i bobl a darparu dull cyson o ddarparu gwasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau.

Nododd Aelod y Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar, wrth ganmol yr adroddiad, ar yr amod bod gwasanaethau triniaeth Haen 1 a 2 yn cael eu rhoi ar waith, y byddai hyn yn lleihau'r galw ar Haenau 3 a 4. Dywedodd y bydd y gwasanaethau'n darparu cefnogaeth hanfodol i deuluoedd fel bod canlyniadau gwell yn cael eu cyflawni.

Gofynnodd Aelod y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a welwyd gwahaniaeth i ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau ers i ffin y bwrdd iechyd newid. Dywedodd y Rheolwr Grŵp Anabledd Dysgu, Iechyd Meddwl a Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau fod y newid ffin i Gwm Taf wedi gweld trefniant cadarnhaol, ond o'r blaen, roedd diffyg strwythur i'r BCA. Gwnaeth sylwadau ar effeithiolrwydd y tîm rhanbarthol yn RhCT, a oedd wedi'i drefnu'n dda.

Roedd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Les a Chenedlaethau'r Dyfodol yn falch o weld y cydweithio gyda phartneriaid a gofynnodd am adroddiad pellach unwaith y bydd pethau wedi ymsefydlu, er mwyn gweld sut mae gwasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau yn gwella.

Dyweddodd yr Arweinydd fod camddefnyddio sylweddau yn cyfrannu at ddigartrefedd a'i bod yn bwysig canolbwyntio ar fynd i'r afael â'r broblem iechyd hon. Dywedodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar fod y gwasanaeth yn gweld pob math o gyflwyniadau ers y pandemig a gwnaeth sylwadau ar bwysigrwydd ymyrraeth a chefnogaeth gynnar.

Diolchodd yr Arweinydd i'r Rheolwr Grŵp Anabledd Dysgu, Iechyd Meddwl a Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau a'i dîm sydd wedi parhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau mor werthfawr i'r gymuned yn ystod y pandemig.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- nodi'r gwaith sydd wedi'i wneud i drosglwyddo gwasanaethau camddefnyddio sylweddau o hen BCA Bae'r Gorllewin i BCA Cwm Taf Morgannwg;
- cymeradwyo Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol RhCT i gynnal yr ymarfer caffael i gomisiynu'r darparwr gwasanaeth integredig ar gyfer darpariaeth gwasanaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau Haen 1 a 2 ym Mwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn unol â rheol 3.1.5 o Reolau Gweithdrefn Contract y Cyngor, gyda chymeradwyaeth i ddyfarnu'r contract gwasanaeth trwy bwerau dirprwyedig (o dan Gynllun Dirprwyo BCBC) unwaith y bydd y broses gaffael a gwerthuso wedi'i chynnal; a
- cymeradwyo Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i ymrwmo i gytundeb cydweithredu rhanbarthol gyda Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol RhCT i nodi cyfrifoldebau pob Awdurdod Lleol am y broses gaffael gychwynnol a rheoli contract y contract gwasanaeth.
- dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles, mewn ymgynghoriad â'r Pennaeth Cyllid Dros Dro ac Adran 151 y Swyddog a'r Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio, i gytuno ar delerau'r cytundeb cydweithredu rhanbarthol ac unrhyw ddogfennau ac ymrwmo iddo neu weithredoedd ategol i'r cytundeb hwnnw.
- gofyn i adroddiad pellach gael ei gyflwyno i'r Cabinet unwaith y bydd y gwasanaethau newydd a'r darparwr newydd ar waith ac adrodd ar lwyddiant y gwasanaethau hynny.

**703. RHOI'R RHAGLEN TRAWSNEWID TREFI (TT) AR WAITH 2021-2022**

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau ar ddiweddariad ar y rhaglen Targedu Buddsoddiad mewn Adfywio gynt a cheisiodd gymeradwyaeth i symud ymlaen ar raglen olynedd TBA - Trawsnewid Trefi (TT) ym Mwrdeistref y Sir. Hysbysodd y Cabinet bod, hyd yma, cyllid o £2.7m wedi'i sicrhau trwy'r rhaglen TBA i gefnogi prosiectau adfywio a bod Swyddogion yn gweithio gyda thirfeddianwyr / lesddeiliaid gyda'r nod o gefnogi prosiectau trwy'r rhaglen TT, a fydd yn rhedeg tan fis Medi 2022, gyda'r posibilrwydd o estyniad.

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau fod y Cyngor wedi llwyddo i sicrhau £910k o'r rhaglen TT ar gyfer caffael a dymchwel safle gorsaf yr heddlu yn Cheapside,

gyda Swyddogion yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth â'r Heddlu a Choleg Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i symud ymlaen â'r cynigion ar gyfer y safle. .

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau hefyd y bydd y Cyngor yn parhau i gyflawni'r prosiectau thematig er mwyn parhau i gefnogi piblinellau prosiectau a ddatblygwyd trwy gynllun TBA Thematig 2018-21 y mae angen eu cwblhau, gan gydnabod ar yr un pryd y gweithgaredd cymwys ychwanegol a gynhwysir yn Grant Gwneud Lle TT 2021-22. Dywedodd y bydd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf yn gweithredu fel y prif gorff ac y bydd yn adrodd i Lywodraeth Cymru a Bwrdd Adfywio Rhanbarthol De-ddwyrain Cymru, a fydd yn cynnwys Bwrdd Adfywio Rhanbarth Prifddinas Caerdydd. Byddai'r grant Gwneud Lle wedi'i anelu at ganol trefi Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Maesteg a Phorthcawl.

Adroddodd hefyd fod y Cyngor wedi llwyddo i sicrhau £1,166,000 i'w rannu ag Awdurdodau Lleol eraill y De-ddwyrain yn 2021-22 i wireddu prosiectau o dan Brosiectau Yn y Cyfamser; Digwyddiadau a Marchnata a Chefnogaeth Ddigidol o fewn Canol Trefi. Amlinellodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau y risgiau a'r materion sy'n gysylltiedig â pharhau â'r rhaglen.

Nododd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg ac Adfywio, wrth ganmol y cynigion, fod angen rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r cyflawniadau adfywio ar Stryd Nolton. Dywedodd y bydd y cynigion yn Cheapside yn gweld addysg ac adfywio yn cwrdd ac yn codi o Uwchgynllun Canol Tref Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar y bydd y prosiectau'n gwneud gwahaniaeth i ganol y trefi a bydd hefyd yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i landlordiaid gysylltu i alluogi prosiectau adfywio i ddigwydd. Gofynnodd beth ellir ei wneud i sicrhau bod landlordiaid yn cysylltu. Hysbysodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau y Cabinet fod angen i landlordiaid fod yn barod i gysylltu gan fod rhai eiddo mewn cyflwr gwael. Gall y Cyngor ddefnyddio pwerau o dan Adran 215 y Ddeddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990 i gyflwyno rhybudd os yw'n ystyried bod cyflwr tir neu adeiladau yn niweidiol i'r ardal. Dywedodd fod cyflwyno rhybudd yn aml yn ddigonol i sicrhau bod landlordiaid yn gweithredu i wella eu heiddo. Dywedodd fod achos mewn perthynas ag eiddo a ddifrodwyd gan dân yn destun achos llys. Mae gan y Cyngor bwerau Gorchymyn Prynu Gorfodol hefyd er budd corfforaethol mwy, a fyddai'n cael ei ddefnyddio ar ôl i'r holl lwybrau eraill gael eu defnyddio. Dywedodd yr Arweinydd fod y cynlluniau a gwblhawyd o dan y rhaglen TBA wedi bod yn bosibl trwy gyllid Llywodraeth Cymru a gweithio mewn partneriaeth â landlordiaid, a oedd wedi gweld eiddo'n cael ei ddefnyddio eto mewn canol trefi gyda phobl yn byw ar y lloriau uchaf ac adwerthu ar y lloriau isaf. Roedd yn edrych ymlaen at dderbyn adroddiad diweddar wrth i'r rhaglen Trawsnewid Trefi ddatblygu.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

1. Cymeradwyo'r cynigion amlinellol ar gyfer cyflwyno TT yng nghanol trefi Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, fel y nodir yn adran 4 yr adroddiad.
2. Nodi a derbyn y risgiau a'r materion a amlygwyd ym mharagraff 4.7.
3. Awdurdodi'r Prif Swyddog Cyllid i dderbyn y grant TBA ar ran yr Awdurdod.
4. Dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Cyfarwyddwr Cymunedau, mewn ymgynghoriad â'r Prif Swyddog Dros Dro - Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid a'r Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio, i:
  1. drafod a llunio'r cytundeb lefel gwasanaeth diwygiedig gyda Rhondda Cynon Taf; a
  2. cymeradwyo unrhyw estyniad neu welliant i'r cytundeb lefel gwasanaeth ac ymrwymo i unrhyw weithredoedd a dogfennau pellach sy'n ategol i gytundeb lefel gwasanaeth.
5. Dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Rheolwr Grŵp, Adfywio, i ddyfarnu'r Grantiau Gwneud Lle TT a Busnes.

6. Cymeradwyo penodi'r Prif Swyddog Adfywio i eistedd fel cynrychiolydd partner Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr ar grŵp gweithredol TT.

704. **NEWYDDIAD CONTRACT MENTER YMCHWIL BUSNESAU BACH**

Gofynnodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau am gymeradwyaeth i hepgor Contract Rheolau Gweithdrefn yn unol â CPR 3.2.9.4 mewn perthynas â'r contract gyda PassivSystems Limited ar gyfer Cam 2 y Fenter Ymchwil Busnesau Bach ac i ymrwymo i Weithred Newyddiad i newyddio'r contract hwnnw o PassiSystems Limited i Passiv UK Limited.

Adroddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau fod y Cabinet ym mis Chwefror 2019 wedi cymeradwyo Strategaeth Ynni Ardal Leol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chynllun Ynni Clyfar. Roedd y Cynllun Ynni Clyfar yn cynnwys sawl syniad am brosiectau i'w datblygu dros 2019 - 2025 a fydd yn darparu'r sylfaen dystiolaeth ar gyfer datgarboneiddio Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn unol â'r Strategaeth Ynni Ardal Leol. Cyflwynodd y Cyngor gynnis i Lywodraeth Cymru trwy eu Menter Ymchwil Busnesau Bach (SBRI) i gynnal cystadleuaeth arloesi (dros ddau gam - Dichonoldeb ac Arddangos) i ganiatáu i arloeswyr yn y farchnad gynnis syniadau ynghylch sut y gellid datblygu rhwydweithiau gwres am gost is nag amodau cyfredol y farchnad.

Hysbysodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau y Cabinet, yn dilyn cystadleuaeth yn 2019, y penodwyd 4 sefydliad i ddatblygu eu syniadau fel rhan o Gam 1 y broses SBRI. Un ohonynt oedd Passiv Systems, y dyfarnwyd y contract iddynt i gyflawni eu prosiect arddangos fel rhan o Gam 2 y SBRI ym mis Mawrth 2021. Fodd bynnag, rhoddwyd PassivSystems i ddwylo'r gweinyddwyr ym mis Ebrill 2021 ac yna cawsant eu prynu gan Passiv UK. Dywedodd, o ganlyniad i'r caffaeliad hwn, fod Passiv UK wedi gofyn i'r contract gyda PassivSystems gael ei newyddu i Passiv UK Limited.

Nododd Aelod y Cabinet dros Gymunedau, wrth ganmol y cynnis i hepgor Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contract, fod y Cyngor wedi derbyn cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru i gyflawni prosiectau arloesol, gan ddangos bod y Cyngor yn flaengar nid yn unig yng Nghymru, ond ledled y DU. Byddai'r arloesedd hwn yn cyfrannu at ddatgarboneiddio ac yn lleihau tlodi tanwydd.

Gofynnodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Les a Chenedlaethau'r Dyfodol pa ddiwydrwydd dyladwy a wnaed a chan bwy pan ddyfarnwyd y contract i Passiv. Dywedodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau fod Passiv wedi cael ei werthuso gan y Cyngor a Llywodraeth Cymru a bod yn rhaid iddo hefyd ymrwymo i gontract ar gyfer ei brosiect arddangos. Hysbysodd y Cabinet fod y rhiant-gwmni wedyn wedi lansio cwmni newydd.

**PENDERFYNWYD:**

Bod y Cabinet yn:

- awdurdodi hepgor Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contract y Cyngor i ganiatáu addasu'r contract presennol gyda PassivSystems Limited mewn perthynas â Cham 2 y Fenter Ymchwil Busnesau Bach trwy gydsynio i newyddu'r contract hwnnw i Passiv UK wedi'i gyfyngu yn unol â Rheol 3.2.9.4;
- dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau i gymeradwyo telerau terfynol y Weithred Newyddiad sy'n ofynnol i adnewyddu'r contract o PassivSystems Limited i Passiv UK Limited ac ymrwymo i'r Weithred Newyddiad honno mewn ymgynghoriad â'r Prif Swyddog Dros Dro, Cyllid, Perfformiad a Newid, a Swyddog Adran 151, a Phrif Swyddog Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD

a Rheoleiddio ac i drefnu bod y Weithred Newyddiad yn cael ei gweithredu ar ran y Cyngor, yn amodol ar arfer y fath awdurdod dirprwyedig mewn ymgynghoriad â'r Prif Weithredwyr Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Gwasanaethau Rheoleiddio.

**705. MODEL BUDDSODDI CYDFUDDIANNOL MODERNEIDDIO YSGOLION A THIR YM MHLAS MORLAIS**

Gofynnodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd am gymeradwyaeth i gyflwyno cais Cam 1 y Model Buddsoddi Cydfuddiannol i Bartneriaeth Addysg Cymru (WEPco); a bwrw ymlaen â'r trafodion tir gofynnol er mwyn hwyluso datblygiad ysgolion yn y lleoliad hwn. Hysbysodd y Cabinet y byddai hyn yn cynnwys cwblhau cytundeb opsiwn gyda'r Cymoedd i'r Arfordir (V2C) mewn perthynas â'r defnydd a fwriadwyd ar gyfer hen Ganolfan Adnoddau Glan-yr-Afon; ynghyd â chyfarwyddo cyfreithwyr i gychwyn achos i gaffael safle Plas Morlais gan V2C; ac i baratoi dogfennau contract ar gyfer gwaredu safle Ysgol Gynradd Afon-Y-Felin i V2C am bris y cytunwyd arno yn y dyfodol.

Adroddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd fod Llywodraeth Cymru ym mis Tachwedd 2020 wedi cymeradwyo'r Achos Amlinellol Strategol ar gyfer dau gynllun Gorllewin Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac, ym mis Rhagfyr, derbyniwyd cymeradwyaeth y Cyngor i gynnwys cyllid yn y rhaglen gyfalaf ar gyfer prynu tir ym Mhlas Morlais yn er mwyn cefnogi elfen cyfrwng Saesneg y prosiect. Yn dilyn proses ymgynghori statudol a gynhaliwyd ym mis Mehefin 2021, o dan y Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion mewn perthynas â dau gynnig Gorllewin Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, penderfynodd y Cabinet gymeradwyo'r ddau gynnig (i ddod ag Ysgolion Cynradd Afon-Y-Felin a Corneli i ben a sefydlu ysgol gynradd Saesneg ddwy ffrwd newydd ar safle Plas Morlais, ac ehangu Ysgol y Ferch O'r Sgêr i ddwy ffrwd, i'w lleoli ar safle Ysgol Gynradd Corneli / Ysgol y Ferch O'r Sgêr). Dywedodd, mewn perthynas â'r trafodion tir cysylltiedig, bod cymeradwyaeth wedi'i rhoi gan y Cabinet a'r Cyngor ym mis Rhagfyr 2020 ar gyfer cynnwys yn y Rhaglen Gyfalaf y symiau sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer caffael safle Plas Morlais gan V2C yn ystod 2021-2022. Derbyniwyd cymeradwyaeth hefyd i gynnwys gwerthu safle ysgol gynradd Afon-Y-Felin i V2C a Glan-yr-Afon yn y dyfodol fel rhan o'r trafodiad tri eiddo hwn. Roedd V2C wedi cadarnhau ymrwymiad i'r trafodion hyn ac yn gweithio gyda chwmnïau i'w dwyn ymlaen.

Dywedodd fod angen cymeradwyaeth y Cabinet i gymeradwyo'n ffurfiol i symud ymlaen i gyflawni unrhyw brosiect newydd ac i ymrwymo i ddogfennaeth gyfreithiol gysylltiedig i hwyluso'r un peth, gan gynnwys Cytundeb Prosiect (Cam 1). Dywedodd fod y cynlluniau bellach ar y cam lle mae angen cyflwyno cais Cam 1 i WEPco. Ar ôl ei dderbyn bydd WEPco yn ystyried y cais ac yn penderfynu a ellir ei dderbyn fel 'prosiect newydd'. Os caiff ei dderbyn, bydd y broses datblygu dyluniad ar gyfer yr ysgolion newydd yn cychwyn.

Adroddodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd hefyd, yn dilyn chwiliad safle helaeth ac ymarfer dichonoldeb ar gyfer yr ysgolion newydd arfaethedig yn y Gorllewin, bod tir cyfagos ym Mhlas Morlais, sy'n eiddo i V2C, wedi'i nodi ar gyfer datblygu un o'r Ysgolion newydd, gyda'r safle presennol yn cael ei rannu gan Ysgol Gynradd Corneli ac Ysgol y Ferch O'r Sgêr fel y llall. Dywedodd fod egwyddor y trafodiad tir yn seiliedig ar fargen 'cyfnewid' gyda V2C, lle byddai'r Cyngor yn cyfnewid safle Ysgol Gynradd Afon-Y-Felin ar gyfer safle Plas Morlais V2C, ond nid oedd modd alinio'r dilyniant a'r taliadau'n gysylltiedig â dwy elfen gan na ellir gwerthu safle Ysgol Gynradd Afon-Y-Felin nes cwblhau'r datblygiad ysgol newydd, ac mae'n rhaid caffael safle ysgol newydd cyn y datblygiad ysgol newydd.

Byddai'r Cyngor yn caffael safle Plas Morlais ymlaen llaw, cyn gwireddu'r dderbynneb cyfalaf ar gyfer safle Ysgol Gynradd Afon-Y-Felin. Dywedodd fod prisiad y ddau safle wedi'i gyfarwyddo ar y cyd gan Brisiwr y Rhanbarth sydd wedi dychwelyd gwerthoedd ar gyfer y ddau safle. Mae'r gwerthoedd yr adroddir arnynt yn dangos gwahaniaeth mewn gwerth o blaid safle Plas Morlais, gan ei fod yn cael ei brisio'n uwch ar sail maint a'r dwyseddau datblygu a ragwelir. Er mwyn rhoi cyfrif am y gwahaniaeth mewn gwerthoedd, mae'r Cabinet wedi cytuno y gallai Glan-yr-Afon, Ynysawdre gael ei hymgorffori yn y 'cyfnewid tir'. Mae Prisiwr y Rhanbarth wedi priso'r safle hwn yn ei gyflwr presennol a daethpwyd i gytundeb gyda V2C a fydd golygu eu bod yn cymryd cytundeb opsiwn ar bris Prisiwr y Rhanbarth ar unwaith ar Glan-Yr-Afon, tra bydd y cytundeb caffael ar gyfer Plas Morlais yn dod i ben. Byddai hyn yn caniatáu i V2C gyflwyno cynlluniau ailddatblygu ar gyfer safle Glan-yr-Afon ar unwaith.

Nododd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg ac Adfywio fod y trafodiad tir yn fater technegol iawn ond ei fod yn angenrheidiol i symud datblygiad yr ysgolion newydd yn ei flaen, sef y buddsoddiad addysg mwyaf erioed yn ardal Corneli, fydd yn darparu ysgolion yr 21<sup>ain</sup> ganrif ac adfywio'r ardal. Dywedodd y byddai'r prosiect yn cael ei gyflwyno'n raddol yn y fath fodd fel na fyddai unrhyw blentyn yn cael ei effeithio gan waith adeiladu nac yn cael ei addysgu mewn ystafelloedd dosbarth dros dro, ac mai'r ysgol Saesneg fyddai'n cael ei datblygu gyntaf, yna'r ysgol Gymraeg.

Dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Gymunedau, er bod y trafodiad wedi'i ddisgrifio fel cyfnewid tir, byddai'r awdurdod yn dal i brynu'r tir i hwyluso datblygiad yr ysgolion newydd. Dywedodd yr Arweinydd y byddai gwerthoedd tir yn cael eu hasesu gan Brisiwr y Rhanbarth a'i bod yn hanfodol bod yr awdurdod yn caffael y tir i adeiladu'r ysgolion newydd gan nad oedd ganddo dir addas yn ei berchnogaeth. Hysbysodd Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau y Cabinet fod argaeledd tir yn hanfodol i'r datblygiad wrth symud ymlaen er mwyn darparu'r ysgolion ac y byddai Prisiwr y Rhanbarth yn asesu gwerthoedd tir am brisiau y cytunwyd arnynt.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- cymeradwyo cyflwyno Cam 1 i WEPco; a
- cymeradwyo cytundeb opsiwn Glan-Yr-Afon i V2C fel rhan o'r cytundeb 'cyfnewid tir' cyffredinol ac i awdurdodi Swyddogion i symud ymlaen gyda'r contractau ar gyfer caffael y tir ym Mhlas Morlais gan V2C a gwerthu Ysgol Gynradd Afon-Y-Felin yn y dyfodol i V2C ar y gwerthoedd y cytunwyd arnynt, gan sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn cael yr ystyriaeth orau yn unol ag adran 123 Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 yn unol â Phrotocolau Trafodion Tir.

**706. MODERNEIDDIO YSGOLION - EGIN YSGOL GYMRAEG YM MHORTHCAWL**

Gofynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd am gymeradwyaeth i gyflwyno mynegiant o ddiddordeb i Lywodraeth Cymru (LIC) mewn perthynas ag ail gyfran y Grant Cyfalaf cyfrwng Cymraeg a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar.

Hysbysodd y Cabinet fod dyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo'r iaith Gymraeg a chefnogi uchelgais Cymraeg 2050 Llywodraeth Cymru. Dywedodd fod yr awdurdod ym mis Tachwedd 2018, wedi sicrhau £2.6m o gyllid Grant Cyfalaf LIC ar gyfer datblygu darpariaeth gofal plant cyfrwng Cymraeg mewn ardaloedd daearyddol strategol ym mwrdeistref y sir, er mwyn cefnogi gweledigaeth 2050. Nodwyd pedair ardal ar gyfer buddsoddiad, ac un ohonynt oedd Porthcawl ac mewn egwyddor roedd y Cabinet wedi



cymeradwyo'r datblygiad ar 21 Ionawr 2020 i ddatblygu ysgol Gymraeg 1 ffrwd i wasanaethu ardal Porthcawl fel rhan o fand rhaglen foderneiddio ysgolion yn y dyfodol. Y bwriad yw y byddai'r ddarpariaeth newydd yn cyd-fynd â datblygiad cynllun Adfywio Porthcawl.

Er mwyn hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg a chyflawni ymrwymiad y Cabinet yn y rhan hon o'r fwrdeistref sirol, nododd yr angen am fesur dros dro ar ffurf egin ysgol Gymraeg. Hysbysodd y Cabinet, o safbwynt economaidd, y byddai'n gwneud y defnydd mwyaf effeithlon o gyllid i gydleo'i darpariaethau gofal plant ac egin ysgol Gymraeg ar un safle (gan y byddai'r arbedion maint cysylltiedig yn golygu y gellid gwneud arbedion sylweddol o gymharu â ddarparu darpariaethau ar wahân mewn lleoliadau gwahanol). O safbwynt logistaidd, byddai'n fuddiol i rieni/gofalwyr gan y byddai dilyniant naturiol o'r ddarpariaeth gofal plant i'r egin ysgol.

Adroddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd fod y gost amcangyfrifedig ar gyfer darparu egin ysgol a chyfleuster gofal plant cyfun o £3.75m yn cynnwys elfen o £150k ar gyfer gwaith priffyrdd a ragwelir. Ni fyddai maint llawn y gwaith priffyrdd sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer y cynllun arfaethedig yn hysbys nes bydd Asesiad Trafnidiaeth yn cael ei gynnal ar y cam dylunio manwl. Dywedodd mai dim ond o fewn cartilag safleoedd datblygu y mae LIC yn adeiladu ar hyn o bryd, o ganlyniad, byddai'n ofynnol i'r Cyngor ariannu unrhyw waith priffyrdd angenrheidiol sy'n disgyn y tu hwnt i ffin y safle. Hysbysodd y Cabinet y byddai adroddiad yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r Cyngor maes o law pan fyddai maint unrhyw gyllid cyfalaf ychwanegol a chostau refeniw ychwanegol yn hysbys.

Hysbysodd yr Arweinydd y Cabinet ei bod wedi bod yn uchelgais gan deuluoedd sy'n cefnogi addysg Gymraeg i sefydlu darpariaeth o'r fath ym Mhorthcawl. Dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Les a Chenedlaethau'r Dyfodol y byddai'r cynnig yn helpu i gefnogi twf y Gymraeg ym Mhorthcawl. Cwestiynodd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Les a Chenedlaethau'r Dyfodol y tebygolrwydd y byddai cais am gyllid grant yn llwyddiannus. Nododd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gefnogol i'r cynigion a bod y Swyddogion yn gweithio gyda Rhieni dros Addysg Gymraeg a oedd yr un mor gefnogol i'r cynnig i sefydlu egin ysgol ym Mhorthcawl.

**PENDERFYNWYD:**

Bod y Cabinet yn rhoi cymeradwyaeth ar gyfer datganiad o ddiddordeb i'w gyflwyno i LIC ynghylch Grant Cyfalaf cyfrwng Gymraeg er mwyn creu egin ysgol Gymraeg yn ardal Porthcawl.

**707. ATAL RHEOLAU GWEITHDREFN CONTRACTAU'R CYNGOR A DYFARNU CONTRACT AR GYFER GWASANAETHAU PARTNERIAETH RHINI**

Gofynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd am gymeradwyaeth i barhau i ddarparu'r gwasanaeth partneriaeth rhieni presennol, er mwyn caniatáu i broses dendro cwynion lawn ddigwydd, gan gynnwys cyfnod mobileiddio digonol; atal y rhannau perthnasol o reolau gweithdrefn contractau'r Cyngor mewn perthynas â'r gofyniad i ail-dendro'r contract y manylir arno yn yr adroddiad hwn; ac awdurdodi'r Rheolwr Grŵp (Cymorth i Ddysgwyr) i ymrwmo i gontract tymor byr gyda'r darparwr presennol.

Adroddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd fod y Cyngor, yn dilyn ymarfer tendro, wedi ymrwmo i gontract gyda SNAP Cymru ar gyfer gwasanaethau partneriaeth rhieni. Comisiynwyd y contract o 1 Mai 2018 am gyfnod cychwynnol o flwyddyn, gydag opsiwn i ymestyn am flwyddyn arall hyd at ddwy flynedd. Daeth y contract presennol mewn perthynas â'r gwasanaeth partneriaeth rhieni i ben ar

31 Mawrth 2021. Er nad oedd contract ar waith, mae'r contractwr wedi parhau i ddarparu'r Gwasanaeth. Dywedodd ei bod yn ofynnol i'r Cyngor, o dan ei Reolau Gweithdrefn Contractau a Rheoliadau Contractau Cyhoeddus 2015, ail-dendro ar gyfer darparwyr gwasanaeth newydd gydag ymarfer caffael cystadleuol.

Dywedodd fod y ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth gyfredol wedi'i hadolygu, gyda monitro perfformiad yn cael ei wneud i gasglu data ansoddol a meintiol ynghylch anghenion cleientiaid, y galw am wasanaeth a'r canlyniadau a gyflawnwyd. Dywedodd y gellid dangos yn glir yr effaith gadarnhaol ar y bartneriaeth â rhieni a bod ymgysylltu a chyfathrebu wedi digwydd rhwng y Cyngor a deiliad y contract presennol i sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth yn parhau i fod yn addas at y diben ac yn gallu diwallu anghenion plant, pobl ifanc a'u teuluoedd yn ddigonol.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- cymeradwyo parhau darparu'r gwasanaeth partneriaeth rhieni presennol, er mwyn caniatáu i broses dendro cwynion gael ei chynnal yn llawn;
- atal rhannau perthnasol CPR y Cyngor mewn perthynas â'r gofyniad ynghylch ail-dendro'r contract arfaethedig; a
- awdurdodi'r Rheolwr Grŵp (Cymorth i Ddysgwyr) i ymrwymo i gcontract ar gyfer darparu'r gwasanaeth partneriaeth rhieni tan 31 Rhagfyr 2021.

**708. CYNLLUN STRATEGOL CYMRAEG MEWN ADDYSG**

Gofynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd am gymeradwyaeth i ymgynghori â rhanddeiliaid ar Gynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg o 27 Medi 2021 am gyfnod o ddeuddeg wythnos. Bydd ei ganlyniad yn cael ei adrodd yn ôl i'r Cabinet ar ôl cau'r ymgynghoriad.

Adroddodd fod Adran 84 o Ddeddf Safonau a Threfniadaeth Ysgolion (Cymru) 2013 ("Deddf 2013") yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdod lleol baratoi Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg. Pwrpas y rheoliadau yw gwella cyfleoedd i awdurdodau lleol gynllunio darpariaeth addysg Gymraeg er mwyn cefnogi'r disgwyliad presennol ac yn y dyfodol ar gyfer twf mewn addysg Gymraeg. Dywedodd fod yn rhaid i'r Cynllun gynnwys cynigion awdurdod lleol ar sut y bydd yn cyflawni ei swyddogaethau addysg i wella cynllunio'r ddarpariaeth addysg Gymraeg ("addysg Gymraeg") yn ei ardal; gwella safonau addysg Gymraeg ac addysgu'r Gymraeg yn ei ardal. Targedau'r awdurdod lleol ar gyfer gwella cynllunio'r ddarpariaeth o addysg Gymraeg yn ei ardal ac ar gyfer gwella safonau'r addysg honno ac addysgu'r Gymraeg yn ei ardal; ac adrodd ar y cynnydd a wnaed i gyflawni'r targedau a gynhwyswyd yn y Cynllun blaenorol neu'r Cynllun diwygiedig blaenorol.

Adroddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd fod canllawiau newydd ar gyfer y Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg wedi'u cyhoeddi ym mis Awst 2016. Erbyn hyn roedd a bwriad clir i gysylltu gwaith y Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg â Safonau'r Gymraeg ac i yrru awdurdodau lleol tuag at nod datganedig Llywodraeth Cymru o gael miliwn o siaradwyr Cymraeg erbyn 2050. Dywedodd fod yn rhaid cyflwyno'r cynllun i Lywodraeth Cymru i'w gymeradwyo erbyn 31 Ionawr, 2022 ac y bydd y Cynllun deng mlynedd cyntaf yn cychwyn ar 1 Medi 2022, gan ddod i ben ar 31 Awst 2032. Bydd pob Cynllun pellach yn cychwyn ar 1 Medi yn y flwyddyn y bydd y Cynllun deng mlynedd blaenorol yn dod i ben a rhaid iddo gynnwys

targed yn amlinellu'r cynnydd disgwyliedig yn nifer y dysgwyr Blwyddyn 1 a addysgir trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn ardal yr awdurdod lleol yn ystod oes y Cynllun.

Roedd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg ac Adfywio, wrth ganmol yr ymgynghoriad ar y Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg drafft, yn gobeithio y byddai nifer yn cyfrannu ato ac roedd yn edrych ymlaen at weld canlyniad yr ymgynghoriad.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- nodi cynnwys y cynllun drafft; a
- rhoi cymeradwyaeth i ymgynghori.

**709. PENODI LLYWODRAETHWYR O'R AWDURDOD LLEOL**

Gofynnodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Addysg a Chefnogaeth i Deuluoedd am gymeradwyaeth i benodi llywodraethwyr o'r awdurdod lleol i gyrrff llywodraethu'r ysgolion a restrir ym mharagraff 4.1 yr adroddiad.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn cymeradwyo'r penodiadau a restrir ym mharagraff 4.1.

**710. STRATEGAETH GAFFAEL DDIWYGIEDIG SY'N GYFRIFOL YN GYMDEITHASOL, MABWYSIADU'R DATGANIAD CAETHWASIAETH FODERN A DIWEDDARIAD AR YR YMATEB I ARGYMHELLION YR ADRODDIAD CAFFAEL LLESIANT YNG NGHYMRU**

Gofynnodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio am gymeradwyaeth i fabwysiadu'r Strategaeth Gaffael sy'n Gyfrifol yn Gymdeithasol a'r Datganiad Caethwasiaeth Fodern i ddod i rym ar 1 Hydref 2021 a diweddaru'r Aelodau ar yr ymateb i argymhellion y Caffael Llesiant yng Nghymru - Adroddiad Adolygiad Caffael Adran 20 Comisiynwyr Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol.

Hysbysodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio y Cabinet fod y Cyngor yn darparu ei wasanaethau yn uniongyrchol trwy ei weithlu ei hun, sefydliadau preifat a thrydydd sector, gan wario dros £186 miliwn y flwyddyn a bod ganddo gyfrifoldeb i reoli arian cyhoeddus gyda chywirdeb, er mwyn sicrhau bod gwerth am arian yn cael ei gyflawni a'i reoli yn y fath fodd fel y gall gefnogi amcanion ehangach y Cyngor. Er mwyn i'r Cyngor gyflawni ei gyfrifoldeb a chyflawni amcanion y Cyngor, mae angen Strategaeth Gaffael a Chynllun Darparu.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio fod y Strategaeth Gaffael sy'n Gyfrifol yn Gymdeithasol yn adeiladu ar y strategaeth gaffael flaenorol a sefydlodd fabwysiadu rheolaeth categori i wella perfformiad caffael ar draws y Cyngor. Roedd yn nodi blaenoriaethau caffael allweddol y Cyngor hyd at 2024 a'r newidiadau allweddol y bydd yn eu gwneud i wella rheolaeth ei wariant allanol ar nwyddau, gwasanaethau a gwaith. Roedd y Strategaeth yn canolbwyntio ar gyflawni saith Amcan Caffael Sefydliadol cyffredinol eang ac roedd wedi ei llywio gan Gynllun Corfforaethol, deddfwriaeth a pholisi Llywodraeth Cymru a'r DU gan gynnwys Datganiad Polisi Caffael Cymru, Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015 a'r Mesur Partneriaeth Gymdeithasol a Chaffael Cyhoeddus drafft (2021). Dywedodd fod y Strategaeth yn rhoi mwy o bwyslais ar gyflawni amcanion llesiant economaidd, cymdeithasol, amgylcheddol a diwylliannol sy'n ymwneud â chaffael blaengar, megis yr Economi Sylfaenol a Chylchol, ac atal newid yn yr hinsawdd trwy flaenoriaethu lleihau carbon ac allyriadau sero trwy gaffael mwy cyfrifol a chynaliadwy.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio hefyd y bydd y Cyngor yn cyhoeddi Datganiad Caethwasiaeth Fodern flynyddol yn nodi ei ymrwymïadau i sicrhau nad oes gan gaethwasiaeth fodern a masnachu mewn pobl le yn y cadwyni busnes a chyflenwi. Dywedodd fod y Datganiad yn nodi'r ymrwymïadau y mae'r Cyngor yn eu gwneud i reoli a lleihau'r risg y bydd caethwasiaeth neu fasnachu pobl yn digwydd o fewn gweithrediadau o ddydd i ddydd.

Hysbysodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio y Cabinet fod y Cyngor ym mis Mawrth 2020 yn un o naw corff sector cyhoeddus a gymerodd ran yn Caffael Llesiant yng Nghymru - Adolygiad Caffael Adran 20 Comisiynydd Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol Cymru. Roedd y Comisiynydd wedi tynnu sylw at rai meysydd cryf, ynghyd â chyfleoedd pellach i ddatblygu, wrth ystyried cyfraniad y Cyngor at y saith nod llesiant ac amcanion lles sefydliadol a defnyddio'r pum ffordd o weithio i feddwl yn wahanol am y dull o gaffael. Roedd y Comisiynydd wedi nodi cryfder allweddol y Cyngor, sef y dull tymor hir o weithio ar y cyd â'r timau comisiynu, gan ystyried y canlyniadau y gall caffael eu cyflawni. Hysbysodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio y Cabinet fod cynllun gweithredu wedi'i ddatblygu i weithredu prif argymhellion yr adroddiad.

Croesawodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd, wrth ganmol yr adroddiad, yr ymrwymïadau cytundebol newydd ac y byddai'n rhan o'r broses monitro contractau a sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn cydymffurfio â'i gyfrifoldebau. Roedd yn edrych ymlaen at weld y cynllun gweithredu yn cael ei roi ar waith. Roedd yr Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymorth Cynnar yn falch iawn o weld bod y Cyngor yn gosod y cyflymder wrth gaffael gan fod gan y Cyngor gyfrifoldeb i helpu gyda lles cymunedol ac mae'n atgyfnerthu'r economi sylfaen, gan roi'r gallu i fusnesau gystadlu.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- (i) cymeradwyo a mabwysiadu'r Strategaeth Caffael sy'n Gyfrifol yn Gymdeithasol ddiwygiedig sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 1 i'r adroddiad i ddod i rym ar 1 Hydref 2021;
- (ii) cymeradwyo a mabwysiadu'r Datganiad Caethwasiaeth Fodern sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 2 i'r adroddiad i ddod i rym ar 1 Hydref 2021;
- (iii) dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio i gynnal adolygiad blynyddol o'r Datganiad Caethwasiaeth Fodern, gwneud diwygiadau i'r datganiad hwnnw fel y bo'n briodol a chyhoeddi'r Datganiad Caethwasiaeth Fodern bob blwyddyn ariannol yn ôl yr angen;
- (iv) nodi'r ymatebion i argymhellion yr Adroddiad Caffael Llesiant yng Nghymru fel yr amlinellir yn Adran 4.10 yr adroddiad.

#### **711. RHEOLAU GWEITHDREFN CONTRACTAU DIWYGIEDIG**

Gofynnodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio am gymeradwyaeth i Reolau Gweithdrefn Contractau diwygiedig ddod i rym o 1 Hydref 2021; i Gynllun Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau'r Cyngor mewn perthynas â Swyddogaethau Gweithredol gael ei ddiwygio yn unol â pharagraff 4.17 o'r adroddiad; ac y byddai adroddiad yn cael ei ddwyn i'r Cyngor i ddiwygio'r Cyfansoddiad i ymgorffori'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau diwygiedig a'r diwygiadau i'r Cynllun Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau mewn perthynas â swyddogaethau'r Cyngor.

Adroddodd y Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, AD a Rheoleiddio ei bod yn ofynnol i'r Cyngor adolygu'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau, sy'n rhan o Gyfansoddiad

y Cyngor, yn rheolaidd. Mae'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau'n cynnwys y rheolau a'r canllawiau ar gyfer caffael nwyddau, gwasanaethau a gwaith ac fe'u cynlluniwyd i sicrhau cydymffurfiaid â chyfraith y DU ac Ewrop, sicrhau bod arfer gorau yn cael ei ddilyn a sicrhau'r gwerth gorau wrth ddefnyddio arian cyhoeddus. Yn dilyn yr adolygiad, gwnaed nifer o newidiadau i'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau presennol i sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn moderneiddio'r ffordd y mae'n caffael nwyddau, gwasanaethau a gwaith.

Gofynnodd yr Arweinydd, pan fyddai dogfennau a oedd gynt wedi'u selio gan Aelodau, yn cael eu rhannu i'r deiliaid swyddi perthnasol gan Swyddogion.

**PENDERFYNWYD:** Bod y Cabinet yn:

- (i) cymeradwyo'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau diwygiedig sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 1 i'r adroddiad i ddod i rym ar 1 Hydref 2021;
- (ii) cymeradwyo'r diwygiadau i'r Cynllun Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau mewn perthynas â swyddogaethau Gweithredol fel y'u nodir ym mharagraff 4.17 yr adroddiad;
- (iii) Nodi y bydd adroddiad yn cael ei ddwyn i'r Cyngor i ddiwygio'r Cynllun Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau mewn perthynas â swyddogaethau'r Cyngor ac i ddiwygio'r Cyfansoddiad i ymgorffori'r diwygiadau i'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Contractau.
- (iv) cymeradwyo bod dogfennau a arferai fod angen eu selio yn cael eu rhannu â deiliaid y swydd er gwybodaeth.

712. **EITEMAU BRYD**

Nid oedd eitemau brys.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 17:25

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to consider the Annual Report 2020-21 (**Appendix A**) and recommend it to Council for approval.

#### 2. Connections to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 The annual report evaluates our progress against our well-being objectives, outlined in our Corporate Plan. This report relates to our performance for the year April 2020 to March 2021 and the well-being objectives for that financial year, namely:

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 focused 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 According to the [Shared Purpose Shared Future](#) statutory guidance (SPSF: 2) for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, individual public bodies must annually review the progress of their well-being objectives and publish a report to assess the extent to which these objectives contribute to the 7 wellbeing goals in accordance with the sustainable development principal.
- 3.2 Under section 15 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and in accordance with the related statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government, the authority must publish its assessment of performance for the previous financial year before 31 October.
- 3.3 In March 2020 the Council published its new Corporate Plan 2018-23, revised for 2020-21. To take account of the impact of COVID-19 on priorities, the Plan was revised and adjustments made, which were agreed at Council in September 2020.

- 3.4 The revised Plan defines 32 commitments to deliver the three well-being objectives and sets out 46 success measures to monitor progress. However, to take account of COVID-19 and redirect resources, targets were removed for 14 success measures. At year-end, data was unavailable for 7 success measures, which are predominantly in education following the Welsh Government decision to postpone exams and use alternative arrangements to determine grades.
- 3.4 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) identified how it would best use its resources to support the achievement of the well-being objectives and statutory duties, including the management of financial pressures and risks over the following four years.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 The Annual Report, prepared under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, evaluates how well the Council succeeded in 2020-21 in delivering its commitments and planned outcomes for the financial year, using success measures and other evidence.
- 4.2 We made 32 commitments to support the delivery of our well-being objectives. 13 (40.6%) of these were fully completed with 19 (59.4%) achieving most of their milestones.
- 4.3 Of the 46 indicators identified for the Corporate Plan, 25 can be compared against their target: 12 (48%) met their target, 2 (8%) were off target by less than 10% and 11 (44%) missed the target by more than 10%. Detailed information about the Council's performance is included in **Appendix A**.
- 4.4 Welsh Government confirmed the retrospective data collection of Public Accountability Measures (PAMs) for 2019-20 and 2020-21. The collection of this data can be used to assist Local Authorities for benchmarking purposes to inform future planning, rather than for comparative analysis.
- 4.5 A summary of funding and financial performance for the year, regulators' findings and themes that underpin our work are also set out in the report.
- 4.6 This is an important document as it provides citizens and stakeholders with detailed information about the Council's performance against its well-being objectives and outcomes.
- 4.7 Once approved, the Annual Report will be published on the Council's website and shared with stakeholders. Hard copies of the report will be produced and placed in the Council's public libraries.

#### **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 The Annual Report provides an assessment of progress on the Corporate Plan 2018-23, revised 2020-21, which forms part of the corporate policy framework.

#### **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the



impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an EIA in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

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

## **8. Financial implications**

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

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 That Cabinet considers the Annual Report 2020-21 (**Appendix A**) and recommends it to Council for approval.

**Mark Shephard**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**October 2021**

**Contact Officer:** Wanda Kirby  
Corporate Performance Manager

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**E-mail:** [Wanda.Kirby@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:Wanda.Kirby@bridgend.gov.uk)

**Postal Address** Corporate Performance Team, Ravens Court, Brewery Lane,  
Bridgend. CF31 4AP

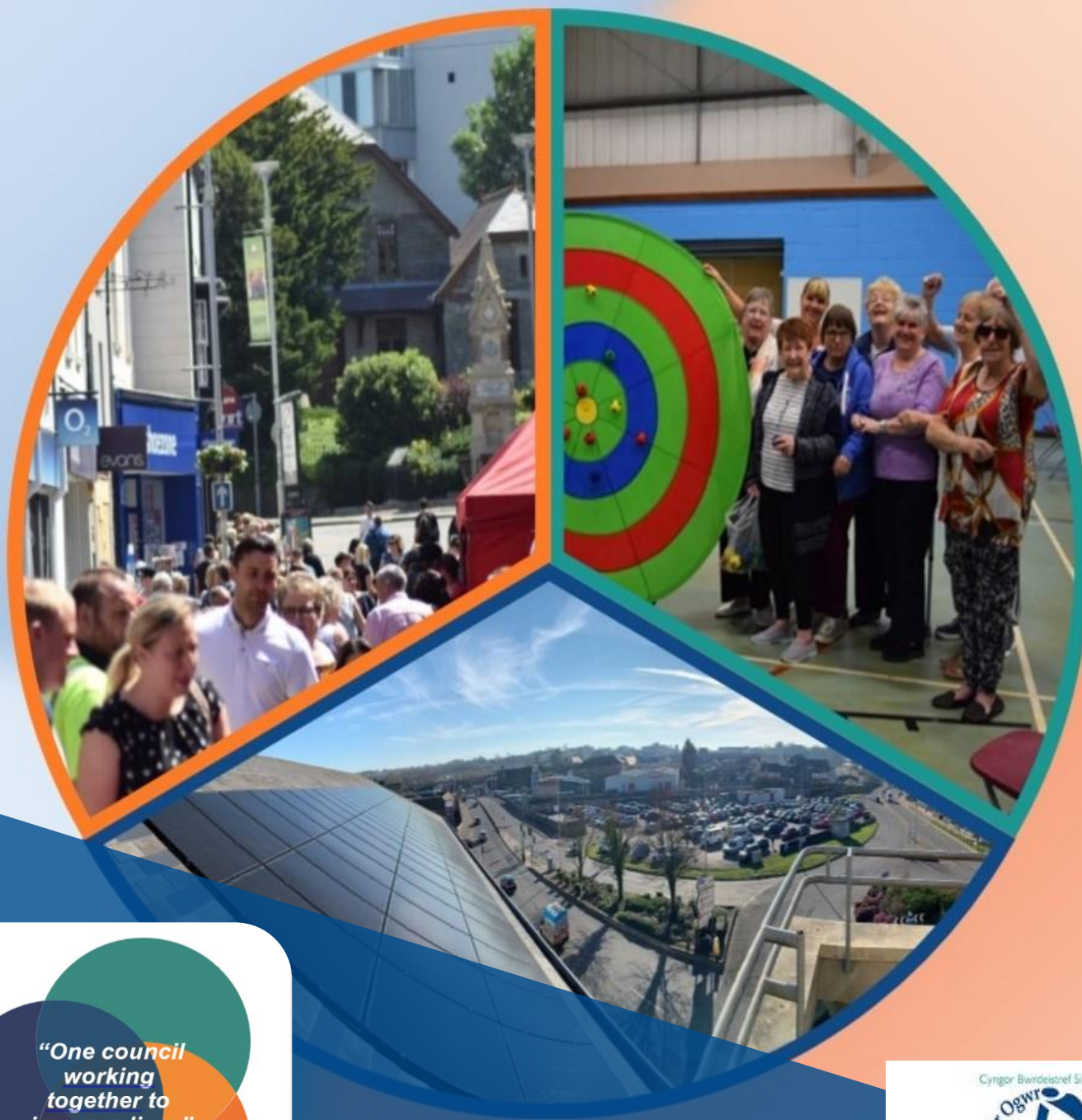
## **Background documents**

None

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

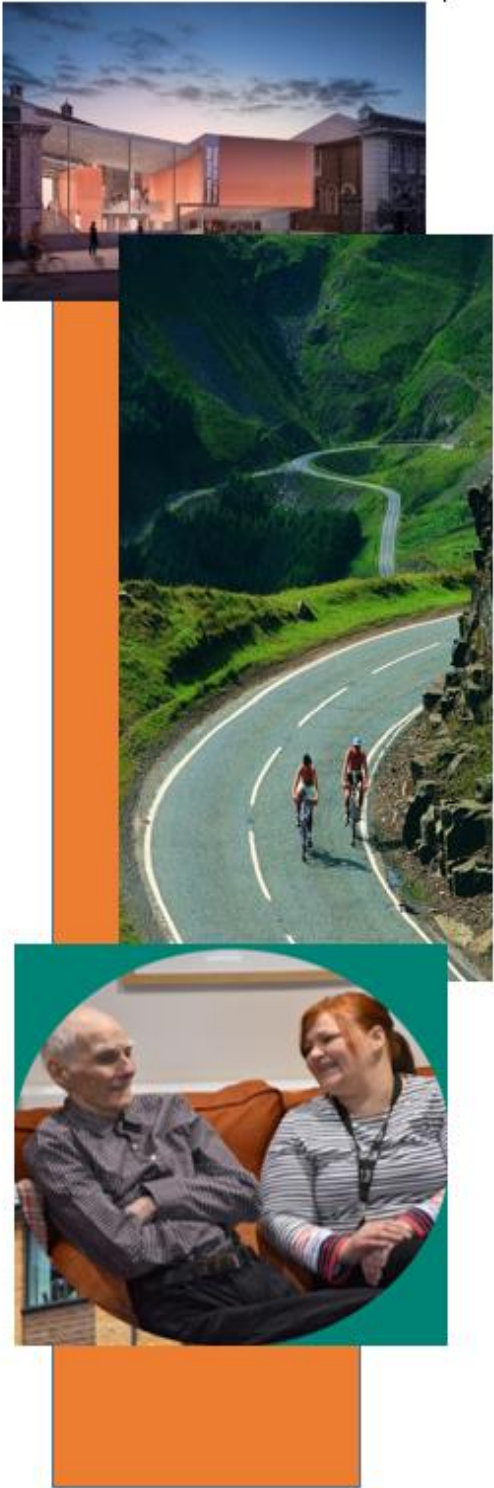
## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR



*"One council  
working  
together to  
improve lives"*

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol





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# Introduction

Welcome to Bridgend County Borough Council's annual report. It evaluates our progress against our well-being objectives, outlined in our Corporate Plan. This report relates to our performance for the year April 2020 to March 2021.

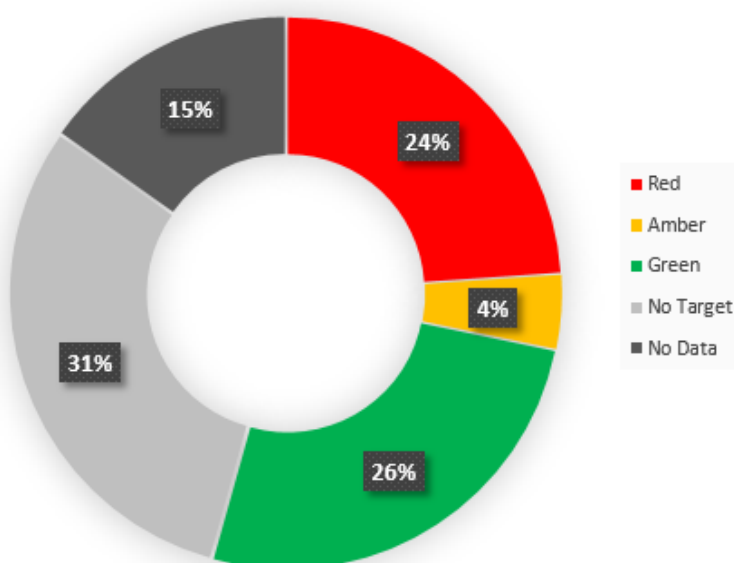
Our vision is to act as "one Council working together to improve lives". We will do this by delivering our well-being objectives. These represent our ambitions and commitments to our citizens and our contribution to Wales' seven well-being goals as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act).

## Progress against our well-being objectives

This report looks back on the progress we made together during 2020-21 on the steps to meet our well-being objectives. However, to take account of the changing priorities due to Covid-19, it was necessary to review the corporate plan and make appropriate adjustments. The Covid-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges that have had a dramatic impact on the way we do business. The Council's priority has been responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. We did this effectively through enhanced collaboration, partnership working, committed, adaptable and resilient staff and an army of volunteers who helped us to keep delivering vital services and keep residents safe, providing support in particular to those most vulnerable across Bridgend County Borough. We are now prioritising the planning of our recovery from the pandemic to ensure we can continue to deliver services effectively moving forward. We are embracing the best of some of the changes that have occurred over the last year. We are also recognising some of the additional measures that will need to be implemented to address issues such as improved accessibility to services, wellbeing and the prioritisation of services where there is a legacy of increased demand.

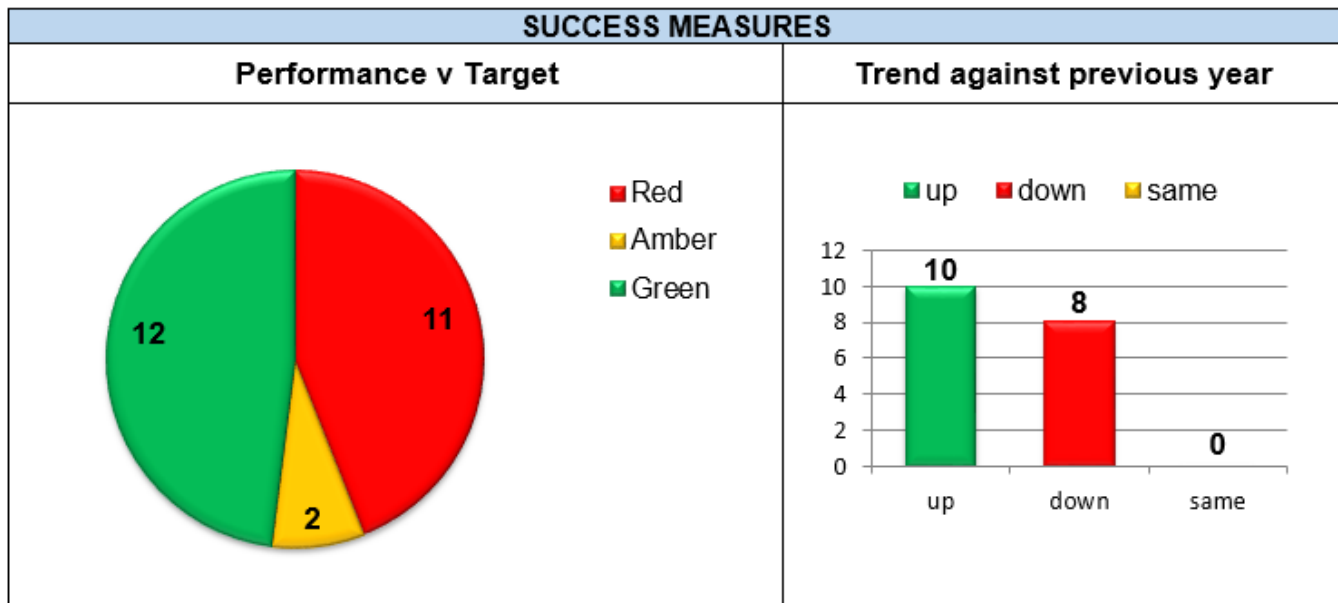
Inevitably, the pandemic has impacted most of the services we provide and resources were redirected to the areas of most need. Due to the ongoing uncertainty around the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, targets were removed for 14 of the 46 measures, leaving 32 available for assessing performance. At year-end, data was unavailable for 7 measures, and these are predominantly in education following the Welsh Government decision to postpone exams and use alternative arrangements to determine grades for students.

**Success measures**



Analysis of performance shows that for the remaining 25 success measures for which we have data, performance is set out below. Trend data is also available for 18 measures, shown below:





In addition to our measures of success, we also made 32 commitments to support the delivery of our well-being objectives. We delivered what we said we would, with 13 (40.6%) of our commitments successfully completed (green) and 19 (59.4%) achieving most of their milestones (amber). Breakdown by well-being objective is set out below:

Well-being Objectives	Commitments			
	TOTAL	Red	Amber	Green
Well-being Objective One: Supporting a successful sustainable economy	12	0	5	7
		0%	41.7%	58.3%
Well-being Objective Two: Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient	9	0	8	1
		0%	88.9%	11.1%
Well-being Objective Three: Smarter use of resources	11	0	6	5
		0%	54.5%	45.5%
Total for all Well-being Objectives	32	0	19	13
		0%	59.4%	40.6%

A full analysis of ‘how did we do’ by well-being objective is set out in the body of the report, but notable achievements include the following:

Well-being objective one:

- 4 out of 5 commitments relating to growth and prosperity progressed as planned.
- The financial value of externally funded town centre regeneration projects underway/in development, reached £13.5m, exceeding our target for the year of £13m.
- The employability scheme progressed as planned, helping 401 participants into employment, exceeding our target of 200.
- The number of business startups increased to 540, from 475 in 2019-20, in what has been a very challenging year for businesses.

### Well-being objective two:

- Percentage of households threatened with homelessness who were successfully prevented from becoming homeless exceeded our target of 52%, at 67.2%, and was also improved compared to 2019-20 when it was 66.2%
- We exceeded our targets in the percentage of individuals in managed care supported in the community at 75.34% and those in managed care supported in a care home setting at 24.66%.
- Our focus was very much on supporting those most vulnerable during the pandemic, which meant we narrowly missed making the progress we had planned in some of our commitments. This work will continue into 2021-22.

### Well-being objective three:

- 3 out of 4 commitments relating to environmental sustainability progressed as planned.
- We completed as planned the enhancement projects and biodiversity schemes across the county borough.
- Although there has been a delay in completing the new recycling centre, it was pleasing to note that though we did not set a target for recycling rates due to the disruption / closure last year of our recycling centres, the percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted was 69.15%, an increase on that achieved in 2019-20 of 67.66%.
- We also progressed as planned in transforming the council's estate by disposing / releasing surplus land and buildings.
- In doing this, we exceeded our target of £600,000, generating some £3.09m of capital receipts to enable us to use on other projects including our 21<sup>st</sup> century schools modernisation programme.

We continue to work hard to change and improve services at the same time as having to make significant budget reductions. For 2020-21, we had to make total budget reductions of £2.413 million with a further £1.76 million proposed for 2021-22. Making smarter use of our resources will include prioritising our spend better. It will also mean investing in those things that make the most difference to outcomes for local people, and particularly the political priorities around young people and society's most vulnerable.

The implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act (SSWB) continues to be a priority and is a driver for change and for new ways of working. The principles underpinning the SSWB Act align with the sustainable development principle enshrined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

This report focuses on the key activities carried out during 2020-21 to help achieve our well-being objectives. We use a combination of quantitative (measures of success) and qualitative (case studies) evidence to measure progress.

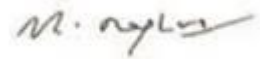
Service reform and new ways of working introduced in extremely short timescales have provided insight into the benefits of doing different things to support communities. This included Civic Offices closed to the public, which resulted in very quickly creating processes via telephone and online channels to allow services to continue to be supported. The Council is committed to maximising the lessons learned to inform our planning and service design to deliver better outcomes for people who live, work and visit Bridgend County Borough.

Please look at our annual report and let us know what you think. For those readers that would like to see more in depth information, the report includes many links to detailed reports and data.

We encourage you – our residents, businesses, partners, and stakeholders – to participate in our engagement activities and consultation exercises, as it is only with your involvement that we can truly recover from these challenging times and understand the priorities that are important to you so that together we can create a successful and economically sustainable county borough that focuses on improving the well-being of all, whilst using those resources we have for maximum impact. Please consider signing-up to our Citizens Panel to have your say and follow our social media pages to see what we are doing. We welcome comments on how we have done and how we can further improve our services for those, we serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Huw David".

*Cllr Huw David – Leader of the Council*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Shephard".

*Mark Shephard – Chief Executive*



# A snapshot of Bridgend County Borough

## In Numbers



Population	47,539
Area	98.5 square miles
Households	64,766
Average House Price	£187,812

Primary schools (excluding Welsh & Faith schools)	48
Secondary schools (excluding Welsh & Faith schools)	7
Special schools	2
Faith schools	6
Pupil referral unit	1
Welsh language schools	5
Wards	39
Councillors	54
Constituency Members of Senedd (MS)	2
Regional Members of Senedd (MS)	4
Members of Parliament (MP)	2
Council staff –excluding schools (Full time equivalent)	2,159

## Our Services include:

Bridgend County Borough Council delivers a variety of services, these include:

- schools
- social care
- safeguarding vulnerable adults & children
- maintaining highways and public transport
- refuse and recycling
- street cleaning and safety
- parks and play areas
- elections
- collecting revenues and administering benefits
- leisure, arts and libraries
- supporting business and tourism
- special events and festivals
- environmental health
- planning and building control

## Well-being

Below is a snap shot of economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being across Bridgend County Borough. These categories of well-being are prescribed in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) 2015 Act:

### Economic well-being

- 75.4% of the working age population are in employment
- April 2020 to March 2021, the Employability team helped 1,255 people engage in the programme, including 60 in work clients supported to improve their labour market position; 408 achieved qualifications and 398 are now in employment.
- During the pandemic, the Council has assessed and distributed 6,500 business grants and over £50m to businesses in the borough.
- Bridgend County Borough Council charges one of the lowest prices in Wales for school meals and has agreed to a price freeze for the fourth year in a row.

## Social well-being

- 31% of adults take part in sport 3 times a week
- 70% of adults feel they have good or very good general health
- Up to three times as many people are using the local rights of way network compared to before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The top three most popular walking routes in the county borough are the Nant Brynglas Circular Walk, the River Ogmore and Merthyr Mawr Circular Walk, and the Miners Path in Pencoed
- During lockdown there were 400 individual users of the Halo@home programme with 3,331 visits to virtual classes
- 136 people participated remotely in the national exercise referral scheme
- 4,444 people were identified as needing additional support during lockdown. The support provided includes, 721 shopping trips, 2993 prescriptions, 225 food security, 312 telephone befriending, 1126 shielding checks
- 1,300 additional volunteers came forward during the COVID-19 pandemic to help their communities, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in Wales
- 446 volunteers trained in specialised support. This includes 119 telephone befrienders, 29 Age Cymru, 102 shopping support, 30 shielding visitors, 73 pharmacy volunteers, 21 foodbank support, 50 penpal writers, 2 dog walkers, 20 emergency list volunteers

## Cultural well-being

- 69% of adults attend or participate in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year
- 65% of people strongly agree that the 'Welsh language is something to be proud of'
- 21% of adults volunteer
- Library opening hours are the highest in Wales
- Library membership has increased from 346 per 1000 population in 2018/19 to 377 in 2019/20.
- Books at home, which started because of the pandemic, has supported 437 individuals, issuing 15,226 books based on 3,036 home visits
- 89,413 digital library resources issued and 53,664 physical issues
- 1,137 people engaged in cultural or leisure programmes during lockdown

## Environmental well-being

- More than 4,350 tonnes of absorbent hygiene products have been diverted away from landfill and recycled as part of Bridgend County Borough Council's 'purple bag' scheme
- 69.15% of waste in Bridgend County Borough is recycled which is above the Welsh Government target of 64%
- 39% of people are satisfied with their local area as a place to live
- Rest Bay, Trecco Bay and Porthcawl Marina retained their Blue Flag awards
- 9 parks across Bridgend County Borough achieved a Green Flag or Green Flag Community award from Keep Wales Tidy, including Bryngarw Country Park, Maesteg Welfare Park and Wilderness Lake Porthcawl
- Zones established (including A4061, A4063, A4106, and A473) with reduced grass cutting to allow wild flowers and insect habitats to remain undisturbed
- Bridgend County Borough Council has become the first in Wales to trial solar powered bins-the high tech bins self-compact waste creating 6 times the capacity and sends alerts when full

# How we assess our performance

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires public bodies to act in a manner that seeks to ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Based on the sustainable development principle, our well-being objectives are intended to deliver long-term positive outcomes. We review progress annually to ensure planned activities are getting us closer to our goals. Our well-being objectives also discharge our statutory duty under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to 'make arrangements to secure continuous improvement'. We use a combination of quantitative performance measures and targets to assess performance, along with the progress of our commitments to help deliver our key programmes.

## Our contribution to the well-being goals

Our well-being objectives are designed to maximize our contribution to achieving the 7 national well-being goals. These are set out below:

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

### Performance measures

A number of performance measures are identified within the Council's Corporate Plan, which help show the progress made in delivering the Well-Being Objectives we have set ourselves. Where applicable, targets are set against these performance measures to show what we want to achieve.

Performance measures are assigned a Red Amber Green (RAG) status:

- **green** where the measure is on or above target
- **amber** where the result is within 10% of the target
- **red** where the result is greater than 10% from the target.

The trend arrow refers to the improvement trend. An improved trend on last year's performance will indicate an upward arrow. A brief explanation of where performance is below target is also given.

Key:	↑ = performance increased	↓ = performance declined	↔ = performance stayed the same or maximum performance
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## Commitments

Progress against our key programmes' commitments affects how we assess progress on each well-being objective. We assign a RAG status to each commitment using a balanced appraisal of performance along with the current progress of agreed tasks. The self-assessment categories are below:

A **red** status means that there are delays of more than 10% of the total length of the planned action. And/or budget and/or performance measures for the commitment are mostly red.

An **amber** status means that there are delays of less than 10% of the total length of the planned action. And/or performance measures for the commitment are a mixture of red, amber and green.

A **green** status means that the commitment is being met, and on budget. Also that the performance measures are mostly green.

# Well-being Objective 1

## Supporting a successful sustainable economy

### Why we choose this objective?

We want to build a county borough where people have more opportunities to secure meaningful work, develop a career and improve their family income and circumstances. We know that higher levels of prosperity boost health and well-being and create more resilient communities that need fewer services. We believe that education remains the most important lever for improving the life chances of young people. We believe that a successful sustainable economy can and should be balanced against the needs of the environment.

### What do we want to achieve?

#### Our Aims

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

### Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

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

# How did we do?

## Performance Measures

Set out below is our performance for the year 2020-21 against our measures of success we set ourselves for this well-being objective.

### Priority Area: Improve learner outcomes

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Average capped 9 score for pupils in Year 11. (Higher)	362	363	N/A	Not applicable*
Percentage of pupils, at end of foundation phase, achieving Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessments for LLC-E and LLC-W (Language Literacy and Communication in English and Welsh). (Higher)	N/A*	85.1%	N/A	Not applicable*
Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of key stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the expected outcome in English/Welsh first language, as determined by teacher assessment. (Higher)	N/A*	90.2%	N/A	Not applicable*
Percentage of pupils at A level achieving 3 A*-C grades. (Higher)	55.4%	55.6%	N/A	Not applicable*
Percentage of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh. (Higher)	7.58%	8.7%	Red 7.61%	↑
<p>Given the small numbers involved, any difference year on year needs to be interpreted cautiously because a small change can affect the proportions e.g. one family move in/out of the area (e.g. a new school opens). The figures related to Year 1 pupils in Welsh-medium education show a similar pattern over the years with little variation. As part of our aspiration to meet ambitious targets set by Welsh Government, there has been a significant amount of promotion work designed to encourage more families to consider Welsh-medium education for their children. Given that these are pitched at mothers from the birth of their child/ren, we anticipate that the increase in numbers should begin to feed through to Year 1 in three to four years' time. There have been a number of admission applications for places at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr but the school has reached capacity in some year groups – hence the proposals for a new and larger school in that area. In each case, an alternative Welsh-medium school has been offered except where parents/carers have expressed a clear preference for an English-medium school closer to where they live.</p>				

\*Due to COVID-19 there were no teacher assessments

## Priority Area: Growth and Prosperity

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Financial value of externally funded town centre regeneration projects underway/ in development. (Higher)	£15m	£13m	Green £13.5m	Not applicable
Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment. (Higher)	334	200	Green 401	↑
The number of visitors to town centres - footfall for (Higher)* a) Bridgend	6.354 million	No target	3.130 million	↓
b) Porthcawl	2.761 million	No target	1.961 million	↓
The number of vacant premises in town centres (Lower) a) Bridgend	64	No target	74	↓
b) Maesteg	13	No target	16	↓
c) Porthcawl	19	No target	21	↓
d) Pencoed	7	No target	7	↔
The number of business start-ups. (Higher)	475	No target *	540	↑

\* Due to COVID-19 and national lockdown this target was revised during the recovery planning

## Steps taken to achieve the well-being objective

We made 12 commitments to support the delivery of this well-being objective, focusing on two priority areas

- 1) Improving learner outcomes;
- 2) Growth and prosperity;

For 7 commitments we achieved all that we had planned, therefore we have assessed our performance as **green**. Of the 7 commitments assessed green, 3 are from the priority area improving learner outcomes and 4 are from the priority area growth and prosperity. The remaining 5 commitments we assessed as **amber** as we did not achieve all that we had planned.

<b>1) Commitments to improve learner outcomes</b>	<b>RAG</b>
Sustain the current good pupil performance at key stage 4	Amber
Raise standards of literacy in primary schools	Amber
Improve outcomes for post-16 learners in school sixth forms	Green
Assess the impact of the COVID-19 school closures on outcomes for learners and support schools to mitigate teaching and learning issues as a result of the pandemic	Amber
Support schools to provide safe learning environments for all learners and staff in schools	Green
Identify the impact of blended learning and further its development and implementation	Green
Deliver the priorities in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan to promote Welsh medium education and increase the number of Welsh speakers to support Cymraeg 2050.	Amber
<b>2) Commitments for growth and prosperity</b>	<b>RAG</b>
As part of regeneration to support the growth and prosperity of the county borough two key developments are planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall providing improved community facilities to include the town library, performance spaces, offering improved accessibility for visitors and creating jobs.</li> <li>• Complete on the sale of Salt Lake Development for food retail as part of an ambitious regeneration scheme in Porthcawl.</li> </ul>	Green
Create better town centres through improving property and the environment.	Green
Through Employability Bridgend, work with individuals to improve their job opportunities and reduce economic inactivity.	Green
Providing the right infrastructure and support for business to overcome the impact of the COVID-19 situation by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting business start ups</li> <li>• Supporting resilience of businesses - (enterprise hubs)</li> <li>• Developing procurement strategies to boost the foundational economy</li> </ul>	Amber
Improving the visitor experience to boost tourism in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis by: Enhancing the natural environment through Valleys Regional Park Deliver the Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus (PRIF) programme	Green

## Priority Area: Improve learner outcomes:

To inspire and support children, adults and families to achieve better outcomes; leading to prosperous, healthy, safe and happy communities.

### Supporting young people through the COVID-19 pandemic

At the request of Welsh Government, Estyn examined how local authorities and regional consortia have worked with schools and pupil referral units (PRUs) to promote learning and



support vulnerable pupils during the COVID-19 period between June and November 2020. The report by Estyn praised the Councils support to schools and PRUs during the pandemic noting that Bridgend's 'early help locality service model' meant multi-disciplinary teams were positioned well to respond effectively to the challenges of COVID-19. In addition, Estyn highlighted the strengths of our business resilience planning to ensure the continuity of learning. All schools and PRUs had to plan for a range of scenarios including the self-isolation of pupils; the self-isolation of staff, the continuity of leadership. Possible solutions included the strategic planning and mapping of blended learning; developing the capability and capacity of staff and pupils in using online platforms; producing pre-prepared emergency learning packs for all groups of pupils; use of Welsh Government's 'Recruit, recover and raise standards programme' grant and cover arrangements. A copy of the report can be found here <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/thematic-report/local-authority-and-regional-consortia-support-schools-and-prus-response-COVID-19>

During the pandemic, the pupil development grant was used to offer additional tuition to 33 looked-after children in the county borough. Schools and partners received training on the impact of trauma, and the effect on a child's ability to engage in learning. On-site provision was offered to looked-after children, with priority given to those in foster placements that were at risk of breakdown. Since January 2021, an average of 50 of these learners were accessing on-site provision (primary school age through to Year 8) each week. Digital equipment was also supplied where required.

Learning and teaching continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic during the 2020-2021 school year. However, schools worked hard to address the impact. The approaches taken by schools and settings will continue to evolve. It will take some time to understand how blended learning affects the outcomes of learners both locally and nationally. Because of the pandemic although progression of associated activities continued, relevant measures were not applied in the 2019-2020 academic year, reflecting the national steer. The decision by Cabinet in the summer of 2020 to retain sixth forms in all secondary schools represents a maintenance of the existing position, but importantly provides a clear strategy for the local authority on the model it believes will help to improve learner outcomes for those in post 16 education.

### **Bridgend Youth Support**

Throughout the pandemic Bridgend Youth Support continued to offer help to young people through its WhatsApp service <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/children-and-young-people/bridgend-youth-support/>. When the first lockdown began, the service needed to adapt its delivery model to ensure continued engagement and support for young people, which it did by redesigning its website and promoting the service. A youth chat function was added to Oggie chatbot. This allowed young people to engage digitally and service matched to an appropriate Council programme for support or signposted to an organisation for help. This included employment, training, emotional and self-esteem support, and preventing homelessness. As part of the change in service delivery, activities moved online and over the phone, with the teams delivering interview skills training over Skype, as well as other online learning, confidence-building courses, and weekly activities and games. The youth Council continues to meet virtually, with a different theme and a guest speaker each week.

### **Welsh language**

As part of our aspiration to meet ambitious targets set by Welsh Government, we continued promotion work within Mudiad Meithrin, Flying Start and primary schools to encourage families

to consider Welsh-medium education for their children by highlighting the benefits to pupils of bilingualism.

We secured funding via the Cymraeg 2050 capital programme for four projects. Planning permission is in place for two Welsh-medium childcare facilities, in Bettws and Blackmill. A further two facilities are planned for Bridgend Town and Porthcawl areas with expected delivery in 2022.

The hub in Blackmill will serve the Ogmore Valley with places for 34 children aged up to five and will operate between 7am-7pm. Once completed, it will feature a new play space, quiet rooms, storage facilities, offices and a car parking area. Outside will be landscaped with soft play facilities as well as a canopy to provide children with shelter and shade. Completion is expected by December 2021. At Bettws, preparations are underway to establish the second childcare hub on the derelict site of the former Bettws Boys and Girls Club, which will be demolished to make way for the new centre. The completion date for the facility is March 2022.

A new Cylch Meithrin Welsh medium playgroup –‘Cylch Meithrin Gwdihw’ with 16 nursery places opened in Bryntirion and Laleston Community Centre in January 2020.

Following the first lockdown, Welsh Government identified the learning of pupils in Welsh-medium schools from English-speaking homes as a key priority. Several local authorities, including Bridgend, used their immersion facilities to provide additional support for these pupils. Central South Consortium (CSC) Improvement Partners (IPs) worked on a regular basis with all Welsh-medium schools, supporting them to develop their blended and remote learning offer. Some schools chose to work together to employ additional language support assistants for those identified as needing more bespoke support. CSC created “Direct Teaching Resources” used extensively in schools to support teachers with the teaching of key subject areas, which included Welsh-medium resources.

## **Priority Area: Growth and Prosperity**

Promote the conditions for growth and prosperity by supporting people and business to take advantage of the opportunities to help them succeed. The key focus is on:

- Regeneration
- Skills and employability
- Economy and Enterprise

## **Regeneration**

### **Redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall**

Working in partnership with Awen Cultural Trust, work to repair, restore and extend Maesteg Town Hall continued to make good progress. The latest developments on the £7.9m Grade II listed building include the laying of concrete for the new backstage platform lift, which will ensure better access for bigger sets and stage equipment. On the roof, the cupolas, which form part of a traditional ventilation system, have been restored and weatherproofed.



The iconic clock was dismantled carefully and its mechanism removed to provide unhindered access for the structural works needed to the tower, and to keep it safe during the process. This has been carried out by renowned clockmaker Smith of Derby, which has looked after the clock for many decades.

The restored building which is the biggest investment in arts and cultural in Maesteg in generations will be enhanced with a new glass atrium, studio theatre and cinema space, café and mezzanine bar, heritage centre and modern library. It is scheduled to reopen in spring 2022.

## Porthcawl

We progressed with the planned redevelopment of the Salt Lake area of Porthcawl with the disposal of the retail site to Aldi as the highest compliant bidder for the new food store. An artist's impression highlights how the building will feature an environmentally sustainable design using high-quality materials. The roof features a two-storey 'wave' motif to reflect the community's close relationship with the sea and there is a strong focus on using wooden and limestone materials as part of the construction.



The new development will become a gateway into Porthcawl along with creating jobs, providing new facilities, and delivering high quality landscaping and public realm improvements. The development is intended to unlock funds to be reinvested in further improvements, including new infrastructure along the seafront, improved car parking facilities at Hillsboro car park and more. It will be followed by all-new residential, leisure, retail and commercial developments at Salt Lake, along with green open space and new active travel facilities.

## Improving town centres

### Support for new business

Providing the right conditions and infrastructure to help business thrive is a key strategy to ensure our towns are lively places that people will want to visit and spend time. One of the ways we do this is by providing reliable, relevant and accessible information to help new business make informed choices. The Town Centre page on the Council website is curated with helpful data and information including the Town Centre Property index, Footfall data and guidance on Pop up shop opportunities <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/business/town-centres/>

The Town Centre Property index went live in June 2020. This interactive page updated weekly, allows prospective business owners to search for available premises in towns across the county



borough, while also providing the Town Centre Manager with real time intelligence to identify and market a vacant property and match business queries with appropriate vacant unit.

We continued to invest in industrial and business infrastructure to help drive business growth, including developing additional starter units for growing businesses in Pyle and Bridgend. Phase 1 of the enterprise hubs development programme at Village Farm Industrial Estate received planning approval and the building of the units will commence later in 2021.

Work was completed on vacant and new business premises in Bridgend and Maesteg town centres. However, the impact of the pandemic has unsurprisingly dampened down interest and reduced the appetite for investment.

### **Bridgend indoor market**

Improvement work for the Bridgend indoor market are now complete. There are public toilets, including accessible and baby-changing facilities, a multi-use central area is available for specialist events, family entertainment, children's play facilities and other activities designed to encourage footfall and support trade. Tables and chairs allow people to enjoy a sit down lunch for food purchased at the market.



Measures are in place to keep customers safe, including a one-way system, two-metre markings on the floor and hand sanitiser stations. The Council continues to do all it can to help support local businesses by promoting the 'shop local' message and offering concessionary rates for market traders.

## **Economy and enterprise**

### **Valleys Regional Park**

The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative, set up by the Valleys Taskforce, celebrates the Valleys' vast and beautiful landscape by combining nature with community spirit and economic development. Stretching from Carmarthen to Pontypool, Bridgend to Merthyr the VRP aims to support the development of a high-quality network of uplands, woodlands, nature reserves, country parks, rivers, reservoirs and canals, as well as heritage sites, and connect them with towns and villages.

There are ten Discovery Gateway sites across the Valleys Region, including two beautiful locations in Bridgend County Borough - Bryngarw Park and Par Slip Nature Reserve. Working with delivery partners AWEN (Bryngarw Park) and Wildlife Trust (Parc Slip) both schemes aim to maximise the social, economic and environmental potential of the valleys' natural, cultural and heritage assets.



Bryngarw Country Park received £647,000 for a broad range of projects including the development of a new education centre, which will provide a focus for connecting communities to their natural environment through outdoor education. A green-roof bicycle shelter has been constructed which will promote active travel and exploits Brynmawr's strategic situation at the start of National Cycle Route 884 which enables visitors to explore the Garw Valley and close to NCN Route

4 which stretches from London to Fishguard. The redeveloped visitor centre and the upgraded interpretation throughout the park are helping to make Bryngarw Country Park a regional as well as local visitor destination.

VRP has also funded the development of biodiversity within the park, including planting trees and the creation of a wildlife pond. Bryngarw Country Park will work with Parc Slip to become a joint gateway to the Garw, Ogwr and Llynfi Valley



Parc Slip received £400,000 in funding to restore ponds and deliver improvements to one of the grazed fields to plant a fruit and nut community orchard. The funding will also develop areas around the visitor centre with wildlife gardens, a rain garden, wild kitchen and herb gardens. Planned accessibility improvements will ensure a wide range of visitors can enjoy the facilities.

The experience of the pandemic reaffirmed the importance of green spaces to our communities. Respondents to a Bridgend PSB survey into the use of open and green spaces during lockdown appreciated green space more during lockdown,

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/9802/bridgend-public-service-board-open-and-green-spaces-survey-infographic-2020.pdf>

The developments in Bryngarw Country Park and Parc Slip will help to ensure both sites will grow their position as key locations within the county borough that helps to deliver benefits for the economy, tourism, environment and well-being. More information is available from the new website launched during the summer of 2020. <https://valleysregionpark.wales/>

## Skills

Between April 2020 and March 2021, we supported 1,255 people from across Bridgend County Borough to engage on employability support programme; 408 people achieved qualifications and 401 have gone into work. We also supported in work training providing mentoring to 60

working adults. The pandemic meant we had to adjust how we delivered our community-based model of support. We switched to engaging by phone and internet even for the most vulnerable.

#### **Case study: The Confidence to Interview Well**

*Georgina Simpson was enrolled onto Employability Bridgend's CFW+ project in January 2021. She was recently made redundant from her job of 11 years with Lloyds Bank.*

*The experience of being made redundant had adversely impacted her confidence and her lack of interview experience meant a recent job interview with Starling Bank did not go well.*

*After speaking to Georgina during her phone enrolment, we agreed to focus on building confidence and interview preparation. Due to COVID-19, job interviews are taking place online. To help Georgina build her experience of this platform all future meetings were held via Microsoft Teams. We regularly held mock interviews and worked on formulating answers to interview questions particularly focusing on the STAR technique to build her skills to answer competency-based questions.*

*Georgina's hard work had started to pay off and she secured three job interviews within one week. She was determined to do well and prepared thoroughly. We had Teams meeting before every interview, to help her stay positive and focused.*

*Georgina received two job offers, and accepted the 'Collections Coach' role with 'MotoNova Finance'. She started work on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 and has just completed three weeks of intense training.*

*Georgina says, "I'd like to thank Richard at Employability Bridgend for his help and support after I had been made redundant. My confidence was at an all-time low and after two failed interviews I was really struggling. Each time I spoke to Richard he was so understanding and supportive; it wasn't just about finding another job it was about finding my confidence again and believing in my own capabilities.... Richard sent over supportive examples that I needed for competency based interviews... this was a massive help as I struggled with this type of interview. I would highly recommend this service and it's great that it's in my local area – Thanks for all the help and support"*

## **COVID-19 support for business**

Protecting business from the worst impacts of the lockdown, and providing support to help when restrictions have eased has been a key priority. On behalf of the Welsh Government, the Council assessed and distributed 6,500 grants worth £50m to businesses across the borough. Our Kickstart grant scheme for new business was fully subscribed and delivered, showing there is still an appetite for business start-ups even during a pandemic.

We also provided practical support and adapted our town centres to ensure the retail sector could operate in a COVID secure way through initiatives such as the Outdoor Improvement Grants, and interventions in retail environments such as public health social distancing notices, window vinyl's, social distancing floor markers and COVID-19 Public Health Advice booklets. In addition to practical support and interventions, we are developing a COVID-19 recovery strategy for each of our town centres to build back stronger and with greater resilience.

In June 2020, we put in place the strategic governance for the post COVID-19 economic recovery planning, consisting of:

- A Bridgend County Economic Task Force
- An economic engagement programme
- A specific ring-fenced budget – The Economic Futures Fund.

A task force was also created with a clear aspiration to evolve its focus over time to develop an Economic Plan for the future of the county borough which will include action to help businesses adapt to the changing economic landscape and improve resilience, as well as support for residents to develop new skills, training and employment opportunities.



# Well-being Objective 2

## Helping people to be more healthy and resilient

### Why we choose this objective?

Providing the right support, in the right place, at the right time can make a real difference to outcomes and ensure individuals and families can thrive. A people centred approach with a focus on prevention and wellbeing helps ensure we support people to lead independent lives and reduces the likelihood of becoming dependent on Council services.

By building on our track record of working with the third sector, the not-for-profit and private sector, we can support communities to develop their own approaches to local issues and meet people's needs within the community.

### What do we want to achieve?

#### Our aims

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

### Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

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



# How did we do?

## Performance Measures

Set out below is our performance for the year 2020-21 against our measures of success we set ourselves for this well-being objective.

### Priority Area: Developing and enhancing community support and services

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Number of people aged 65+ referred to Community Resource Team. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 20.21	2200	Red 1,974	New 2020-21
COVID-19 has changed hospital activity this year, therefore comparators with previous years is not relevant. Other factors such as individuals declining service input and more recently reasons of frailty and deconditioning is reducing numbers of referrals.				
Percentage of reablement packages completed that: a) Reduced the need for support <b>(Higher)</b> :	New 20.21	Establish baseline	34.32%	New 2020-21
b) Maintained the same level of support <b>(Lower)</b>	New 20.21	Establish baseline	5.05%	New 2020-21
c) Mitigated the need for support <b>(Higher)</b> :	New 20.21	Establish baseline	52%	New 2020-21

### Priority Area: Building resilient communities

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Number of Council owned assets transferred to the community for running. <b>(Higher)</b>	4	15	Red 13	↑
The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted upon the engagement with some community groups and the finalisation of leases / management agreements. Issues surrounding specific sites, e.g. covenants, also caused delays. However, the lease for Cae Gof Playing Fields (Cefn Cribwr Athletic Club) was completed in May and Woodlands Park (Pencoed Athletic BGC) and Pencoed Recreation Ground Green Space (Pencoed Town Council) are to be finalised shortly.				
Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless. <b>(Higher)</b>	66.2%	52%	Green 67.2%	↑
Percentage of people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless, for whom the local authority has a final legal duty to secure suitable accommodation. <b>(Lower)</b>	10.51%	32%	Red 50.4%	↓
The current pandemic has seen a more than anticipated increase in homelessness (65% higher than previous year), for periods longer than expected. The emergency changes to the Housing (Wales) Act has removed priority need status, which means we have a duty to secure accommodation for far more persons/households. There has been slower progress in new tenancies due to COVID-19 restrictions resulting in far more applications reaching final duty. Single person household (75%) were the highest percentage of persons requiring permanent accommodation where stock already outweighed demand. There has also been an increase in the complexity of individuals requiring secure accommodation which				

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
has impacted on the ability to secure accommodation at prevention or relief stage as these individual require multi agency support and planning				
Number of additional dwellings created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use. <b>(Higher)</b>	20	7	Red 2	↓
Due to the guidance on the calculation of this measure, 14 units of accommodation brought back into use in Maesteg and Wildmill, although in a state of disrepair were pre-existing and therefore not included. Two houses were also converted into 4 units of accommodation but only 2 would be considered as additional.				
Percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority. <b>(Higher)</b>	3.26%	2%	Green 3.36%	↑
The number of children and young people looked after. <b>(Lower)</b>	394	375	Amber 390	↑

### Priority Area: Better health and well-being

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Percentage of completed TAF (Team Around the Family) support plans that close with a successful outcome. <b>(Higher)</b>	70%	68%	Green 69%	↓
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in the community. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 20.21	74%	Green 75.34%	New 2020-21
Percentage of individuals in managed care supported in a care home setting. <b>(Lower)</b>	New 20.21	26%	Green 24.66%	New 2020-21
Number of individuals engaged/supported in targeted programmes linked to leisure and cultural facilities and services. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 20.21	Establish baseline	1,137	New 2020-21
Number of people who have improved access to leisure and cultural activities by reducing cost as a barrier to taking part. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 20.21	Establish baseline	No data available	New 2020-21

## Steps taken to achieve the well-being objective

We made 9 commitments to support the delivery of this well-being objective, focusing on three priority areas

- 1) Developing and enhancing community support services;
- 2) Building resilient communities;
- 3) Better health and well-being.

One commitment, under the priority area better health and well-being, achieved all that we had planned and therefore performance is assessed as green. The remaining 8 commitments were amber, as the progress achieved during the year shows not all planned actions were completed.

1) Commitments to develop and enhance community support and services	RAG
Expand a range of integrated community services – over an extended day.	Amber
Target the use of early intervention services to reduce demand on statutory services.	Amber
2) Commitments to build resilient communities	RAG
Continue the safe reduction of looked after children to ensure young people are supported to live with their families and where this is not possible alternative permanence options are achieved at the earliest opportunity.	Amber
Work with households and partners to prevent people from becoming homeless, and support vulnerable people including rough sleepers, by providing a range of accommodation options reacting to the changing guidance from Welsh Government as part of the COVID-19 response. Aiming to support households to transition into long-term solutions to prevent homelessness and escalation into statutory services.	Amber
Work with landlords to return empty properties back into use helping to increase the availability of affordable housing for sale or rent.	Amber
Work in partnership with town and community Councils, third sector and community groups to complete community asset transfers and develop long-term sustainable solutions to manage and maintain facilities / services.	Amber
3) Commitments for better health and well-being	RAG
Improve the quality of care and support provided to individuals at home through a multidisciplinary team around people in our Community Cluster Networks, ensuring timely and responsive assessments that are people centred and meet need. This will also improve our ability to anticipate future need and ensure contingency plans are in place.	Green
Rebuild participation in leisure and cultural activities by improving accessibility, removing barriers to involvement and creating age friendly communities.	Amber
Work with partners to develop a mental health strategy and action plan to support children, young people and all adults particularly with the added and often acute pressures from COVID-19 and lockdown.	Amber

## Priority area: Developing and enhancing community support and services

Ensuring there are high quality, seamless opportunities, support and services in place for those who need our help to enable them to remain independent for as long as possible.

### Early intervention services

During the initial lockdown, the Council's multi-disciplinary early help hubs proved invaluable in ensuring a rapid response in helping to meet the challenges of the pandemic. The three hubs based in the north, east and west of the borough provided integrated effective support to families with vulnerable children and young people. In addition, pro-active support was provided to children looked after. Officers visited care placements weekly, which helped them to identify potential placement breakdowns and be proactive in providing additional support where needed rather than waiting for placements to fail.

Estyn highlighted this integrated early help approach as good practice in the recent report *Local authority and regional consortia support for schools and PRUs in response to COVID-19*.

**Cameo: Multi-disciplinary working – sharing information and providing solutions** A key feature of Bridgend's ability to adapt and respond quickly to the needs of children and young people, particularly those identified as vulnerable, has been the strong connections that exist across and within service areas. For example, the pre-existing 'early help locality service model' across the borough helps to ensure that professionals share relevant information with one another. Multi-disciplinary staff are co-located at three sites across the borough. Discussions and solution-focused work with families involve different specialist services. This integrated approach helps to ensure also that support is prioritised and allocated appropriately. The development of the multi-agency safeguarding hub, in place for the past two years, has also contributed to a sharing of intelligence around safeguarding concerns for individuals. Colleagues from South Wales Police, the local health board and local authority are co-located and provide a single point of contact for agencies to refer. Page 25 of the report

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/thematic-report/local-authority-and-regional-consortia-support-schools-and-prus-response-COVID-19>

### Therapy through exercise

The impact of lockdown on people's well-being has been well documented during the pandemic, but vulnerable people particularly children and young people in care, have experienced the impact more acutely. Lockdown has added to the trauma experienced by children in care resulting in emotional and behavioural challenges that increase the risk of placement breakdown.

We designed a summer hub programme for children referred by social care including children looked after and those with safeguarding concerns. For a lot of these children hyperactivity and difficulty concentrating makes it harder to engage in therapy. Taking part in play and creative activities helps children in care deal with trauma and can provide children and their support workers with something else to focus on (known as the 'third thing') when a difficult issue is discussed and can help a relationship to develop so that children feel safer.

The programme supported 39 children from 24 households, providing 48 hours of activities over four-weeks. Some of the outcomes reported by foster carers included less challenging behaviour, better eating habits and improved sleeping patterns. The improved well-being of the

young people and their carers contributed to the stability of the placement. The group sessions helped build communication and social skills, improved ability to compromise and led to a decrease in the emotional and behavioural outbursts as the programme progressed.

## Priority Area: Building resilient communities

Working with our partners and communities, we will develop through co production new and innovative alternatives to improve well-being and to support and sustain delivery. New service models will be sustainable and less reliant on the Council and will reflect a positive shift in responsibility by empowering other organisations and local people.

### Supporting the homeless during COVID-19

The Council worked with its partners to safeguard homeless individuals throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring no one was forced to sleep rough. To support a strategic, joined up and speedy approach a multi-agency weekly Homeless Cell meeting was established to respond to the demand for support. In 2020-21, there were over 1,600 homelessness applications from households either threatened with or imminently homeless.

To safeguard vulnerable individuals, we offered anyone at threat of rough sleeping an accommodation placement. With our partners, we provided temporary accommodation to over 600 households through the year. Additional accommodation resources were required to meet these significant demands. This included working with local hotels, B&B's and holiday lets, as well as repurposing existing projects where necessary. In many instances, homelessness coexists with complex needs such as mental health and substance misuse issues. In partnership with third-sector, providers all individuals accommodated were offered support to address these needs. Where necessary joint working with the Police and Community Safety Partnership has addressed concerns around anti-social behaviour.

As part of efforts to ensure no one accommodated returns to being homelessness a Rapid Rehousing Protocol, in partnership with Registered Social Landlords, was established to support the move on from temporary accommodation. This protocol ensured 130 households secured suitable, long-term accommodation. To continue this work, the Council bid for Welsh Government 'Phase 2 Funding'. Funding of over £200,000 was secured, which enabled existing support services to be enhanced, including the development of a new supported housing scheme. Capital funding of £6.8m was secured to deliver in partnership with Registered Social Landlords an additional 28 units of accommodation across the county borough.

Whilst the Council has responded to the needs of homeless persons throughout the pandemic, it is important to note that significant demands on temporary accommodation remain. There is also the potential for further pressure on services, with the expected lifting of emergency laws protecting evictions. Once these emergency laws end there is the potential for increased presentations. In addition, the longer-term socio-economic impact of the pandemic has the potential to leave increased households threatened with homelessness.

### Empty Properties

Empty properties are a wasted resource and have many negative impacts, which can be categorised under three headings:

- **social**, such as crime including arson, graffiti, squatting, as well as reduced public confidence in the area or the Council

- **environmental**, including rodent infestation, fly tipping, dangerous structures, and a poor impression of the area
- **economic**, such as repair costs, increased burdens on Councils' resources, property devaluation, deterred investment

Over the last few years, the Council has developed many tools and approaches to encourage empty homes back into use. This included the removal of the 50% Council tax reduction for properties empty for six months or longer, as well as investing grant monies and loans to support owners of empty properties. During 2020-21, progress has been impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions. 16 properties were renovated, creating 2 additional homes. The remaining 14 properties are not classed as additional home because they are pre-existing homes that had been in a state of disrepair brought back into use.

Support for empty properties has also come via the Valleys Task Force (VTF) empty homes grant. Supported by Welsh Government funding. Phase 1 ran in 2019-20 with over £76,000 awarded to complete work at 8 properties in rural parts of the county borough. The grant comprises of up to £20,000 for renovations and up to £5,000 towards energy efficiency, subject to set criteria. For 2020-21, 23 applications have been accepted and surveys are now underway.

### Community Asset Transfer

The Council established a £1million CAT fund to support the community have greater voice and control over services and assets. The fund enables buildings such as pavilions and community centres to be refurbished post transfer and has been extended to support drainage/pitch improvements and equipment grants to enable the self-management of facilities.

All playing fields and park pavilions managed by the Council's Green Spaces section are subject to expressions of interest from Town and Community Councils or sports clubs. During 2020-21, 13 community asset transfers were completed these include the following:

- **Rest Bay Playing Fields (Rest Bay Sports):** The pavilion and pitches transferred to FC Porthcawl and Porthcawl United with the Council awarding £55,220 to assist with the cost of pavilion refurbishment and the purchase of pitch maintenance equipment. Building works commenced in December 2020 and completed in June 2021.
- **Bowls Greens:** The day-to-day maintenance of eleven bowls greens transferred to ten bowling clubs under tenancies at will. In addition green maintenance equipment grants of up to £10,000 and Transitional Bowls grants of £5,000 for each site to assist with the introduction of self-management arrangements.
- **Litchard Park Play Area:** The lease to Coity Higher Community Council was finalised in July 2020 and funding of £14,511 allocated match funding from the Town and Community Council Capital Grant scheme towards the refurbishment of the play area, which cost £29,022.
- **Griffin Parks Veterans Hub:** Renewed the lease of the former Griffin Park Health & Wellbeing Centre in December 2020.

### Improving Places and Spaces

In addition to the transfers outlined above, the Council also allocated CAT funding as follows:

- **Bryntirion & Laleston Community Centre:** £50,000 awarded under the CAT fund and £20,000 under the Town and Community Council Capital Grant scheme, to assist with the refurbishment of the Community Centre estimated to cost more than £158,987.



- **Cae Gof Playing Fields:** £138,587 awarded to the rugby and bowls clubs to support the transfer and re-development of the bowls pavilion, bowls green, two rugby pitches and tennis courts. The lease was finalised in May 2021 and building works on site commenced in June 2021.
- **John Street Public Toilets:** £50,000 under the CAT fund and a further £20,000 under the Town and Community Council Capital Grant scheme to the Town Council to assist with the cost of refurbishing the Grade II listed building, estimated to cost £107,791. The freehold transfer of the public toilets is due to be finalised in September 2021 with refurbishment works scheduled to be undertaken in autumn 2021.
- **Llynfi Valley Sports Related CATs:** £20,000 funding to enable the Town Council to establish its own £50,000 CAT fund to provide additional support to sports clubs undertaking CATs in the Maesteg, Caerau and Llangynwyd areas.
- **North Cornelly Community Centre:** £5,000 match funding awarded to support the continued upgrade of the Community Centre.

The Council also provided further funding under the Town and Community Council Capital Grant scheme to promote partnership working for the following two projects:

- Bettws Life Centre (Garw Valley Community Council): £13,000 for essential external maintenance of the Life Centre which cost more than £26,000 and was funded under a tripartite agreement between the Council, Community Council and Awen Cultural Trust.
- Penyfai Playing Fields (Newcastle Higher Community Council): £7,651 to assist with the cost of path tarmac, lighting and upgrades of outdoor furniture at the playing fields.

Working collaboratively with Welsh Government the Council secured funding under the Play Sufficiency initiative, which enabled the replacement of play equipment at three play areas in partnership with two Community Councils:

- Coychurch Play Area (Coychurch Lower Community Council): £55,251
- Pandy Crescent Play Area (Pyle Community Council): £34,693
- Waun Cimla Park Play Area (Pyle Community Council): £22,999

## Priority Area: Better health and well-being

Improve the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of children and young people and vulnerable citizens, to ensure they can thrive and fulfil their potential.

### Mental health services

For adults in the county borough, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board provides the Assisting Recovery in the Community (ARC) service jointly with the Council. Throughout the pandemic, support was made available via telephone and video calls, alongside limited community contacts conducted in line with restrictions.

ARC offers person-centred support to people experiencing mental health issues or emotional well-being issues. It provides opportunities for individuals to improve their mental health and well-being, enhance their lifestyles and to maximise their independence through existing community resources. Tickety Boo - a perinatal mental health support group – started just before COVID-19 restrictions and was maintained via telephone support. Face-to-face sessions for small groups are planned to restart once COVID-19 restrictions allow.

People can access the advice and guidance service without the need for referral and it acts as a point of contact for community organisations and agencies requiring information in support of individuals. This includes local third sector organisations, employers and colleges.

Consistent with previous years, the predominant conditions reported are anxiety (48%), stress (15%) and low mood (30%), with the main contributory causes highlighted as family and relationship issues, followed by health issues, trauma, bereavement and work stress. The percentage of people citing COVID-19 as a cause of anxiety rose by 70% during the third quarter, the total for the year was 120.

### **Supporting mental and physical well-being during the pandemic**

The pandemic had an immediate impact on how public bodies delivered essential services. This included well-being services such as libraries, gyms, leisure and cultural activities. While providing many challenges, the pandemic also provided opportunities, which we will take forward into the future. The biggest shift in our service delivery has been the accelerated use of digital platforms to engage with service users.

### **Services go digital**

- The National Exercise Referral Scheme, which supports people with a range of chronic conditions, developed an online offer including filmed classes and live streaming activities. Alongside the digital classes, one to one support continued. The digital offer had 7,039 contacts with exercise professionals and 7,643 live views for classes.
- A few months into the pandemic, Halo Leisure, working with Sport Wales developed the Halo@Home online activity offer for gym members. It had 431 users with 3,331 session views. The success of the offer means it is likely to continue in the longer term alongside other options available in Halo centres.
- The Feel Good for Life programme, in partnership with Wales Co-Operative centre and Digital Communities Wales, developed new approaches to bring unpaid carers together and to develop digital skills. The programme supported 100 people, with 525 support calls made in addition to group activities.
- The Family Active Zone programme worked with schools to issue 500 family resource packs and a digital version of the Dame Kelly Holmes Foundation “Get on Track “ programme was trialled with 81% of young people feeling more connected to their community.
- Discovery day’s programme went virtual, 10 keep in touch fun videos and 33 zoom calls.
- Awen worked in partnership with local communities to build content for the online platform Stronger Together Bridgend. A new programme, Creative at Home launched in May 2020, with the aim of supporting the mental well-being of older people during the lockdown restrictions. Content included creative writing, photography, ukulele lessons, an online choir and more. The online content regularly attracted over 2,000 views. A hard copy workbook of all the resources along with DVD versions of the activities were distributed to people without access to the internet.
- Bridgend was the pilot for the Dame Kelly Holmes *Get on Track* virtual programme. Eight young people took part in the eight-week programme, which ran for two days a week between October and December 2020. The programme supports young people to develop confidence, improve well-being, and learn the soft skills to enhance their



employability. Upon completion of the programme, a follow up with participants revealed that 4 are in employment and 1 enrolled in an ITEC course.

- To help school staff better support the health and well-being of children and young people during the pandemic, we developed a one-stop resource pack for children, young people and their families, which was made available on the Happy Healthy Features Facebook page.
- A new telephone IVR (Interactive voice response) was introduced to ensure calls to the Council were routed through to the correct service area. The IVR included a designated COVID-19 response option to allow vulnerable residents to go through to a dedicated team to help assist them with their needs.

### Play support during the pandemic

The Councils play team provides much needed support and enjoyment for children and young people with disabilities at the after school club in Heronsbridge. However, the pandemic meant that all services stopped. A new way of working to support better health and well-being meant novel and fun ways to ensure these young people received the support they needed.



#### Case study-

Our initial response was to maintain contact with the pupils through weekly phone calls. However, the lack of normal contact was having a negative impact on the wellbeing of pupils. The Play Team came up with the idea to make 10 videos of the staff engaging in different activities. This included a special video to celebrate carers week and included photos and clips of their children.

During summer 2020, we were able to facilitate COVID-19 safe family sessions at Bryngarw Park as part of our Discovery Days programme. We had 6 families for each session. The programme ran 3 days a week for 4 weeks- providing the pupils and families with much needed socially distanced games, interaction and of course fun!

In August, we began a weekly zoom session for children and young people every Friday. There have been 33 sessions to date- each with a different activity. So far, 41 families have been invited to join in on quizzes, bingo, karaoke and themed evenings- including an Elvis impersonator!

During February half term, we arranged surprise dinosaur visits to the children and young people. Staff travelled across the borough dressed in inflatable dinosaur costumes to dance and sing and bring a little joy and fun. For those unable to take part, we filmed clips, turned it into a news style bulletin on dinosaurs being spotted across the county borough, and sent it out to families.

### Integrated Cluster Networks

As part of our commitment to improve health and well-being, we are working with our partners in health, social care and community services to deliver One Team Around People. The service

aims to support people to be independent and safe, while remaining in the community, through effective and timely interventions proportionate to need and risk.

Health and social care professional's work with GPs, community organisations', volunteers and others to co-ordinate care, provide support and where appropriate signpost to the right service. The aim is to have the right conversations, at the right time, with the right people to ensure individuals and their families get the tailored support they need to stay well in their home environment.

During September 2020, we added new therapy staff to the team to help meet the needs of People with complex needs in our growing population. This included Occupational therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech and language therapist, as well as community psychiatric nurses, dietician, pharmacy technicians and generic therapy. In addition to this, we also piloted a new triage approach for District Nurses within the team. A single point of access has ensured a prudent approach to the management of requests, which has freed up capacity ensuring the workforce, can concentrate on patient care in the community. The move to out of hours' service model has reduced delays in responding to direct and email referrals.

Along with improving outcomes for people in the community, the One Team around People approach also provides some cost savings through efficient use of resources and a reduction in medicine waste, for example, the newly recruited pharmacy technicians have provided the team with education sessions on medicine waste reduction.

### Case Study: One Team around People in action

#### **SITUATION**- What was the situation?

Mrs L is an 86-year-old lady recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, mobility issues from recent fall complaining of knee pain, lives with husband who also has mobility issues. Mrs M is presenting with agitation, restlessness, low mood, poor sleeping pattern and appetite. Daughter is trying to manage parent's physical needs but struggling to manage her mum's mental health putting immense strain on her as a carer.

#### **TASK**-What tasks were involved in the situation?

Social worker intervention and mental health assessment requested by daughter due to significant decline in Mrs L functioning ability. A package of care was implemented and MH assessment undertaken. During assessment additional issues were identified that required other professional involvement.

#### **ACTION** -What actions were taken?

The Speech and Language Therapist and dietician engaged to assess swallow and eating issues. Blood sample taken by District Nurses and referred to Multi-disciplinary team for discussion. GP was updated and medication review undertaken. Bloods identified severe anaemia. Physiotherapist assessment undertaken and referred for X ray to identify cause of pain. Mrs L was admitted to hospital and it was identified she had a fracture from previous fall. Mrs L was treated with a blood transfusion to treat the severe anaemia. Referral made to Community Dementia Team to support further. Advice and support given to daughter regarding Carers assessment and networks available.

#### **RESULTS** -What were the results of those actions?

The cluster network team provided a holistic assessment of Mrs L and her family's needs. Providing specialist support, identifying pain and anaemia as the presenting issues for Mrs L's decline in functional abilities. These issues were managed with a decline in Mrs L's mental health from initial diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. Social worker engaged and continued care and support plan in place to support both Mr and Mrs L

## Super Agers

Bridgend has been leading a regional physical activity programme for older adults called “Super-Agers” which has been recognised as a Bevan Exemplar project for reducing pressures on health or care needs and connecting people to their communities. Super-Agers has been supporting people in their own homes during the “stay at home” restrictions with over 200 home support packs issued. Once restrictions began to ease, we started in person activities outdoors, with 132 participants taking part. Support was also provided to people in the field hospital recovering from COVID-19. Feedback has been very positive, with participants confirming they have maintained their physical activity levels and a positive impact on their mental well-being.

## Libraries

Prior to the pandemic libraries in Bridgend had the highest opening hours in Wales. Efforts to improve the library offer and create welcoming useful spaces has seen membership grow from 346 per 1000 population in 2018/19 to 377 per 1000 population in 2019/20 (latest available data). Access to books, magazines, learning resources, ICT equipment, Wi-Fi, family events and social and cultural activities all combine to make libraries across the borough important community hubs. The pandemic meant the immediate closure of libraries and a significant shift to online and mobile service delivery. More people became aware of the broad range of digital resources on offer, which saw the number of users of e-books, e-audiobooks and e-magazines increase by over 30% across the county borough. There were 89,413 of these digital items issued during 2020-21. To support carers, the vulnerable and the isolated the Awen mobile service Books on Wheels supported 3,036 visits and issued 15,226 resources. As restrictions eased, libraries operated within COVID-19 secure guidelines and moved through different levels of service, commencing with the ‘book and collect’ service to enable readers to place an order and arrange a time for collection, through to browsing and on to the booking of ICT access and study spaces.

## Well-being Objective 3

### Smarter use of resources

#### Why we choose this objective?

Over the period 2018-19 to 2022-23, the Council is expected to make recurrent budget reductions of some £20.5 million. For 2020-21, our target budget reduction was £2.413 million and as in previous years, we continue to be committed to finding at least 50% of these reductions for the year by making smarter use of resources, and minimising any reductions in services. As austerity continues, it becomes harder each year to make further budget reductions, but this year we continued to seek ways of working to save us money, primarily by making smarter use of our resources, including our people and our buildings, and making the most of the assets, we retain.

#### What do we want to achieve?

##### Our aims

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

#### Our priority areas to support this well-being objective

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

# How did we do?

## Performance Measures

Set out below is our performance for the year 2020-21 on the measures of success we set ourselves for this well-being objective.

### Priority Area: Transforming the Council's estate

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020-21 & RAG	Trend
Percentage surplus capacity in primary schools. <b>(Lower)</b>	9.36%	10%	Red 11.9%	↓
Surplus places have increased due to a slight decline in the primary population and schools changing use of existing accommodation for teaching purposes.				
Percentage surplus capacity in secondary schools. <b>(Lower)</b>	20.65%	18%	Red 20.05%	↑
The reduction in surplus places is as a result of a slight increase in the secondary pupil population.				
Realisation of capital receipts targets. <b>(Higher)</b>	£794k	£600k	Green £3.09 million	Not applicable
Percentage of BCBC operational buildings achieve full statutory compliance. <b>(Higher)</b>	54.6%	100%	Red 62.7%	↑
Compliance continues to improve with the Big 5 reaching 77% at year-end. COVID-19 impacted upon compliance checks and services being undertaken, resulting in additional checks which had a negative impact on year end results. Notable improvements currently being made in relation to Gas and Water servicing that should push overall compliance closer to target in 2021-22.				

### Priority Area: Areas of corporate change

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020-21 & RAG	Trend
Percentage of staff participating in the staff survey. <b>(Higher)</b>	38.38%	44.5%	Postponed	Not applicable
Percentage of managers attending the Managers Induction programme who rated it excellent or good. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	80%	Green 100%	New for 2020-21
Percentage budget reductions achieved (Overall BCBC budget). <b>(Higher)</b>	89.4%	100%	Red 85.8%	Not applicable
There is a shortfall on the savings target of £342,000 (14.2%). The most significant budget reduction proposals not achieved in full include the phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy (£75,000). Council has approved a one off budget pressure for 2021-22 whilst a review is undertaken. Further savings from leisure centres and swimming pools (£70,000). This is likely to be an ongoing pressure in 2021-22 as the leisure service budget continues to see the impact of COVID-19. Therefore underspends will be held across the service area to mitigate any shortfalls in the short term. Increase income from generation from mobile response and telecare charging (£75,000), service area will continue to identify efficiencies to meet the shortfall in 2021-22.				



Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020-21 & RAG	Trend
Percentage of indoor learning space in primary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	80%	Red 57%	New for 2020-21
The COVID-19 pandemic has prevented the contractor from attending schools to complete the installations. The project end date will now be later than expected.				
Percentage of indoor learning space in secondary schools benefitting from high speed Wi-Fi connectivity for 30+ simultaneous devices. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	80%	Red 55%	New for 2020-21
The COVID-19 pandemic has prevented the contractor from attending schools to complete the installations. The project end date will now be later than expected.				
Percentage of staff working from home.	New 2020-21	Establish baseline	41.5%	New for 2020-21
Number of apprentices, excluding teachers, on formal recognised apprenticeship schemes within the authority during the year per 1,000 employees <b>(Higher)</b>	7.75 (N=35)	7.75 (N=35)	Amber 7.49 (N=34)	↓

### Priority Area: Environmental sustainability

Measure and preferred outcome (higher or lower)	Actual 2019-20	Target 2020-21	Actual 2020- 21 & RAG	Trend
Annual gas consumption across the local authority – kWh <b>(Lower)</b>	New 2020-21	Establish baseline	22,409,433 kWh	New 2020-21
Annual electricity consumption across the local authority – kWh <b>(Lower)</b>	New 2020-21	Establish baseline	8,166,632 kWh	New 2020-21
Annual CO2 emissions related to gas consumption across the local authority – kWh <b>(Lower)</b>	New 2020-21	Establish baseline	4,120 kWh	New 2020-21
Annual CO2 emissions related to electricity consumption across the local authority – kWh <b>(Lower)</b>	New 2020-21	Establish baseline	1,903 kWh	New 2020-21
Kilograms of residual waste generated per person. <b>(Lower)</b>	123.83kg	No target	131.45 Kg	↓
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted <b>(Higher)</b>	67.66%	No target	69.15%	↑
Percentage of waste <b>(Higher)</b> a) reuse	New 2020-21	No target	a) 0.77%	New 2020-21
b) recycled	New 2020-21	No target	b) 48.43%	New 2020-21
c) composted	New 2020-21	No target	c) 19.94%	New 2020-21
Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling. <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	20%	Postponed	New 2020-21
Undertake schemes to increase the county borough's tree cover <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	1.5 schemes	Green 2	Not applicable
Deliver community biodiversity schemes <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	1.5 schemes	Green 2	New 2020-21
Undertake Local Nature Reserve Enhancement projects <b>(Higher)</b>	New 2020-21	2 projects	Green 2	New 2020-21

## Steps taken to achieve the well-being objective

We made 11 commitments to support the delivery of this well-being objective, focusing on three priority areas

- 1) Transforming the Council's estate
- 2) Areas of corporate change;
- 3) Environmental sustainability

Overall, 5 commitments are assessed **green**, as performance shows we achieved all that we had planned. The remaining 6 commitments were **amber**, as the performance shows not all planned actions were completed.

1) Commitments to transform the Council's estate	RAG
<p>Fewer better buildings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposing of or releasing surplus land and buildings to generate capital receipts and reduce our financial liabilities and improve those buildings, which are retained.</li> <li>Using digital transformation of services during COVID-19 to identify service re-modelling to reduce demand on office accommodation across the Councils estate.</li> </ul>	Green
Provide sufficient school places in the right areas by delivering 21st Century Schools' under the Council's schools' modernisation programme	Amber
2) Commitments to deliver corporate change	RAG
Work with the regional delivery group to identify and agree regional procurement frameworks fit for purpose to deliver economies of scale on common and repetitive spend.	Green
Provide support to facilitate organisational and cultural change, including workforce engagement and the development of new and existing employees to ensure skills and capacity to meet current and future challenges, in particular through investment in a new corporate apprenticeship programme.	Amber
Implement the planned budget reductions identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, in particular for the 2020-21 financial year, set annual balanced budgets and establish long-term financially sustainable solutions.	Amber
Embrace and invest in innovation and technology including improvements in connectivity and new and replacement classroom-based, end-user devices in our schools.	Amber
Identify opportunities for new ways of working and for service delivery	Amber
3) Commitments to environmental sustainability	RAG
Invest £1.3 million to install energy and cost saving technologies to reduce our energy consumption and CO2 emissions	Green
<p>Implement a sustainable local area energy plan with a programme of work throughout the county borough to improve the carbon footprint for all residents, including schemes such as the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caerau Minewater Heat Scheme,</li> <li>Bridgend Heat Network</li> </ul>	Green
<p>Continue to exceed the national recycling targets and increase opportunities for reuse of materials by :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>building a new community recycling centre with a reuse centre,</li> <li>recycling street scene waste,</li> <li>raising public awareness of how to reduce, reuse and recycle by using public campaigns and publicity</li> </ul>	Amber

<b>1) Commitments to transform the Council's estate</b>	<b>RAG</b>
Maintain and enhance the natural resources and biodiversity of Bridgend County Borough.	<b>Green</b>

## Priority Area: Transforming the Council's estate

Ensure the Council's estate is appropriately developed and utilised to improve service delivery, reduce running costs, minimise our impact on the environment and provide the best possible setting to meet the needs of all users including citizens.

### Fewer better buildings

A key part of the Council's "Bridgend 2030" Decarbonisation Strategy is to reach a net zero carbon position within the next 9 years. The Council's estate and energy consumption is an important part of this so ensuring our buildings and schools, are as efficient as possible will be a key driver here.

We therefore continued to dispose of those assets that will bring us to our goal of having fewer, but better buildings. A number of properties were disposed during the financial year 2020-21, including sites for redevelopment and transfer to other users. This resulted in a number of high value capital receipts totalling almost £3.1m being generated, enabling focussed works on buildings retained for future service operations. Reduction in financial liabilities was also achieved through the successful return of Sunnyside House to the Landlord. Following digital transformation as part of the COVID-19 response, a project board was set up during the summer of 2020 to investigate further opportunities to redesign service delivery and needs. This is expected to lead to further reductions and changes in accommodation needs going forward.

Corporate Landlord targeted savings, became difficult to realise with social distancing affecting work activities and staff re-deployment onto COVID-19 response plans both negatively effecting productivity. COVID-19 impacted upon a number of compliance checks and services being undertaken and created additional compliance servicing tasks that had a negative effect on the compliance percentages reported, being 62.7% against a target of 100%, this was however an improvement on 2019-20 where compliance was reported at 54.6%. Improvements are being made in relation to Gas and Water servicing that should push overall compliance closer to target for the coming year.

### School modernisation programme

Our flagship school modernisation programme continued to work towards delivering new educational facilities for Bridgend County Borough, which are designed to support 21st century teaching and learning. With more than £49.5 million of capital funding plus revenue funding to support the Mutual Investment Model schemes (MIM), set to be committed towards the next phase of the school modernisation programme, it remains our largest investment. We plan to build four efficient and sustainable primary schools and one special school over the next five years as part of Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme, ensuring there is a sufficient supply of pupil places across Bridgend County Borough.

In November 2019, the Mynydd Cynffig Primary School's infant site suffered a catastrophic failure of its heating system. The school building closed to pupils in March 2020 and alternative



teaching accommodation was provided. As a result of this, Cabinet reprioritised Band B bringing forward a replacement Mynydd Cynffig Primary School for delivery within Band B and delayed the delivery of a dual stream school for Bridgend South East (Parc Afon Ewenni) until Band C of the programme (subject to the development of that site being taken forward in the new Local Development Plan).

Options appraisal work for the replacement Mynydd Cynffig Primary School scheme has concluded and a feasibility study is being progressed which will continue into 2021-22. The proposal to discontinue Afon Y Felin and Corneli Primary Schools and establish a replacement new school (which would be located at Plas Morlais on the Marlas estate in Cornelly) was progressed, in addition to the proposed enlargement of Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sgêr. The statutory process for both proposals commenced in January 2021 and the outcome to proceed with the proposal has since been agreed. The new English-medium primary will open in September 2023, and the replacement Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sgêr in 2024, subject to planning approval. Both schools would be funded via MIM.

As part of the Bridgend North East proposals, a feasibility study was progressed for a replacement Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr. This work will continue into 2021-2022. The proposed replacement would increase the size of school to 2.5 form entry plus nursery, and would result in the school relocating to a new site within the area. In addition, work has continued on exploring options for creating a new English-medium school by utilising the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr building. Options appraisal and feasibility work has continued in respect of the special school scheme and the outcome will be reported in 2021-22.

Work will continue into 2021-22 on the local authority's school catchment boundaries with the prioritisation of the identification of the new catchment area for the new English-medium school that will use the former Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr once the new replacement Welsh-medium school is open.

A process for the ongoing monitoring of the number of pupils on roll compared to the total capacity, for every school, is in place and is dynamically updated with support from schools, including up-to-date class structures. A prototype admissions dashboard was developed and published in autumn 2019 for monitoring the number of pupils on roll compared to the total capacity. However, further development has not been progressed during 2020-21 and has been impacted by the need to resource activities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with a significant and sustained reduction in capacity. It has been necessary to focus any available capacity on statutory activity.

Despite COVID-19 restrictions being in place, the Council continued to work with contractors in order to maximise community benefits, ensuring that schemes delivered targeted recruitment and training, apprenticeships and where possible pupil engagement. The contractor for the East Hub scheme at Brynteg School, which was handed over to the Council in January, held virtual careers fairs and engagement sessions with Careers Wales.

## **Priority Area: Areas of corporate change**

We will adapt our ways of working to ensure the effective delivery of our well-being objectives. Embracing innovation and technology, developing the skills and approaches of staff and adopting alternative ways of working will ensure the Council is equipped to respond to future challenges.

## Procurement

We spend around £186 million annually through procurement on bought-in goods, services and works and influencing the ways in which this is done can make a key contribution to 'sustainability and resilience'.

We are working towards the circular economy principles to ensure sustainable procurement, which ultimately underpins the seven well-being goals under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFGA). We are a member of the South East Wales Delivery Group that focuses on regional collaborative working by the setting up of regional frameworks that we can utilise.

During 2020-21, we continued to engage with businesses within our communities, to support new and innovative ideas. We also considered how to integrate the five ways of working into our new socially responsible procurement strategy to ensure that the strategy enables procurement to maximise contribution to the well-being goals. There was a small delay in developing the new strategy, but this is now expected to be approved in the latter part of 2021.

The new strategy will support-

- The implementation of the Council's 2030 Decarbonisation Strategy and the circular economy
- Maximise opportunities for local businesses, particularly those who demonstrate fair work practices
- Support the foundational economy
- Maximise the delivery of social value / community benefits
- Act as a key driver to achieving our wellbeing ambitions and as a driver of organisational change
- Deliver value for money whilst considering the whole life cost.

The delivery plan, supporting the strategy includes working toward the adoption and implementation of the Welsh Government Fair Work Guidance including the Code of Practice: Ethical Employment in Supply Chains and including social public works clauses in major construction.

In March 2020, we were one of nine public sector bodies that participated in the 'Spotlight on Procurement' - Future Generations Commissioner for Wales' Section 20 Procurement Review. The Report 'Procuring well-being in Wales' was published on 25 February 2021, explaining key findings, highlighting good practice and outlining recommendations based on the Section 20 Review. Some areas of strength were identified, as well as further opportunities for development. A key strength at the Council is the long-term approach to working collaboratively with the commissioning team, considering the outcomes procurement can deliver. As a response to the Commissioner's findings, an action plan has been developed to implement the three main recommendations set out in the report.

## Developing culture and skills

The Council experienced significant organisational and cultural change, as services refocussed and adapted to respond to the priorities faced because of the global pandemic.

This affected the whole organisation, albeit the extent of the change varied across service areas. Whilst some services were suspended and their employees deployed to critical front line services, there was a change in focus for others, where employees undertook alternative duties

or needed to adapt to new ways of working. The mobilisation of a large proportion of office-based workers to homeworking demonstrated the capacity to respond positively to change. With a vast amount of new regulations and guidance directly affecting the workforce, working in social partnership with trade union colleagues and regular staff communications and engagement were essential.

It is inevitable, however, that in a pandemic year with capacity and focus diverted, and workforce pressures across the Council, significant in some areas, that there was an impact on performance. At the start of the year all face-to-face training was postponed, as was the recruitment to our corporately funded apprenticeships; the delay in the staff survey until June 2021; and staff appraisals were not conducted as normally expected. Whilst sickness absence levels improved, there were other absences as a direct impact of COVID-19, which affected capacity. Therefore, operating in this environment meant a change in service delivery to meet the changing needs of the organisation, with many employees working at home in line with government guidance.

ICT equipment enabled the rapid move to homeworking and through the risk assessment arrangements equipment was enhanced where needed to enable staff to work safely at home. A need for a greater focus on employee wellbeing meant increasing the resources available for employees via the Council's Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), online resources to support physical and mental well-being; the introduction of remote training programmes; as well as employee risk assessment encouraged.

Widely promoted on a weekly basis, the enhanced EAP's services included daily webinars on well-being matters especially linked to the pandemic and other wellbeing tools to include a new wellbeing assessment and improved functions to allow employees to connect with others. In addition, many other on-line, e-learning and audio resources were promoted, including mindfulness and stress control and wellness action plans.

Training workshops were converted to accommodate remote access; new workshops were introduced with a view to improving mental wellbeing, and in some cases especially to deal with the challenges presented by the pandemic and homeworking. Working with trade union colleagues, secured funding for this priority training via the Wales Union Learning Funding (WULF). Examples include:

- Confidence in the Workplace – 38 attendees
- Resilience – 45 attendees
- Loss and Bereavement – 18 attendees
- Communication in the online workplace – 50 attendees
- Managing Remotely – 58 attendees

Recruiting managers were supported to enable remote recruitment activity become the norm. Support mechanisms were in place to progress apprenticeship recruitment and ensure that new starters were able to access sufficient support arrangements. Of the 34 apprentices employed throughout the year, this included 13 new starters. Of the 34 apprentices employed throughout the year, this included 13 new starters and 9 apprentices gained permanent employment with the Council. This corporate investment has been further enhanced by the introduction of graduate roles, which were agreed as part of the Council's commitment to developing skills and capacity.

## Budget reductions and our medium-term financial strategy (MTFS)

When developing our MTFS, we consider a number of different funding scenarios and aim to balance investment in preventative measures against the costs of reacting to unanticipated situations in statutory services. We aim to ensure the majority of savings are generated from smarter use of resources, with front line service reductions kept to a minimum. Each budget reduction proposal is weighted in terms of the impact on other areas of the Council, on the public and on our well-being duty as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Where a budget cut in one area of non-statutory prevention would lead to increased costs in another, this is not considered to be good financial management. Similarly, budget reductions are preferably achieved through remodelling of existing service provision and through making services self-sufficient rather than removing them in their entirety, to make them more sustainable going forward.

Alongside this is a capital strategy aligned to a 10-year capital programme, and a treasury management strategy, both of which demonstrate how the Council ensures that all of its capital and investment plans and borrowing are prudent and sustainable. The capital strategy is approved by Council and monitored on a quarterly basis through reports to Cabinet and Council. The capital programme is updated in line with the strategy and approved by Council quarterly.

Of the £2.413 million budget reductions required for 2020-21, we achieved £2.071 million. £1.799 million (86%) of achieved savings were through smarter use of resources, avoiding cutting the quality or level of services.

These included:

- An increase in non-residential charging limits in line with WG policy which resulted in £200,000 of savings,
- A further review of care packages resulted in savings of £150,000,
- Rationalisation of software budgets and removal of vacancies in ICT, saving £200,000,
- Council wide staff restructures, leading to savings in excess of £419,000,
- Savings as a result of ongoing implementation of the Corporate Landlord model £325,000

The most significant budget reduction proposals not achieved in full were in respect of the phased implementation of the learner transport policy (£75,000), additional proposed savings from leisure centres and swimming pools (£70,000), and we did not achieve the increase in income generation from mobile response and telecare charging (£75,000). The Council consults widely with citizens on all budget proposals as an integral part of its MTFS and strives annually to increase participation and involvement.

## Digital Transformation

The Digital Transformation programme has a citizen centred focus. We listened to the initial feedback from the 2015 budget consultation that 87% of our citizens wanted more Council services online. In the 2019 budget consultation 70% of respondents stated they would support a move to digitalise services.

In March 2020, our digital platform provider notified us that they would be ceasing to support the platform in March 2021. The Council procured a new platform in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic to maintain our online services, where 42,169 residents had already created an account with an average 1,000 online transactions being completed each week. This was

exceptionally challenging, as there was ongoing increased demand to also support residents during the pandemic.

During the past year and as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many services had to review the way they worked, which included developing online presence by creating dedicated webpages, online forms and a social media presence. We continued to develop our chatbot, Oggie to include additional services such as Youth Services, in an attempt for people to find answers to their questions easier and signpost customers to the right place. We also spent time during the year to develop the Council's corporate website to meet new accessibility legislation ensuring our online documents are accessible.

In June 2020, as part of the new digital platform, we launched a new digital communication platform to send weekly bulletins to residents, in the language of their choice, to keep them up to date with progress around various issues surrounding the pandemic. We have over 36,800 subscribers to the English bulletin and 231 subscribers to the Welsh bulletin. Since launching this new communication platform, we have sent out 219 bulletins with an average engagement rate of 73.5%.

A new Digital Transformation Programme Board was also established to focus on delivering the key corporate digital priorities going forward. These include projects such as automation, single point of contact, staff engagement and assistive technology.

A recent Citizen Panel survey was undertaken around digitalisation and customer services to understand the impact the pandemic had on residents. The survey results showed that during the pandemic, 55% of respondents accessed services online, with 87% of them saying that they will continue to access services this way.

At the start of the COVID-19 lockdown, it was evident that digital has enabled citizens to continue accessing our services as we have seen a transition to the digital channel. The intention is to learn from this period, assessing the possibilities and opportunities by further promoting digital services and introducing more innovative ways of working and serving our communities.

Welsh Government provided £50 million to expand the Welsh Government Hwb programme to improve the use of digital technology for teaching and learning in schools. Bridgend CBC Hwb grant allocation for 2019/20 was £3,367,600 and 2020/21 was £1,475,070. The funding has been used to equip schools with the new EdTech equipment, ensuring all schools are able to work towards the Education Digital Standards. The investment is laying the foundations for a sustainable digital education infrastructure. Additionally, the programme means less bureaucracy for schools, freeing up time for teachers and head teachers, and will give learners access to an enhanced and more consistent learning experience. Bridgend CBC are serving as the strategic delivery partner for the programme, using the funding appropriately ensuring all schools are upgraded to the national standard.

## **Priority Area: Environmental sustainability**

Programmes of work that protect and safeguard the environment for future generations by lowering the Council's carbon footprint, enhancing reduction, re-use and recycling of materials and promoting environmental awareness and responsibility with our communities.

## Sustainable energy

In line with the ambitious Welsh public sector commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2030, we are aiming to make Bridgend a decarbonised, digitally connected, smart county borough with a series of projects, which form the 'Bridgend 2030' decarbonisation strategy. Over the past four years, we have been progressing our Smart Energy Plan, developing three major projects namely the Bridgend District Heat Network (DHN), the Caerau Heat Project and the Re-FIT Project, to drive forward and capture the economic and social benefits of decarbonisation.

The Bridgend DHN will deliver heat by taking excess heat from a combined heat and power plant and thermal storage facility based at Bridgend Life Centre. It been designed to enable future expansion to additional properties in the local area, including businesses and residential homes. The first phase would serve the Bowls Hall, Civic Centre offices and the Bridgend Life Centre. The project made significant progress in the early part of 2021. The £1.2m capital grant provided from the UK government was drawn down in March 2021. This included the creation of a new financial model, preparation of a planning application for the thermal store, development of an environmental permit for the energy centre. Three companies have been shortlisted to submit tenders for the project. The project will progress to the procurement of a design, build, operate and maintain contractor and should this be successful then the construction of the heat network could commence in 2022.

Key objectives for the scheme are to continue to provide reduced energy costs for customers, provide carbon emissions savings compared to alternative strategies and, over time, further decarbonise heat supplies.

The Caerau Heat Scheme was established as a highly innovative demonstrator project and proposed to extract heat from water contained within flooded former coal mine workings, to provide heat for properties within Caerau, via a network of pipes and through ground source heat pumps. As a result of work undertaken during 2020 showing that water in the existing borehole was unlikely to be minewater and that the costs to undertake further exploratory work where prohibitive, alternative technologies were explored. The project has now been redefined, to include a blend of energy projects, from Minewater, ground source heat to a private wire from a local Wind Farm. This change in development direction has had approval from the funder, Wales European Funding Office, (WEFO) so detailed designs will now be progressed during 2021 to take the project to its next stage.

The Re-Fit Project, forms part of £1.3m spend on energy efficient measures within the corporate estate, the majority of which are in education use. This includes new heating & ventilation systems, insulation and PV panels. The aim is to support schools to reduce energy costs and emissions, as well as optimise the energy performance of the Council's buildings.

While the COVID-19 pandemic caused some delays to the plans, our contractor began the process of carrying out building surveys to identify energy saving measures. As well as consuming less energy, which will lead to a significant reduction in annual energy and maintenance costs, these upgrades will result in a more comfortable learning and working environment for pupils and staff. The buildings chosen are among those where energy-efficiency changes can make the most difference. The first phase of the scheme is due to take around seven months to complete and is due to commence in the latter part of 2021. The second phase will then look to include more buildings. The first schools to undergo the energy saving measures include Pyle Primary School, Llangynwyd Primary School, Porthcawl Primary School and Brackla Primary School.



To meet the carbon-neutral/ net-zero carbon objective by 2030, the progress of and projects within the Smart Energy Plan will need to be expanded and accelerated. These projects are a key contributor to the Welsh Government's decarbonisation strategy (published March 2019) "Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales".

## Recycling

The impact of COVID-19 was felt in many of our key services including our recycling services. We were forced to stop our garden waste service at the end of March after the contractor who converted the garden waste into high-quality compost ceased to trade because of the impact of COVID-19 on its business. A new alternative contractor was sourced and the service was initially

**From the end of March 2020 to the end of July 2020, there was a 17 percent increase in recycling collected from the home when compared to the same period last year. This includes over 700 extra tonnes of glass, 450 tonnes of food, 284 extra tonnes of cardboard and nearly 200 tonnes of plastic and cans.**

restricted to those households who had already enrolled to the scheme with no charges levied in acknowledgement of the inconvenience. The scheme was later re-opened for new registrations.

Recycling centres also closed and then re-opened as soon as WG allowed us to do so. The closure of these sites certainly had an impact with lockdown contributing to hundreds of tonnes more waste and recycling being put out on our doorsteps. Despite the impact of the pandemic, we surpassed the 64% current welsh government targets in recycling performance at 69.15% for the year 2020-21. This was also an improvement on what we achieved in 2019-20 at 67.66%. Wales may be a small country, but when it comes to recycling, we punch way above our weight. We are already the third

best recyclers in the world, and now Bridgend County Borough Council is backing the Wales-wide movement to make us first.

Fresh investment of £238,000 from Welsh Government was spent on collection vehicles, containers and depot facilities to safeguard the collection of nappies and other absorbent hygiene products (AHP). This investment has enabled the service to be more efficient and continue to divert AHP away from landfill. All recyclable elements are removed and refashioned to create new products such as fibreboards, acoustic panelling and more. The tender process for recycling of street litter was delayed, but was awarded in early 2021 and will be operational from 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Work began in September 2020 on building a new modern community recycling centre on the Village Farm Industrial Estate in Pyle, the west of Bridgend County Borough. Contract implementation was delayed in 2020, but the new centre was completed in June 2021. As part of the plans, a re-use shop similar to the one at the Maesteg community centre is being established; where household items that are in good condition can be sold on. The centre, which is expected to open in October 2021, will have more vehicle capacity and bypass lanes to allow easier access for residents using the facility. A split-level system will be in place in the yard with ramps up to the higher-sided skips and a canopy to protect from the elements. As part of this scheme, development works are also taking place to improve the estate's junction with the A48.

**Deputy Leader Hywel Williams**

***"This new community recycling centre will enable thousands of households to recycle even more of their waste. The modern facility will have better access and feature more bays than the site in Tythegston"***



Seven-year-old Mazie-May with her winning poster design earlier this year.

Bridgend County Borough Council joined forces with Keep Wales Tidy to support Caru Cymru (Love Wales), as part of our 'Love it, don't trash it!' as part of the biggest ever initiative to eradicate litter and waste. This campaign first began in Porthcawl in 2019 and has since then been expanded. The project involves community Councils and schools in Porthcawl, Cornelly, Pyle, Kenfig Hill, Cefn Cribwr and Brackla, encouraging residents to care for the environment by making good habits second nature from taking litter home and cleaning up after dogs, to recycling 'on the go', reusing and repairing. New signs designed by a

primary school pupil as part of the 'Love it, Don't Trash it!' campaign urging people to not drop litter and highlighting the consequences of it have been placed onto bins and lamp-posts throughout Cornelly, Pyle, Kenfig Hill and Cefn Cribwr. As part of the project, children took part in a survey around nearby streets and parks, recording all the different types of litter they found, and doing their own litter pick. Meanwhile around 250 children took part in one of SeaQuest's beach days. They then used their experiences as inspiration to create posters urging people to not drop litter and highlighting the consequences of it.

We will soon launch a digital version for schools in the Ogmore Valley and will continue to work with Keep Wales Tidy to set up new litter hubs when COVID-19 restrictions allow so volunteers can have access to equipment for litter picks. We are also planning to introduce more dog waste bag stations for pet owners if they have forgotten them on a walk and colourful bins to discourage people from dropping gum on the floor.

## Tree planting

Following the declaration of a climate emergency by Welsh Government in April 2019 and the commitment to achieving a carbon neutral public sector by 2030, we started to develop a climate emergency response programme, which will work to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The Council recognise that increasing the coverage of native tree species will help safeguard biodiversity and add to environmental resilience. In addition, tree planting has the added benefits of ecological enhancement, community cohesion and well-being benefits.



Effective tree planting follows the best advice and science in order to ensure 'right tree right place'. To this end, the Council commissioned Environment Systems to develop a protocol based on identifying the sites with the best ecosystem services, e.g. flood attenuation, biodiversity gain and carbon capture that could be applied to Council owned assets. The protocol identified five sites with the potential to accommodate circa 15,000 trees. The strategy to take this forward is currently being developed.

### **Case study: Brynteg Comprehensive School**

A great example of increasing tree cover and providing community benefits is Brynteg Comprehensive School. The school is seeking to maximise their green spaces to enhance outdoor learning, improve the ecology, and to develop the school as a community hub. The natural resources team in the Council provided support and technical input. The scheme involved a number of elements including an overall masterplan to ensure the project was a success. A local landscape architect was approached to prepare a master plan. The team also involved the woodland charity Llais y Goedwig to work with the school to identify tree planting areas that staff and the pupils could have access to. We planted a thousand trees. Bridgend Town Council and Bridgend County Borough Council jointly funded the project.



### **Local Nature Reserve Enhancement projects**

There are currently five Local National Reserves (LNRs) across Bridgend County Borough

- Craig y Parcau LNR
- Frog Pond Wood LNR
- Kenfig Dunes LNR
- Locks Common LNR
- Tremains Wood LNR

These sites comprise a number of important wildlife and landscape features of regional importance, which has resulted in their LNR status. Thousands of visitors attend these sites every year, making their accessibility, health, and safety paramount concerns. LNRs also offer opportunities for increased partnership working and volunteer involvement in their management.

Due to lockdown restrictions, it has not been feasible to undertake the usual improvement activities; however, the focus has been to extend the Frog Pond Wood LNR and to declare Bedford Park a LNR. Both proposals will provide additional opportunities for management works involving the local community.

We commissioned the Wildlife Trusts of South and West Wales to prepare a management plan in support of the declaration of Bedford Park as a LNR. The extension of Frog Pond Wood LNR to include Village Farm Meadow has been included in the Magnificent Meadows project. Both sites were approved for LNR designation in April 2021.

### **Community biodiversity schemes**

During the COVID-19 lockdown, we worked with the Bridgend Public Service Board to determine how residents utilised green spaces and if they used and valued these spaces more as a result of limited outdoor activity. We designed a survey and promoted it via the Council's media and social media platforms. The volunteer network group, comprising of the Wildlife Trust, Bryngarw Country Park among others, also helped to raise awareness of the survey through their social media channels. There were 586 respondents and findings were:





## Are Open and Green Spaces Being Used Differently During Lockdown?

The **586** respondents to the Bridgend Open and Green Spaces survey told us that:

**97%** appreciated green space more following lock down, many had found new places to enjoy



**81%** were more aware of wildlife seeing birds and insects out and about and in the garden



**93%** felt that using local green spaces helped their personal and family health and mental health



**56%** used green space to take up new exercise regimes.



**95%** will use green space more in future.



**476** Respondents said they wanted to use green spaces more for walking, **252** for cycling and **144** for running. **363** wanted to visit more nature reserves.



**244** people said they wanted to volunteer for conservation activity such as litter picking and tree planting.



**63** respondents said that green space was important to their business



## Next steps

These survey results will help Bridgend Public Services Board to:

- Engage with more volunteers
- Improve green spaces
- Encourage more people to use open and green spaces to improve their health



## Consultations and engaging through social media

Throughout the year, we carried out a range of consultations to help inform our decision making. We have a dedicated webpage providing the details on our consultation activities <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/equalities-and-engagement/consultations/>.

Progress continued in making available easy read versions of consultations for example 'Fit for the Future' budget and Bridgend Town Centre Masterplan consultations. We also created young person versions to encourage young people to get involved.

During the 'Fit for the Future' budget consultation; we used promotional materials such as posters, radio advertising, videos and online FAQs to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage as many people to engage. We posted bilingual budget information to the Council's corporate Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn channels throughout the consultation period to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage citizens to share their views on the proposals.

We developed an explainer video to emphasise the importance of being involved along with four videos featuring the Leader, Deputy Leader, Chief Executive and Youth Mayor. We engaged with Town and Community Councils as well as Bridgend Youth Council, elected Members and Bridgend Community Cohesion and Equality Forum.

During the consultation period, the 'Fit for the Future' social media content reached 512,768 people with 79 comments, 141 shares, 165 reactions, 122 poll votes, 5,257 video views and 2,248 link clicks through to the budget consultation page on the local authority website.

### Social media

Due to the impact of COVID-19, we relied heavily on social media and online channels to engage with the public. Bridgend County Borough Council's social media channels content output tripled throughout 2020 and the number of followers has increased across our platforms.

Number of followers	
Twitter (English)	13,790
Twitter (Welsh)	290
Facebook (English)	16,869
Facebook (Welsh)	183
Instagram (bilingual)	2,870
LinkedIn (bilingual)	4,816

The pandemic had a significant impact on social media interactions. As the country went into lockdown and communication shifted online there was a 53% increase in social media traffic across the Councils various online platforms.

Financial quarter	2019 - 2020	2020- 2021
Q1	18,038	56,241
Q2	18,619	23,683
Q3	16,186	25,637
Q4	29,579	20,470
Total	82,422	126,031

## Digital communications

In June 2020, the Council implemented a new digital communications platform called govDelivery- an email marketing system that sends messages directly to residents' email inboxes in the language of their choice. There are currently 36,987 English subscribers and 228 Welsh subscribers who receive weekly COVID-19 update emails.

Since the launch, we have issued 112 weekly bulletins providing timely information, advice and guidance on the COVID-19 pandemic and Council services. We also sent standalone bulletins for community testing and local lockdown information. There have been 130,529 links clicked within the bulletins- the table below gives a breakdown of the govDelivery activity since its launch in June.

Language	Subscribers	Number of bulletins	Average total email opens	Total bulletin link clicks	Average clicks per bulletin
English	36,987	56	30,199	129,883	2,319
Welsh	228	56	140	643	12

## Website

At the start of the pandemic, we created a dedicated COVID-19 information hub on the homepage of the Council's website <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/performance-plans-and-reports/coronavirus-COVID-19-latest-information-and-advice/> providing easy access to information, advice and guidance for residents and business.

This includes:

- Latest news
- Contact tracing scheme
- COVID-19 business support
- Children, young people and COVID-19
- Help your community in the pandemic
- Support for people in the pandemic
- COVID-19 testing facilities
- Ordering home tests

We supported partners such as Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board, South Wales Police, town and community Councils to disseminate information, by using our communication channels to share information they produced. We also developed our chatbot 'Oggie' and launched Facebook messenger to incorporate key blocks to also assist with routing residents to the relevant information quickly and easily.

We created a bespoke webpage 'Support for people in the pandemic' which included making people aware that support is available in a variety of different languages with links to multilingual Welsh Government resources. <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/performance-plans-and-reports/coronavirus-COVID-19-latest-information-and-advice/support-for-people-in-the-pandemic/>

To reach and engage with residents without access to digital platforms, we distributed leaflets to all households in the borough highlighting support available from the Council during the pandemic. We worked closely with umbrella organisations, e.g. the Bridgend Community Cohesion and Equality Forum and the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations, to distribute information to specific groups.

### Communication during COVID-19

1,095 media releases	3 editions of staff newsletter Bridgend
90 daily COVID-19 updates	502 internal staff messages- including 52 emails on resources for staff well-being
73 bi-weekly news updates	Video communications for VE Day, Unsung Heroes campaign, Keep Wales Safe campaign
39 Seaside News columns	

The Welsh Local Government Association has acknowledged the communication effort by the Council during the pandemic as an example of best practice.  
<http://www.wlga.wales/communicating-with-bridgend-residents-during-COVID-19-bridgend-cbc>

## Financial Performance

Our financial environment is becoming increasingly challenging. We need to make unprecedented savings in the future that can only be achieved by changing the way we work and changing the way services are delivered. Last year the gross amount we spent on delivering services to our citizens and investing in our landscape and infrastructure totalled around **£470.91 million**. The total amount that we had available to spend was made up from three main sources listed below.

### Revenue Expenditure

Our revenue expenditure represents day-to-day costs such as salaries, equipment, supplies and services. Our **net** revenue expenditure in 2020-21 after allowing for accrued Council tax income and appropriation to earmarked reserves was **£286.453 million**. The table below shows the expenditure and proportion of spend per well-being objective in 2020-21 and spend on other core services and statutory functions:

Well-being objective for 2020-21	Revised Budget 2020-21 (£'Million)	Actual Outturn 2020-21 (£'Million)	Actual Over/(Under Spend) 2020-21 (£'Million)
1. Supporting a successful economy	54.345	53.674	(0.672)
2. Helping people to be more self-reliant	56.879	55.195	(1.683)
3. Smarter use of resources	4.781	4.576	(0.205)
4. Core services and statutory functions	170.881	173.008	2.128
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>286.885</b>	<b>286.453</b>	<b>-0.432</b>

### Capital Expenditure

This represents our spending on schools and infrastructure such as roads, bridges and buildings. These assets will benefit the community over long periods of time and the expenditure is largely financed by borrowing and capital grants. Our capital expenditure in 2020-21 was **£23.461 million**, where the main projects carried out during the year included:

- £1.762 million Maesteg Town Hall Cultural Hub
- £1.643 million Carriageway and Footpath Renewal
- £1.518 million Fleet Vehicles
- £1.414 million Active Travel – Pencoed Technology Park
- £1.406 million Relocation of Recycling Centre
- £1.367 million Schools' Capital Maintenance Grant
- £1.358 million Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)
- £1.184 million Brynteg Comp - East Hub
- £1.102 million Mynydd Cynffig Primary School Mobiles

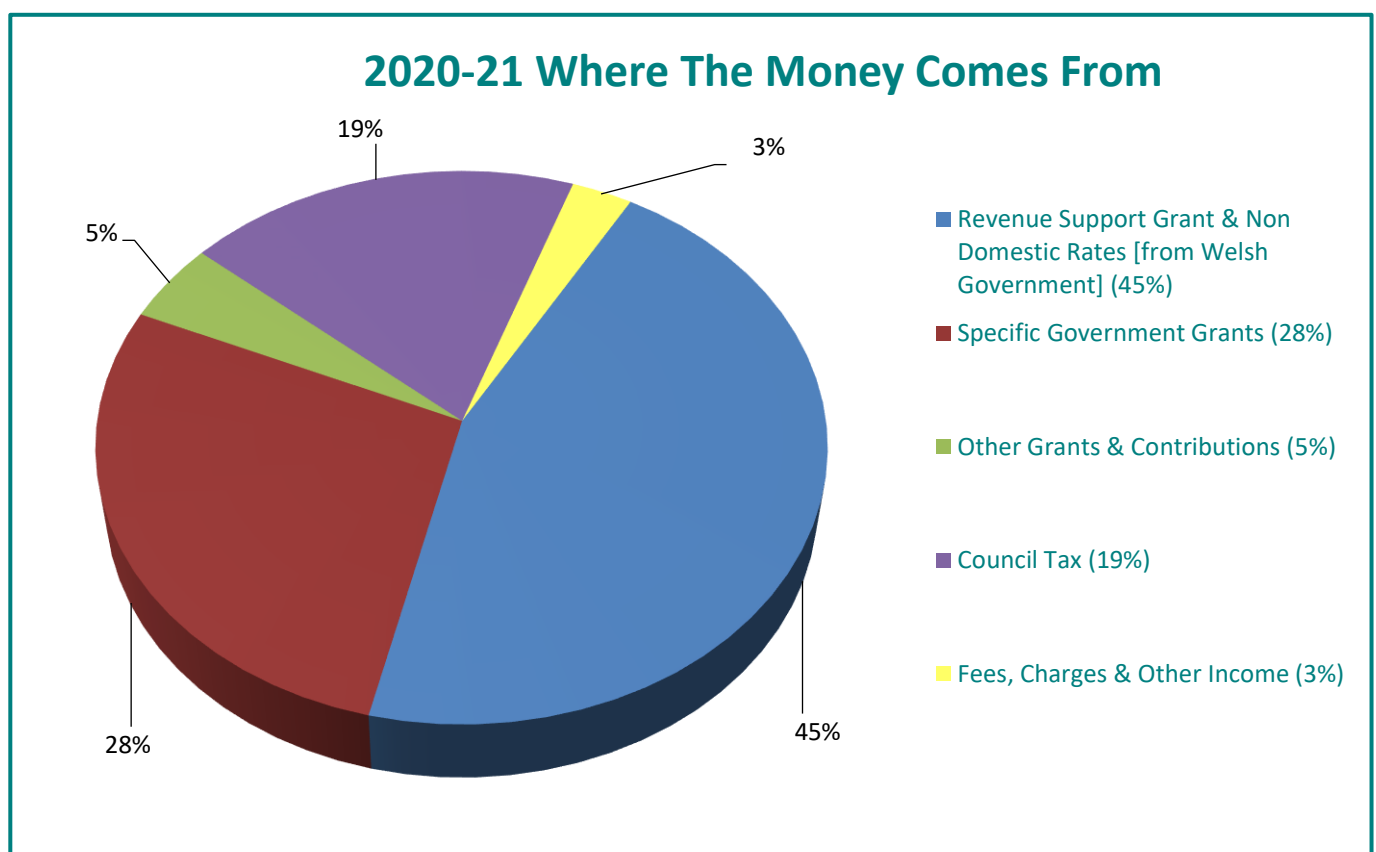


## Grants

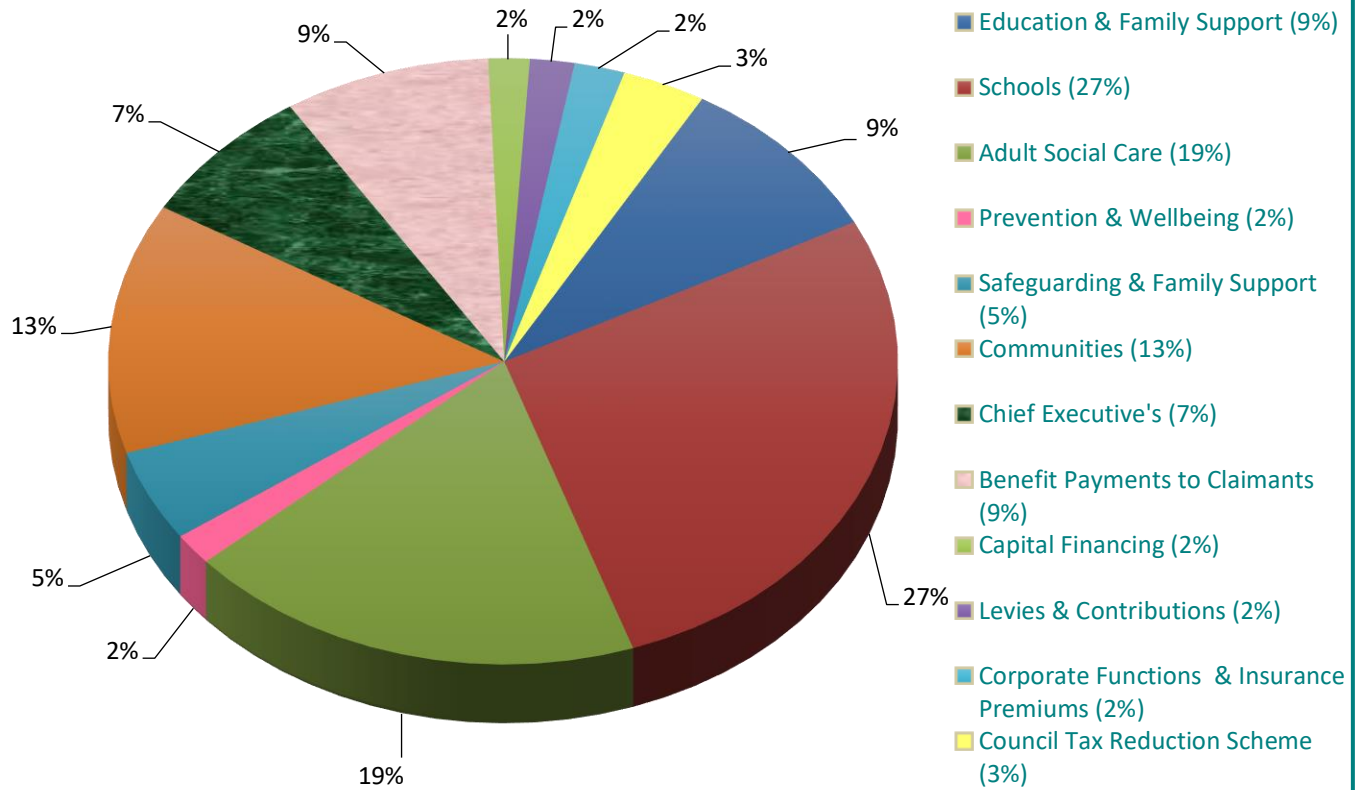
We also received specific government revenue grants in addition to the core Revenue Support Grant and Non-Domestic Rate (NDR) allocations and Housing Benefit Subsidy, totalling **£124.770 million** during 2020-21, which we are able to use in addition to our own revenue budgets. The main grants received during 2020-21 included:

- £6.307 million – Post-16 Grant
- £38.189 million - DWP Grant Income
- £8.179 million – COVID-19 Grant
- £5.955 million – Supporting People Grant
- £4.953 million – Education Improvement Grant
- £4.980 million – Pupil Development Grant
- £2.922 million – Flying Start Grant
- £1.787 million – Families First Grant

The following charts summarise where the money came from and where the money is spent:



## 2020-21 Where the Money Is Spent



# What our regulators said about us

## Audit Wales

The work of all Councils in Wales is scrutinised by external regulators to ensure that we use public money efficiently and effectively to deliver benefits for our communities. Audit Wales has an annual programme of audit and assessment work that it undertakes in the Council, and the conclusions from all this work are brought together in an Annual Audit Summary (formerly known as the Annual Improvement Report). The latest report available was published in March 2021 <https://archwilio.cymru/publication/bridgend-county-borough-Council-annual-audit-summary-2020>

The Auditor General certified that the Council has met its legal duties for improvement planning and reporting, and believes that it is likely to meet the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. The Auditor General issued the certificate confirming that the audit of accounts for 2019-20 has been completed, and key facts and figures from the 2019-20 financial statements can be accessed here <https://audit.wales/infographics/local-Council/bridgend-county-borough-Council>

During the course of the year, the Auditor General did not make any formal recommendation. There were some proposals for improvements on financial sustainability, which can be viewed via the link in the table below. The impact of the pandemic meant that the breadth of local audit reviews was scaled back. A normal programme of audit reviews is expected to resume in 2021-22.

The Auditor General also researches topics at a national level in order to share best practice and make recommendations for how public bodies can improve. The topics covered during the year included Tackling fraud, Rough sleeping, Better law making, and Commercialisation in local government. These reports can be accessed via the links below.

Performance and Audit Reviews (local)	Link
Financial sustainability	<a href="https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/pdf/6_11.pdf">https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/pdf/6_11.pdf</a>
Performance and Audit Reviews (national)	Link
Raising our game: Tackling Fraud in Wales (July 2020)	<a href="https://www.audit.wales/publication/raising-our-game-tackling-fraud-wales#:~:text=The%20sums%20lost%20annually%20in,prevalent%20crimes%20in%20society%20today.">https://www.audit.wales/publication/raising-our-game-tackling-fraud-wales#:~:text=The%20sums%20lost%20annually%20in,prevalent%20crimes%20in%20society%20today.</a>
Rough sleeping in Wales- Everyone's problem; No one's responsibility (July 2020)	<a href="https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/2020-11/Rough-sleeping-Eng_0.pdf">https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/2020-11/Rough-sleeping-Eng_0.pdf</a>
Better Law Making (September 2020)	<a href="https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/Think%20piece_better_law_making_10.pdf">https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/Think%20piece_better_law_making_10.pdf</a>
Commercialisation in Local Government (October 2020)	<a href="https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/2020-11/Commercialisation-english.pdf">https://www.audit.wales/sites/default/files/2020-11/Commercialisation-english.pdf</a>

## Estyn

Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales. The purpose of Estyn is to provide an independent inspection and advice service on quality and standards in education and training in Wales. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there were no core inspections of schools, however Bridgend schools did contribute and take part in a number of thematic reviews including the Curriculum for Wales, How schools use RRRS and catch up grants, Post-16 partnerships. These reports and others are here <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/improvement-resources-search>

## Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW)

CIW evaluate the performance of social services (children and adult services) annually and publish their findings and recommendations in a letter to the Director of Social Services. At the time of writing the report, the performance letter from CIW has not yet been published.

## Future Generations Commissioner

On March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales triggered a Section 20 Review into the procurement practices of nine public bodies in Wales. Information on the review is covered on page 40 of this report

# Important themes that underpin our work

## Performance Management Framework

Performance management is about taking action in response to actual performance to make outcomes for users and the public better than they would otherwise be. You can see our Performance Management Framework here

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/2281/bcbc-performance-management-framework-2017-version.pdf>

## Scrutinising our performance

Overview and scrutiny committees are a valuable part of the transparent and democratic process. They support the work of the Council as a whole in the improvement of public services. You can see more information on the role of scrutiny here: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/democracy-and-elections/overview-and-scrutiny-committees/>

## Equality and diversity

We are committed to promoting equality and valuing diversity through all of our services and dedicated to treating our residents, customers, employees and visitors with respect, while providing services to respond to people's individual needs. The most recent annual report published in April 2021, is available here <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/equalities-and-engagement/equality-and-diversity/> along with further information on our efforts to support and promote equality and diversity.

## Welsh language

We are committed to treating Welsh and English on an equal basis when carrying out our public business. Our five-year strategy details how we will comply with the Welsh language standards, and how we intend to promote the language and culture among employees and residents. The most recent Welsh language annual report, published in June 2021 is available to read here <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-Council/equalities-and-engagement/welsh-language/>

## Bridgend Public Services Board

Bridgend Public Services Board (PSB) is a group of public sector and not for profit organisations who work together to create a better Bridgend County Borough. In July 2021, the PSB published its third annual report highlighting the activity it has undertaken in 2020-21. You can read the report here <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/11185/bridgend-public-service-board-annual-report-2020-to-2021.pdf>

## Risk management

With growing demands on services at a time of increasing pressure on finances, effective risk management remains an essential part of the framework for ensuring good corporate governance. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continuously reviewed the corporate risk assessment to take into account COVID-19 related risks. The latest risk register can be viewed here,

<https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s25102/CRA%20June%202021.pdf?LLL=0>

## End of year position summary statement

At year-end, there were 15 corporate risks (CR) on the risk register, which included the recent addition of CR14 *Schools closure/partial schools closure* and CR15 *Schools are not able to maintain educational standards*. The table below provides the end of year position

Risk status	Number
High	6
Medium	6
Low	3

## Direction of Travel

Additional corporate governance measures were introduced to ensure appropriate risks were escalated to the Corporate Management Board (CMB). We established a 'Silver' group, predominantly comprising of heads of service, to provide operational support for the strategic 'Gold' group - made up of CMB - and make recommendations to Cabinet. During the initial stages of lockdown both the Silver and Gold groups would meet weekly to assess COVID-19 issues and risks. When necessary, decisions would be escalated to Cabinet/CMB for final approval.

The majority of risks on the risk register have remained static with the exception of CR2 *The Council is unable to deliver transformation including agreed financial savings*, which increased from 4 to 8 (remaining a low risk) and CR13 *Invigorating the economy and economic recovery*, which remains a medium risk but its score increases from 8 to 10. Two risks have moved from medium to high-risk status. CR11 *Recovery & Restoration of Services* and CR12 *Public Health and Protecting the Public* had their risk score increase from 10 to 15 on the register.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in implementing alternative ways of working, both for back office services and front line services, including adult social care and schools. This has led to, additional costs and increased operational burdens to meet relevant health and safety guidance. The new ways of working have generated new types of risk for the Council to consider, particularly in relation to fraud and cybercrime. There are also risks for vulnerable people in the community including the digital exclusion of pupils from schooling, increased levels of poverty and homelessness, increases in children at risk and older people becoming isolated. The pandemic has affected a range of Council services and activities. It is likely the impacts will continue for some time, the after-effects will need to be carefully managed, and measures put into place to mitigate the risks.

## Forecast Direction of Travel

At year-end, the forecast direction of travel for risk has predominately remained the same, with CMB closely monitoring key corporate risks and progress of associated mitigating actions. It is forecast that risk CR11 *The restoration of some Council services will require new ways of working* will remain a high risk as the Council considers its future operating model as the pandemic restrictions continue to ease.

The risk CR1 *The Council is unable to make robust medium to long term decisions requiring service change* will also remain moderate to high as the impact of COVID-19 has been significant in terms of forward planning, financial uncertainty and the focus on achieving savings. Although work to deliver a balanced budget for 2021/22 and beyond is underway, many aspects remain uncertain.

## Emerging risks areas

The Auditor General for Wales has identified some key long-term issues that Welsh public bodies need to take into account as they shift their planning horizons to the longer term. The Council will need to consider the risk that these changes may have on its services:

- Demographic changes – a decline in the working age population and an estimated 11% increase in the proportion of the population aged over 80 by the year 2048.
- Austerity - public bodies are currently making difficult decisions in a period of unprecedented financial austerity.
- Poverty - estimated that there will be approximately a 3% increase in the relative poverty rate in Wales from 2013-2015 to 2019-2021, and approximately a 10% increase in the relative child poverty rate from 2013-2015 to 2019-2021.
- Brexit - the impact is still widely unknown, but public bodies will need to be alert and adapt swiftly to the risks and opportunities.
- Technological developments - there is a need to balance the opportunities that technological changes provide with a need to ensure that they do not exclude those who are less comfortable and able to use digital technologies.
- Climate change - the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to ensure that in 2050 net emissions are at least 80% lower than the baseline set in legislation.

The Council is conscious of the above emerging risks, some of which are included in the existing risk register along with mitigating actions to ensure they do not escalate.



## Our well-being objectives for 2021-22

In our Corporate Plan 2018-23, we set out our well-being objectives. These are:

- Supporting a successful and sustainable economy
- Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient
- Smarter use of resources

As part of our corporate planning the well-being objectives are assessed against the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to identify opportunities to maximise our contribution to the 7 well-being goals. Full details on the actions to achieve our objectives can be viewed in our Corporate Plan 2018-2023, reviewed for 2021-22 <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/8924/psb-bridgend-ann-report-eng-0620.pdf>



## Feedback

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



our website: [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)



on Instagram [www.instagram.com/BridgendCBC/](https://www.instagram.com/BridgendCBC/)



via Facebook [www.facebook.com/BridgendCBC](https://www.facebook.com/BridgendCBC)



on Twitter: @BridgendCBC



email to [talktous@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:talktous@bridgend.gov.uk)



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

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

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

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

##### BUDGET MONITORING 2021-22 – QUARTER 2 REVENUE FORECAST

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with an update on the Council's revenue financial position as at 30th September 2021.

#### 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 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 to 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. Background
- 3.1 On 24th February 2021, Council approved a net revenue budget of £298.956 million for 2021-22. 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. Current situation/proposal

##### 4.1 Summary financial position at 30th September 2021

4.1.1 The Council's net revenue budget and projected outturn for 2021-22 is shown in Table 1 below.

**Table 1 - Comparison of budget against projected outturn at 30th September 2021**

Directorate/Budget Area	Original Budget 2021-22 £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000	Projected Outturn Q2 2021-22 £'000	Projected Over / (Under) Spend 2021-22 £'000	Projected Over / (Under) Spend Qtr 1 2021-22 £'000
<b>Directorate</b>					
Education and Family Support	127,055	127,137	128,226	1,089	771
Social Services and Wellbeing	74,043	74,053	74,524	471	(647)
Communities	28,137	28,321	28,008	(313)	624
Chief Executive's	21,304	21,416	19,999	(1,417)	156
<b>Total Directorate Budgets</b>	<b>250,539</b>	<b>250,927</b>	<b>250,757</b>	<b>(170)</b>	<b>904</b>
<b>Council Wide Budgets</b>					
Capital Financing	7,329	7,329	8,329	1,000	0
Levies	7,783	7,797	7,775	(22)	0
Apprenticeship Levy	650	650	667	17	0
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	15,654	15,654	15,654	0	0
Insurance Premiums	1,363	1,363	1,430	67	0
Repairs & Maintenance	670	670	570	(100)	0
Pension Related Costs	430	430	432	2	0
Other Council Wide Budgets	14,538	14,136	7,254	(6,882)	0
<b>Total Council Wide Budgets</b>	<b>48,417</b>	<b>48,029</b>	<b>42,111</b>	<b>(5,918)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Appropriations to Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>298,956</b>	<b>298,956</b>	<b>296,872</b>	<b>(2,084)</b>	<b>904</b>

4.1.2 The overall projected position at 30th September 2021 is a net under spend of £2.084 million comprising £170,000 net under spend on directorates and a £5.918 million net under spend on council wide budgets, offset by a net appropriation to earmarked reserves of £4.004 million. 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 on hold with 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 2021-22.

- 4.1.3 The projected under spend on the Council budget at quarter 2 significantly masks the underlying budget pressures in some service areas that were reported in 2020-21 and still persist in 2021-22. The main financial pressures are in Home to School Transport, Social Services and Wellbeing, Homelessness and Waste.
- 4.1.4 The Home to School Transport budget has been supported in 2021-22 by a one-off MTFS Budget Pressure of £1.210 million that was approved by Council in February 2021. The quarter 2 projections indicate further pressure of £577,000 on this budget, with additional procurement exercises due to commence shortly for taxis and minibuses which could put further pressure on the budget going into 2022-23, increasing the budget pressure to over £2 million.
- 4.1.5 It is forecast that the long-term impact of Covid-19, alongside the already known pressures of an ageing population, increasing dementia rates and more complex and challenging needs is going to result in increasing demands on already pressurised services in the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate. The underlying pressure on the budget at quarter 2 is masked by grant funding of £1.777 million from the Social Care Recovery Fund which has been announced by Welsh Government (WG) since quarter 1, along with under spends on staffing budgets due to difficulties in recruitment.
- 4.1.6 Whilst budget growth of £2.192 million was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy budget setting process in February 2021 to continue the commitment to focus support for homeless individuals, the Council has seen a significant increase in the provision of temporary accommodation. Secondly, further to the budget being approved for 2021-22, Welsh Government confirmed that the Covid Hardship Fund was to be extended into 2021-22, including support for temporary accommodation. Given the increase in provision and, as it is anticipated that the Hardship Fund will not be in place beyond 31st March 2022, the budget growth might be insufficient to meet the increase in demand going into 2022-23.
- 4.1.7 Waste tonnages increased in 2020-21, primarily due to lockdowns and more residents working from home in general and this trend is continuing into 2021-22. Support was received in 2020-21 and in the first half of 2021-22 from the WG Hardship Fund towards these increased costs. Support is continuing for the second half of 2021-22, albeit that funding is reduced to 50% of the increased costs. As it is anticipated that the Hardship Fund will not be in place beyond the 31st March 2022, the underlying budget pressure is likely to continue into 2022-23.

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

### **Covid-19**

- 4.1.8 The UK was put into lockdown on 23rd March 2020 in an unprecedented step to attempt to limit the spread of coronavirus. A Covid-19 Hardship Fund was set up at an early stage by the Welsh Government to the value of £188.5 million which the Council was able to draw on for financial support. Bridgend successfully claimed over £15 million in expenditure claims and over £5.5 million in loss of income claims in 2020-21.

- 4.1.9 The Welsh Government allocated £206.6 million in its budget to the Hardship Fund to support local government for the first six months of 2021-22. In addition, £23.3 million was allocated to support free school meals during the school holidays. WG have recently confirmed a further allocation of £97.5 million for the remainder of the 2021-22 financial year with revised principles for claims and tapering of support for social care uplifts and void payments. It is anticipated that the Hardship Fund will not be in place beyond 31st March 2022.
- 4.1.10 The Authority will continue to claim from the Hardship Fund against the eligible criteria and directorates will continue to capture costs incurred as a result of the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Updates will continue to be provided to Cabinet through the quarterly revenue budget monitoring reports throughout 2021-22.
- 4.1.11 Cabinet and Corporate Management Board (CCMB) agreed to establish a £1 million Covid-19 Recovery Fund in 2020-21 to provide funding for conscious and proactive decisions aimed at boosting recovery that were unlikely to be paid for by WG. The balance on this fund has been carried into 2021-22 and CCMB have approved the use of this fund to support the free car parking offer for town centres to the end of January, a phased rental income increase for Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) owned premises and the waiver of sports fees for the remainder of the 2020-21 season. Further proposals will be considered by CCMB during the remainder of 2021-22.

#### **Estimated costs of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic**

- 4.1.12 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 or established earmarked reserves. Claims submitted to date to Welsh Government, and the outcome of these claims, are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Covid-19 expenditure claims up to end of August 2021**

<b>Specific Hardship Fund</b>	<b>Claimed £'000</b>	<b>Paid £'000</b>	<b>On hold/ pending review £'000</b>	<b>Disallowed £'000</b>
General	253	236	7	10
Homelessness	1,273	1,273	0	0
Free School Meals	99	0	99	0
Schools	498	496	0	1
Adult Social Services	2,600	1,789	811	0
Visitor Economy	24	24	0	0
Self Isolation Payments (SIP)/ Statutory Sick Pay Enhancements (SSP)	337	337	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,084</b>	<b>4,155</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>11</b>



4.1.13 The disallowed expenditure relates primarily to reimbursement of costs incurred by the Council in relation to ongoing home working arrangements and the provision of temporary outdoor structures at schools. Whilst the WG Hardship panel agreed that these costs may be additional and not within the Council's financial plans, they also felt that having such assets in place provides longer term benefits to local authorities. A contribution of 50% has therefore been agreed across Wales toward these costs for the first six months of 2021-22. WG have confirmed that these are no longer eligible to be claimed for the remainder of the 2021-22 financial year. The claims not paid to date of £918,000 are mostly those pending review by the Social Care Panel (£811,000) and Free School Meal Panel (£99,000). 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. Of the Adult Social Services claims pending review, £294,000 relates to reimbursement for Bridgend internal social care services, with the balance of £517,000 support for external providers. If the claims for internal social care provision and free school meals are successful, this would improve the quarter 2 projections by £393,000.

4.1.14 The Council has also submitted a claim for loss of income to the Welsh Government for the first quarter of 2021-22 totalling £567,000 as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3 – Covid-19 loss of income for Quarter 1 2021-22**

Directorate	Claimed (covers to end of Qtr 1)	Paid	On hold	Main areas
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Education and Family Support Directorate	48	48	0	£48k - School meal income
Schools	83	83	0	£52K - school meal income, £31K - loss of income from hire of school premises
Social Services & Wellbeing Directorate	303	303	0	£282k – contribution to Council's leisure service provider, £21k – dual use sites where facilities are managed for community use outside of school hours
Communities Directorate	129	129	0	£74k - Car Park Income, £36k pitch and pavilion hire, £10k – civil enforcement income
Chief Executive's Directorate	4	1	3	£3k – housing income, £1k – environmental health income
<b>Total</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>3</b>	

4.1.15 Of the total claim, £564,000 has been approved. £3,000 is currently on hold as WG have requested an updated position as part of the quarter 2 claim to see if this income has simply been delayed in being received. The quarter 2 loss of income claim is due to be submitted on the 22 October. As there is no certainty at the time of writing this report in relation to the outcome of this claim, the quarter 2 projections have excluded the estimates for this claim. There are two specific areas where loss of income is clearly identifiable at this stage of 2021-22 and will be included in future claims – Chief Executive's loss of court cost income and registrars, land charges, licencing fees and public health fees (£384,000) and Social Services loss of dual use income (£48,000). If these claims are successful, the quarter 2 projections will improve by £432,000.

4.1.16 In addition to lost income from service provision, the Council is also likely to see a reduction in council tax income over the 2021-22 financial year as more people have suffered financial hardship through the pandemic and the furlough scheme comes to an end. Bridgend received £1.261 million from WG in 2020-21 in recognition of the reduced collection rates experienced by councils as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Recognising that recovery may be slow the Council reduced its own budgeted collection rate by 0.5% when it approved the council tax base in November 2020. A 1% reduction in the council tax income collection rate could result in an additional pressure to the Council of around £1 million. 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.

4.1.17 Alongside the impact on Council Tax, the ending of the furlough scheme could also manifest itself in an increase in eligibility for council tax support. Support of £325,469 from WG was provided in 2020-21 towards the increased demand on the council tax reduction scheme due to the impact of Covid-19 on personal financial circumstances, however, no additional funding has yet been identified by Welsh Government for either reduced council tax income or increased council tax support.

### **Budget virements/technical adjustments**

4.1.18 There have been a small number of budget virements and technical adjustments between budgets since the quarter 1 Revenue Forecast was presented to Cabinet in July. The budget position is reported on the assumption that these virements will be approved. The main virements and technical adjustments in quarter 2 are outlined below:

#### **Budget Virements**

<b>Service vired from / to</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Transfer of funding from Parking Services (Communities Directorate) to CCTV Services (Chief Executive's Directorate) to enable ongoing support at the Council car parks.	£11,916

## 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	£287,998

## Pay/Price Inflation

4.1.19 When the budget for 2021-22 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. The technical adjustments table above presents the start of the release of these budgets as and when evidence is provided by the service areas.

4.1.20 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, the recently agreed pay award of 1.75% for Teachers, but also the ongoing discussions regarding the pay claim for National Joint Council (NJC) workers. Funding is due to be transferred shortly from centrally held budgets to reflect the uplift required for the confirmed Teachers' pay increase.

4.1.21 Inflation rates have fluctuated since the budget was set (CPI was 0.7% in February 2021, had increased to 2.1% by May 2021 and further increased to 3.2% in August). The Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee has forecast inflation to rise slightly above 4% before Christmas, higher than earlier predictions, owing largely to developments in energy and goods prices. 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

4.1.22 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 £1.760 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.

4.1.23 In February 2021 Council approved the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2021-22 to 2024-25. This identified the need to develop recurrent budget reduction proposals, based on the most likely scenario, amounting to £22.095 million over the next four years. An update MTFS report was presented to Cabinet in September 2021, outlining a number of financial pressures that the Council is still facing going forward, and the uncertainty over the financial settlement for 2022-23. 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.

4.1.24 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 2021-22. 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 whether these should be carried forward as a first call on the directorate budget for the following year. 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 22nd June 2021 on the Revenue Budget Outturn 2020-21. In the report it was highlighted that, for 2017-18 to 2019-20, there were £2.501 million of budget reduction proposals that were not met in full, with a total outstanding balance to be met of £709,000. In addition, of the 2020-21 budget reduction proposals of £2.413 million, it was reported that there was a total outstanding balance to be met of £342,000. Directors have been asked to identify if any of these proposals are still not likely to be achieved in full during the 2021-22 financial year, and to identify mitigating actions that will be undertaken to achieve them. All remaining outstanding prior year budget reductions are summarised in **Appendix 1** with a summary per directorate provided in Table 4.

**Table 4 – Outstanding Prior Year Budget Reductions**

	<b>Total Budget Reductions Required</b>	<b>Total Budget Reductions Likely to be Achieved</b>	<b>Shortfall</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE /BUDGET REDUCTION AREA</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Education and Family Support	344	344	0
Social Services and Wellbeing	185	40	145
Communities	1,847	1,772	125
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>2,106</b>	<b>270</b>

4.2.2 Table 4 shows that of the £2.376 million outstanding reductions, £2.106 million is likely to be achieved by 2021-22 leaving a shortfall of £270,000. Proposals still not likely to be achieved include:

- SSW20 – savings from library and cultural facilities (£70,000). Covid-19 has impacted on the delivery of this saving and there is an ongoing impact on these budgets in relation to income levels achieved. Under spends are being held across the service area to mitigate any shortfall in the short term.
- SSW27 – income generation from mobile response and telecare charging (£75,000). Income levels have not increased to the level required to meet the budget reduction therefore the service area continues to seek to identify efficiencies to meet the shortfall in 2021-22.
- COM19 – Streetworks review (£100,000) due to delays in approval process with Welsh Government. The Highways network budget area is committed to stay within budget through the implementation phase.

### **Budget Reductions 2021-22**

4.2.3 The budget approved for 2021-22 included budget reduction proposals totalling £1.760 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 £65,000, or 3.7% of the overall reduction target.

**Table 5 – Monitoring of Budget Reductions 2021-22**

	<b>Total Budget Reductions Required</b>	<b>Total Budget Reductions Likely to be Achieved</b>	<b>Shortfall</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE /BUDGET REDUCTION AREA</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Education and Family Support	116	116	0
Schools	0	0	0
Social Services and Wellbeing	315	315	0
Communities	823	758	65
Chief Executive's	130	130	0
Council Wide Budgets	376	376	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,760</b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>65</b>

4.2.4 The most significant budget reduction proposal unlikely to be achieved in full is COM 2 – Re-location of Community Recycling Centre from Tythegston to Pyle resulting in cessation of lease payments at existing site (£60,000). The new site in Pyle will be opening once related junction and road improvement works have been completed with both sites being maintained until the new site is fully operational, therefore the saving will not be achieved in full until 2022-23.

- 4.2.5 **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.
- 4.2.6 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.
- 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 draw down from the MTFS Budget Reduction Contingency reserve will be made as part of the overall review of earmarked reserves during quarter 3 if required.

### 4.3 **Commentary on the financial position at 30th September 2021**

#### **Financial position at 30th September 2021**

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.

#### 4.3.1 **Education and Family Support Directorate**

The net budget for the Directorate for 2021-22 is £127.137 million. Current projections indicate an over spend of £1.089 million at year end. Covid-19 expenditure included in this projection amounts to £99,000 – if this were to be successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an over spend of £990,000. 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		
Support for Learners with Additional Learning Needs	2,575	3,190	615	23.9%	
Home to School Transport	6,728	7,305	577	8.6%	
Integrated Working and Family Support	1,385	1,329	(56)	-4.0%	
Health and Safety	388	326	(62)	-16.0%	



## **Schools' Delegated Budgets**

Total funding delegated to schools in 2021-22 is £103.574 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 2021-22, projections indicated an overall surplus balance for school delegated budgets of £5.241 million at year end. At quarter 2 this has reduced to a projected surplus of £4.18 million. There are 8 primary schools (13.5% of all schools) projecting a deficit balance at year end.

## **Central Education and Family Support Budgets**

### **Support for Learners with Additional Learning Needs**

- There is a projected over spend of £615,000 for Inclusion which primarily relates to the shortfall in recoupment income for other Local Authority (LA) placements at Heronsbridge School and Ysgol Bryn Castell. Whilst a budget pressure of £500,000 was agreed by Council as part of the MTFS in February 2021, there has been a further reduction in the number of other LA pupils in Bridgend schools. Whilst there were 20 at the end of 2020-21 this has reduced to 16 with an expectation this will reduce further to 13 from the Autumn Term due to increased demand from BCBC pupils.

### **Home to School Transport**

- There is a projected over spend of £577,000 for Home to School Transport (HTST). This is on top of the underlying pressure on the HTST budget which has been supported by a one-off MTFS Budget Pressure of £1.210 million that was approved by Council in February 2021 to support the increased costs of HTST and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.
- In addition to the historic pressures, Cabinet and Corporate Management Board has recently determined that in order to ensure the safety of nursery pupils on school transport vehicles, those previously transported on big buses should be transported in either dedicated minibuses or taxis or in existing taxis and minibuses. This is an additional requirement for the 2021-22 school year onwards, and has increased costs annually by an estimated £170,000.
- School transport operators have been significantly impacted by the pandemic and have passed many of the risks associated with continuing to operate including for example, driver retention, relatively low paid jobs and ongoing insecurity in the market, on to the local authority. For example, the cost of drivers and escorts has increased significantly.
- A retendering exercise has also been completed on home to school transport contracts, principally big buses and minibuses with an annual increase of £752,000.
- A further procurement exercise has recently commenced for special taxis, taxis, and minibus contracts which could put further pressure on the HTST budget going into 2022-23.

#### Integrated Working and Family Support

- The projected under spend of £56,000 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 and Safety

- There is a projected under spend of £62,000 within the corporate Health and Safety service which is due to staff vacancy management. The service are actively recruiting to fill the vacant posts.

### 4.3.2 **Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate**

The Directorate's net budget for 2021-22 is £74.053 million. Current projections indicate an over spend of £471,000 at year end. Covid-19 expenditure and loss of income included in this projection amount to £342,000 – if these were to be successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an over spend of £129,000. In addition, since quarter 1, the directorate has been notified of £1.777 million in grant funding from the WG Social Care Recovery Fund. A spend plan for this funding is currently being finalised and any impact on budget projections are not yet included in this plan. The main variances are:

<b>SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Projected Outturn</b>	<b>Projected Variance Over/(under) budget</b>	<b>% Variance</b>	<b>Over/ (under) specifically COVID-19 related</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
Adult Social Care	49,452	49,351	(101)	-0.2%	294
Prevention & Wellbeing	5,230	5,190	(40)	-0.8%	48
Childrens Social Care	19,371	19,983	612	3.2%	

#### Adult Social Care

- There is projected net under spend of £101,000 on the Adult Social Care budget. The most significant variances contributing to this projected under spend are:-

<b>ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b>	<b>Projected Variance Over/(under) budget</b>
	<b>£'000</b>
Care at Home for Older People	(792)
Care at Home for Physical Disabilities/Sensory Impairment	199
Residential Care - Physical Disability/Sensory Impairment	(107)
Care at Home for Learning Disabilities	716
Care at Home for Mental Health	317
Assessment and Care Management	(346)

- Care at Home for Older People – this includes domiciliary care services, local authority homecare services and the provision of direct payments. The projected under spend of £792,000 is primarily on the homecare budget due to staffing vacancies and delays in implementing a restructure due to Covid-19. The service has reviewed the contacts available within the service in an aim to improve workforce capacity.
- Care at Home for Physical Disabilities/Sensory Impairment – there is a projected net over spend of £199,000. This is primarily due to the projected over spend on Independent Domiciliary Care of £137,000 due to increased costs of packages of care. In addition, placements have increased from 72 at quarter 1 to 86 at quarter 2.
- Residential Care – Physical Disability/Sensory Impairment – the projected under spend of £107,000 is mainly due to a reduction in placements. This budget area will be closely monitored with a view to determining whether the under spend is recurring, with potential re-alignment to other budgets facing projected over spends within Physical Disability/Sensory Impairment service areas
- Care at Home for Learning Disabilities – there is a projected over spend of £716,000 mainly due to increased complexity of needs and the increase in the number of people receiving domiciliary care within a home setting or supported accommodation. External homecare saw an increase of 9 people receiving a service since quarter 1. Internal homecare has also seen an increase in staffing costs to cover sickness and shielding.
- Care at Home for Mental Health – the projected over spend of £317,000 is based on 37 current placements with an increasing number of placements requiring complex packages of support.
- Assessment and Care Management – there is a projected under spend of £346,000 across all service areas due to a continuing challenging recruitment environment for qualified social workers. Various recruitment activities have been actioned in order to fill vacant posts.

#### Prevention and Wellbeing

- The projected under spend of £40,000 is primarily due to maximisation of grant funding opportunities. The projection does not include any estimate for a contribution to the Council's leisure provider for the gross net loss of running the leisure services in 2021-22 due to Covid-19. A successful claim of £282,000 was made for quarter 1 through the WG Hardship loss of income fund (see Table 3) and claims will continue to be made for the remainder of 2021-22. Close monitoring of the impact of Covid-19 on leisure services beyond this point will be required and updates provided to Cabinet in future monitoring reports.
- Future claims of £48,000 are anticipated to the WG Hardship Fund relating to Dual-use income and if these are successful, will improve the position for prevention and wellbeing in 2021-22.

#### Childrens' Social Care

- There is projected net over spend of £612,000 on the Children's Social Care budget. This primarily relates to a projected over spend on the Care Experienced Children budget of £442,000. The Care Experienced population was 388 at the end of August compared with 391 at quarter 2
- At the end of quarter 1 there were 6 children in independent residential placements (in and out of authority) and 2 in BCBC 39 week local authority

education provision. The quarter 1 budget monitoring report indicated that additional places were being made after 30th June with searches underway due to the need to secure the right specialist provision to safely meet the needs children whose needs are increasing. At the end of quarter 2 the numbers have increased to 10 children in independent residential placements and 2 in BCBC local authority education provision. It is important to note that decisions on the accommodation, care and support needed for a child is always made in their best interest and that, overall, the number of residential placements made by BCBC remains low when benchmarked with other comparable authorities. As noted in the quarter 1 budget monitoring report, this budget area can be volatile and small changes in demand can result in relatively high costs being incurred. This has been realised in the last quarter with the projected under spend of £310,000 at quarter 1 changing to a projected over spend of £442,000.

#### 4.3.3 **Communities Directorate**

The net budget for the Directorate for 2021-22 is £28.321 million. The current projection is an anticipated under spend of £313,000. Covid-19 expenditure included in this projection amounts to £80,000 – if this were to be successfully claimed from WG, the projection would improve to an under spend of £393,000. The main variances are:

<b>COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Projected Outturn</b>	<b>Projected Variance Over/(under) budget</b>	<b>% Variance</b>	<b>Over/ (under) specifically Covid-19 related</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
Development Control	-230	-10	220	-95.7%	
Waste Disposal & Collection	9,002	9,398	396	4.4%	80
Street Lighting	1,616	1,256	(360)	-22.3%	
Highways Services (DSO)	2,854	2,754	(100)	-3.5%	
Parking Services	(295)	(363)	(68)	-23.1%	
Engineering Services	85	-12	(97)	-114.1%	
Corporate Landlord	2691	2539	(152)	-5.6%	

##### Development Control

- The projected over spend in Development of £220,000 is primarily due to a forecast downturn in planning application income based on income to date and comparison with the 2020-21 outturn. Fee income is subject to considerable fluctuations between years, depending on number and types of applications and will require close monitoring for the remainder of the 2021-22 financial year.

##### Waste Disposal and Collection

- There is a projected over spend of £396,000 on the Waste Disposal and Collection budget. £60,000 of this is due to the delay in the achievement of COM 2 - Re-location of Community Recycling Centre from Tythegston to Pyle resulting in cessation of lease payments at the existing site. The new site will be opening once related junction and road improvement works have been completed with both sites being maintained until the new site is fully operational.
- The balance of the over spend is due to continued increased tonnages of residual waste being experienced by the service. Tonnages increased in 2020-21, primarily due to lockdowns and more residents working from home in

general and this trend is continuing into 2021-22. We have successfully claimed £71,233 from the WG Hardship fund to date and WG have indicated continuing support for increased tonnage as a result of homeworking, albeit that funding will be reduced to 50% of the increased costs for the second half of 2021-22. Claims will continue to be submitted, and if successful could improve the projections by up to £80,000.

#### Street Lighting

- There is a projected under spend of £360,000 on Street Lighting. Due to a change in energy providers in 2021-22, the kilowatt per hour charge decreased by 7% which, based specifically on the energy budget for street lighting, would lead to a reduction in costs of circa £63,000. £73,000 of the projected under spend is one-off due to financial profiling of the annual loan repayments. Finally, the LED replacement programme has generated the balance of the saving due to reduced energy consumption. Consideration will be given towards utilising some of this saving towards the 2022-23 MTFS budget reduction target and demonstrates a successful outcome of an invest to save programme within the Council.

#### Highways Services

- The projected under spend of £100,000 within Highways Services is primarily due to members of staff working on, and hence charging their time to, the SALIX capital scheme to enable the replacement of street lighting with new energy efficient LED units. This is not a recurring saving and is a reduced projection from the 2020-21 outturn of £244,000 as the SALIX Scheme completed in quarter 2 of 2021-22.

#### Parking Services

- The projected under spend on Parking Services is primarily due to a fortuitous upturn in car park income experienced during quarter 2 as a direct result of the popularity of the 'staycation' and a significant improvement on the income received in quarter 2 in 2020-21 when the country was in lockdown. The current under spend masks a pressure on the service area of £180,000 due to the current shortfall in staff car pass income due to the ongoing working from home principle. There is a potential for this to be a long term budget pressure for the service area.

#### Engineering Services

- The projected under spend of £97,000 within Engineering Services is primarily due to an increase in the level of fee earning jobs (grant funded/non grant funded projects) and the differing chargeable rates allowed on the schemes.

#### Corporate Landlord

- There is a projected under spend on the Corporate Landlord budget of £152,000. This primarily relates to staffing vacancies within the Strategic Asset Management team, however Corporate Landlord are actively recruiting to fill, or have already filled these vacancies.

#### **4.3.4 Chief Executive's**

The net budget for the Directorate for 2021-22 is £21.416 million. Current projections anticipate an under spend against this budget of £1.417 million. The

projections have improved since quarter 1 due to the successful claim of £1.273 million from the WG Hardship Fund within Housing and Homelessness. A further £1 million is anticipated to be spent on homelessness in the final two quarters of 2021-22 and claims will be made to support this expenditure. In addition, the projections do not include loss of income claims for other Chief Executive service areas that WG will be considering in the final quarters of 2021-22 which are estimated to be in the region of £384,000. If all of these claims are approved, the projections could further improve by £1.384 million.

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
Finance	3,696	3,576	(120)	-0.4%	184
HR and Organisational Development	1,912	1,810	(102)	-5.3%	
Partnerships	2,046	1,946	(100)	-4.9%	
Legal, Democratic & Regulatory	4,938	5,136	198	4.0%	200
ICT	3,778	3,894	116	3.1%	
Housing & Homelessness	3,354	1,908	(1,446)	-43.1%	(1,273)

#### Finance

- Whilst there is a projected under spend of £120,000 in Finance, included in this projection is a shortfall of £184,000 relating to court cost income. WG have indicated that it is very difficult to assess accurately what might be recoverable for the whole year so they will review the data as part of the quarter 4 return and assess actual losses. The shortfall has been offset by staffing vacancies across Finance and Housing Benefits as the service is currently going through a restructure. The structure is anticipated to be populated in the second half of the 2021-22 financial year.

#### HR and Organisational Development

- There is a projected under spend of £102,000. This primarily relates to staffing and apprenticeship vacancies, however HR are actively recruiting to fill, or have already filled these vacancies.

#### Partnerships

- This service areas includes Transformation, Partnerships and Customer Services & Engagement. The projected under spend of £100,000 is primarily due to staff vacancies. Various recruitment activities have been actioned in order to fill vacant posts but appointments have been affected by Covid-19.

#### Legal, Democratic & Regulatory

- There is a projected over spend of £198,000. This is primarily due to lower than forecast levels of income received for registrars, land charges, licencing fees and public health fees. WG have indicated that it is very difficult to assess accurately what might be recoverable for the whole year so they will review the data as part of the quarter 4 return and assess actual losses. The projections could therefore improve at year end if future claims prove to be successful.

## ICT

- There is a projected net over spend of £116,000 across ICT budgets. This has improved from the £340,000 projected over spend reported at quarter 1. Due to reduced printing activity ICT have been unable to recover the fixed costs of printers and photocopiers through the recharge to service departments. Consequently, reduced spend has been incurred on printing budgets across the service departments. Given the ongoing working from home principle for the remainder of the 2021-22 financial year, an exercise will be undertaken to re-align budgets before the end of quarter 3 and the improved position in ICT reflects a proposed £150,000 realignment from service area budgets.

## Housing & Homelessness

- Budget growth of £2.192 million was approved by Council as part of the MTFs budget setting process in February 2021 to continue the commitment to focus support for homeless individuals, providing them with accommodation. The budget was approved prior to confirmation from WG that the Covid Hardship Fund was to be extended for the first six months of 2021-22. Table 2 sets out that successful claims of £1.273 million have been made to the WG Hardship Fund and these claims are the major contributor to the projected under spend within Housing and Homelessness. Anticipated spend for the second half of 2021-22 is circa £1 million. If future claims are successful, this will further significantly improve the projections for Housing in this financial year.
- The Council has seen a significant increase in the provision of temporary accommodation. At quarter 2, the service are providing temporary accommodation for 326 people from 196 households, compared with 74 households in temporary accommodation in March 2020. As it is anticipated that the Hardship Fund will not be in place beyond 31st March 2022, and given the significant increase in provision of temporary accommodation, the budget growth will be needed in full in 2022-23 to continue to provide support for homeless individuals, providing them with accommodation.

### 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 2021-22 is £48.029 million. The projected outturn is £42.111 million, resulting in a projected under spend of £5.918 million. The main variances are detailed below:-

<b>COUNCIL WIDE BUDGETS</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Projected Outturn</b>	<b>Projected Variance Over/(under) budget</b>	<b>% Variance</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	
Capital Financing	7,329	8,329	1,000	13.6%
Other Council wide Budgets	14,136	7,254	(6,882)	-48.7%

## Capital Financing

- The projected over spend on capital financing costs is due to utilising the budget in 2021-22 to pay off historic prudential borrowing costs, where feasible, which will have a long term revenue cost saving benefit for the Council.



#### Other Council wide Budgets

- Other Council wide budgets includes funding for pay, price and pension increases along with funding to deal with unexpected costs unforeseen when the budget was set.
- When the MTFS was approved in February 2021, the pay increases for NJC employees and teachers had not been finalised. Provision was made in the budget with an element of contingency built in. As noted in 4.1.20 the Teachers' pay award has recently been agreed. As WG have indicated that they will be providing a grant to contribute to this increase, this has been built into the projected under spend for 2021-22.
- There are ongoing discussions regarding the pay claim for National Joint Council (NJC) workers. Even a variance of 1% on the pay settlement of NJC staff alone can result in a swing of required funding of over £1 million per annum.
- Inflation rates have fluctuated since the budget was set (CPI was 0.7% in February 2021, had increased to 2.1% by May 2021 and further increased to 3.2% in August). 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. Part of the under spend relates to projected reductions in requirements to allocate price budgets to service areas in-year as the Council has not seen the estimated increases in CPI impact on contractual arrangements to date in 2021-22. However, given the uncertainty of Brexit and Covid-19 at this point in the financial year, and the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee forecast for inflation referenced in 4.1.21 this will require close monitoring for the remainder of the financial year.
- A thorough review of the other Council wide budgets was undertaken during quarter 2 to assess the requirement for both historic and in-year allocations for pay and price increases, taking into account known pay increases, grant contributions received towards these pressures, and the known impact of inflationary uplifts on contractual arrangements, current negotiations on NJC pay claims and the uncertainty of inflationary uplifts in the short to medium term. Consequently, it is felt reasonable to assume that an element of this budget could be used to mitigate shortfalls in funding, or higher council tax increases in the MTFS 2022-23 and work will continue on identifying such an amount.

#### Council Tax Reduction Scheme

- There is currently a projected break even position on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme based on spend to date, however this is a demand led budget and take-up is difficult to predict. As noted in paragraph 4.1.17, the ending of the furlough scheme could also manifest itself in an increase in eligibility for council tax support. 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 number of benefit claimants. This budget will require close monitoring during 2021-22.

## **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 £4.341 million, the cumulative draw down by directorates is £1.166 million and £337,326 has been unwound, as shown in Table 6 below.

**Table 6 – Usable Earmarked Reserves (Excluding Council Fund) – Quarter 2**

Opening Balance 01 Apr 21	Reserve	Movement as at Quarter 2			Closing Balance 30 Sep 21
		Net Additions/ Reclassification	Unwound	Draw-down	
£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	<b>Corporate Reserves:</b>				
34,118	Capital Programme Contribution	4,295	(18)		38,396
6,103	Asset Management Reserves	-	(118)	(203)	5,782
7,556	Major Claims & Insurance Reserves	4		-	7,559
4,993	Service Reconfiguration	-		-	4,993
3,050	Change Management/Digital Transformation	-	(6)	(142)	2,902
2,000	Economic and Future Resilience Fund	-		-	2,000
<b>57,819</b>	<b>Total Corporate Reserves</b>	<b>4,299</b>	<b>(143)</b>	<b>(344)</b>	<b>61,631</b>
	<b>Directorate Reserves:</b>				
502	Education & Family Support	-	(12)		490
3,349	Social Services & Wellbeing	-	(42)	(90)	3,217
3,657	Communities	-	(141)	(96)	3,420
2,716	Chief Executives	42		(84)	2,674
<b>10,224</b>	<b>Total Directorate Reserves</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>(195)</b>	<b>(270)</b>	<b>9,801</b>
	<b>Equalisation &amp; Grant Reserves:</b>				
1,961	Education & Family Support	-		(472)	1,490
594	Social Services & Wellbeing	-		-	594
2,532	Communities	-		(51)	2,481
1,228	Chief Executives	-		(30)	1,198
<b>6,315</b>	<b>Equalisation &amp; Grant Reserves:</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(552)</b>	<b>5,763</b>
8,490	School Balances	-		-	8,490
<b>82,848</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>4,341</b>	<b>(337)</b>	<b>(1,166)</b>	<b>85,685</b>

4.4.3 The net appropriation to earmarked reserves during quarter 2 is £4.004 million (£4.341 million additions offset by £0.337 million that have been unwound).

4.4.4 Additions mainly relate to the Capital Programme Contribution reserve which was established to avoid the Council needing to borrow, which would result in consequential borrowing costs on the revenue budget, and will be used to fund schemes within the capital programme, both current and future capital pressures.

The main reserve that was unwound related to a balance of £100,000 included within a demolition reserve, specifically to be re-allocated to the Childrens Residential Accommodation Hub Capital project.

- 4.4.5 The capital programme contribution reserve supplements the funding we receive from WG and via capital receipts to fund our capital programme. Currently we have a balance of £38 million of funding in this reserve which constitutes 45% of our overall earmarked reserves balance. This will be used to fund a wide range of schemes in the capital programme.
- 4.4.6 The School balances reserve increased significantly to £8.490 million at the end of 2020-21 due to additional school grant funding announced late in 2020-21. As noted in paragraph 4.3.1 the quarter 2 projections indicate a projected overall surplus balance for school delegated budgets of £4.18 million at year end as this grant funding gets utilised in-year. This will reduce this reserve accordingly by year end.
- 4.4.7 A further review will be undertaken at quarter 3 when there is a clearer picture on pressures and projected year end balances.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and 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. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

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

## **8. Financial implications**

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

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- note the projected revenue position for 2021-22.

**Gill Lewis**  
**Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change**  
**October 2021**

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**Background documents:** Individual Directorate Monitoring Reports

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## PRIOR YEAR BUDGET REDUCTIONS CARRIED FORWARD INTO 2021-22

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal		Original Reduction and RAG £000	Revised RAG £000	Total amount of saving likely to be achieved by 21-22 £000	Reason why not achievable	Proposed Action in 2021-22 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 &amp; FAMILY SUPPORT

EFS1 (2017-18)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		20		20	Cabinet deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learning Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government. In the meantime, a Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	A review is being undertaken by Welsh Government of the current statutory distances. Whilst we await the outcome of the review it is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by WG will follow until 2022 at the earliest. The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
EFS2 (2017-18)	School transport route efficiencies.		40		40	Cabinet deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learning Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government. In the meantime, a Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	A review is being undertaken by Welsh Government of the current statutory distances. Whilst we await the outcome of the review it is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by WG will follow until 2022 at the earliest. The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
EFS1 (2018-19)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		67		67	Cabinet deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learning Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government. In the meantime, a Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	A review is being undertaken by Welsh Government of the current statutory distances. Whilst we await the outcome of the review it is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by WG will follow until 2022 at the earliest. The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
EFS27 (2018-19)	Review arrangements for Special Schools Home to School Transport with a view to achieving efficiency savings		75		75	A Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
EFS 1 (2019-20)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		67		67	Cabinet deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learning Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government. In the meantime, a Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	A review is being undertaken by Welsh Government of the current statutory distances. Whilst we await the outcome of the review it is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by WG will follow until 2022 at the earliest. The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
EFS 1 (2020-21)	Phased implementation of Learner Transport Policy regarding statutory distances for free travel.		75		75	Cabinet deferred the decision to amend the Local Authority's Learning Travel Policy until after the review of the current statutory distances by Welsh Government. In the meantime, a Budget Pressure was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021 to support the increased costs of Home to School Transport and the increased provision of taxis and minibuses for those pupils with additional learning needs.	A review is being undertaken by Welsh Government of the current statutory distances. Whilst we await the outcome of the review it is unlikely that any change to the statutory distances by WG will follow until 2022 at the earliest. The service area are currently developing an updated budget pressure to include historic and emerging pressures on the HTST budget for consideration as part of the MTFS 2022-23 budget setting process.
Total Education & Family Support Directorate			344		344		

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal		Original Reduction and RAG £000	Revised RAG £000	Total amount of saving likely to be achieved by 21-22 £000	Reason why not achievable	Proposed Action in 2021-22 to achieve
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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		40		40	Detailed discussions and advice received from VAT consultants resulted in this budget reduction proposal not being able to be progressed.	Alternative savings have been found from changes to utility contracts – full savings should be achieved in 2021-22.
SSW20	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.		70		0	Covid-19 has impacted on the delivery of this saving.	Close monitoring of the Leisure Services budgets will be required in 2021-22 to determine the potential for the Covid-19 pandemic to continue to impact on income levels achieved. Underspends will be held across the service area to mitigate any shortfalls in the short term.
SSW27	Increase income generation from mobile response and telecare charging		75		0	Income levels have not increased to meet the required budget reduction proposal.	Service area continues to seek to identify efficiencies to meet the shortfall in 2021-22.
	<b>Total Social Services &amp; Wellbeing Directorate</b>		<b>185</b>		<b>40</b>		

**COMMUNITIES**

COM19 (2017-18)	Permitting Scheme road works net of existing income of £95,000		100		0	The Streetworks Review is due to be submitted shortly to WG for their final comments for approval before steps can be taken towards implementation.	The Highways network budget area is committed to stay within budget through the implementation phase with full savings anticipated in 2022-23.
COM 4 (2019-20)	Review of School Crossing Patrol service in line with GB standards		10		10	Budget re-alignment actioned within Traffic & Transport budgets in 2021-22.	No action required. Budget re-alignment actioned in 2021-22.
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		5	Saving achieved in full in 2021-22	No action required.
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		1,300	A Budget Pressure of £300,000 representing the shortfall for this Budget Reduction proposal was approved by Council as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-22 to 2024-25 in February 2021.	None required - historic shortfall in savings target addressed through a Council approved budget pressure
COM 55 (2019-20)	Increase charge for Green Waste Service from £28.30 per household to £38.30		25		25	Saving achieved in full in 2021-22	No action required.
COM 26 (2020-21)	Investigate the introduction of charging to users of the Shopmobility facility in Bridgend Town Centre to reduce/remove the current level of subsidy		18		18	Saving achieved in full in 2021-22	No action required.
COM51	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 30 June 2021.	Service area continues to identify efficiencies to meet the shortfall in 2021-22.
COM 55 (2020-21)	Increase charge for Green Waste Service from £28.30 per household to £38.30		25		25	Saving achieved in full in 2021-22	No action required.
COM96	WG National AHP Waste Programme - capital contribution from WG towards 7.5 tonne vehicle to collect AHP recycling		14		14	Saving achieved in full in 2021-22	No action required.
	<b>Total Communities Directorate</b>		<b>1,847</b>		<b>1,722</b>		

<b>GRAND TOTAL OUTSTANDING REDUCTIONS</b>		<b>2,376</b>		<b>2,106</b>		
<b>REDUCTIONS SHORTFALL</b>				<b>270</b>		



# MONITORING OF 2021-22 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

APPENDIX 2

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Budget Reductions 2021-22 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2021-22 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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## EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT

### CENTRAL EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT

EFS2	Removal of a vacant post within Cognition and Learning Team	Potential reduction in support for a vulnerable group, however it is anticipated that this has been mitigated by a change in working practices by the team as a result of the ALN reform	61	61	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
EFS3	Reconfiguration of the team providing support to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners to create a more efficient service	Whilst the impact is more on the management and leadership of the team, this may result in some slight reduction in the service offered to this vulnerable group but there will still be a service offering support	50	50	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
EFS4	Reduction in Central South Consortium (CSC) Budget of 1%	Reduction is achievable within the overall CSC budget and will be mainly achieved through efficiency savings	5	5	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
<b>Total Education and Family Support</b>			<b>116</b>	<b>116</b>	

## SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING

SSW1	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 2021-22
SSW2	Across Adults and Children's services embed and consolidate outcome focussed practice and commissioning for all service areas	This will support people to live their lives and will require our systems to be adapted to support the changes in practice. There will be a shift to embed outcome focussed practice which will have a focus on targeted prevention initiatives and by developing collaborative, long term relationships with providers as well as maximising the opportunities of the use of technology. this will be underpinned by planning accommodation, care and support together and listening to people who are experts in their own lives and acting upon what will make a difference.	225	225	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
<b>Total Social Services &amp; Wellbeing Directorate</b>			<b>315</b>	<b>315</b>	

# MONITORING OF 2021-22 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

APPENDIX 2

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Budget Reductions 2021-22 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2021-22 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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## COMMUNITIES

COM1	Transfer of pitches/pavilions through Community Asset Transfer. Increased charges for end-users to achieve full cost recovery for pitches/pavilions that do not transfer. Reduction of grass cut areas and areas within maintained parkland.	The savings identified will see the removal of the remaining seasonal operatives' budget with corresponding cuts to plant, equipment and materials. Where asset transfers occur the respective club (rugby, football, bowls and cricket etc) will be expected to fully fund the ongoing maintenance of the asset. The remaining parks budget will be used to maintain the Council's main parks, including children's play areas, highway grass cutting which is safety related, and to secure the ongoing site management and safety of the sites that will remain in Council ownership. the level of funding will also dictate the standard of open space maintenance and may result in a further reduction of grass cut areas if the proposed savings are not forthcoming through the asset transfer process.	300	300	The full saving in 2021-22 has been achieved as the seasonal operative budget has been capped at a level to ensure the Parks and Playing Fields expenditure does not exceed available budget. Successful CAT transfers have taken place to date, and will continue to be progressed by the CAT Officer.
COM2	Re-location of Community Recycling Centre from Tythegston to Pyle resulting in cessation of lease payments at existing site	Construction of the new site will mean that this saving will not be effective until 2021/22	60	0	New site in Pyle will be opening once related junction and road improvement works have been completed with both sites being maintained until the new site is fully operational, therefore saving will not be achieved in full in 2022-23.
COM5	The lease for Sunnyside House expires on 31/03/21 - savings will be made from this date.	No impact on service provision	309	309	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
COM6	One off capital payment for the fire suppression system required at Tondur. Revenue cost of system is included in the annual contract price with Kier.	Minimal impact. The fire system will be provided and if paid from the Capital Asset Management Fund as opposed to the revenue budget, the £60K per annum can be saved.	60	60	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
COM7	WG National AHP Waste Programme - capital contribution from WG towards 7.5 tonne vehicle to collect AHP recycling	A Contract Variation will be progressed with Kier to achieve the saving levels proposed based on a reduction in costs in relation to the current AHP vehicle that is leased.	19	14	New vehicle purchased part-way through 2021-22 therefore only partial saving achieved.
COM8	Reduction to energy budget for Street Lighting - savings due to replacement with more efficient LED	Reduction will have limited impact	75	75	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
<b>Total Communities Directorate</b>			<b>823</b>	<b>758</b>	

# MONITORING OF 2021-22 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

APPENDIX 2

Page 111

Ref.	Budget Reduction Proposal	Impact, including on 5 Ways of Working as set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Budget Reductions 2021-22 £'000	Value Likely to be Achieved 2021-22 £'000	Reason why not likely to be achievable
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## CHIEF EXECUTIVES

CEX1	Reduction of the ICT Telephony Budget	No impact on the communications infrastructure and maintenance	41	41	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
CEX2	Reduction of HR Staffing Budget	Reduction of a post and increased workload. Where possible savings will be made from vacant posts.	24	24	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
CEX3	Reduction of Finance staffing budgets	Reduction in capacity across the finance service following proposed restructure, which could impact on time taken to undertake functions. Will endeavour to make savings from vacant posts where possible	65	65	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
	<b>Total Chief Executive's Directorate</b>		<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>	

## CORPORATE / COUNCIL WIDE

CWD1	Reduction in insurance budget through on-going efficiencies in managing the insurance contract.	No impact as favourable insurance contract renewals have been achieved, however no mitigation available for potential increases to premiums in future years.	75	75	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
CWD2	Savings on building maintenance prudential borrowing budget	No impact - capital financing budget was utilised in 2019-20 to pay off prudential borrowing associated with Minor Works with a long term cost saving benefit for the Council.	120	120	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
CWD3	Reduce provision made for pay and prices following Chancellor's announcement of pay freeze, and lower than anticipated current inflation rate.	Impact will need to be kept under review, and may be risk depending on final pay awards agreed and inflation increases during the year.	181	181	Full saving should be achieved in 2021-22
	<b>Total Corporate / Council Wide</b>		<b>376</b>	<b>376</b>	

<b>GRAND TOTAL REDUCTIONS</b>		<b>1,760</b>	<b>1,695</b>
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TOTAL BUDGET REDUCTION REQUIREMENT

1,760 1,760

<b>REDUCTION SHORTFALL</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>65</b>
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<b>740</b>	<b>1,681</b>
<b>795</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>225</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>1,760</b>	<b>1,760</b>

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL	Budget 2021-22					
	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget	Net Budget	Projected Outturn	Projected Variance Over/(under) budget	% Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT						
School Delegated Budgets	124,876	(21,302)	103,574	103,574	-	0.0%
Learning	9,912	(2,398)	7,514	8,160	646	8.6%
Strategic Partnerships & Comm	25,800	(10,139)	15,661	16,166	505	3.2%
Health and Safety	390	(2)	388	326	(62)	-15.9%
TOTAL EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT	160,978	(33,841)	127,137	128,226	1,089	0.9%
SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING						
Adult Social Care	68,585	(19,133)	49,452	49,351	(101)	-0.2%
Prevention and Wellbeing	6,060	(830)	5,230	5,190	(40)	-0.8%
Childrens Social Care	20,428	(1,057)	19,371	19,983	612	3.2%
TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING	95,073	(21,020)	74,053	74,524	471	0.6%
COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE						
Planning & Development Services	2,075	(1,523)	552	772	220	39.9%
Strategic Regeneration	2,032	(352)	1,680	1,680	-	0.0%
Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	6,920	(5,635)	1,285	1,236	(49)	-3.8%
Cleaner Streets and Waste Management	12,554	(1,578)	10,976	11,260	284	2.6%
Highways and Green Spaces	22,955	(12,086)	10,869	10,253	(616)	-5.7%
Director and Head of Operations - Communities	268	-	268	268	-	0.0%
Corporate Landlord	13,916	(11,225)	2,691	2,539	(152)	-5.6%
TOTAL COMMUNITIES	60,720	(32,399)	28,321	28,008	(313)	-1.1%
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S						
Chief Executive Unit	583	-	583	527	(56)	-9.6%
Finance	46,668	(42,972)	3,696	3,576	(120)	-3.2%
HR/OD	2,248	(336)	1,912	1,810	(102)	-5.3%
Partnerships	2,892	(846)	2,046	1,946	(100)	-4.9%
Legal, Democratic & Regulatory	5,916	(978)	4,938	5,136	198	4.0%
Elections	153	(49)	104	145	41	39.4%
ICT	5,055	(1,277)	3,778	3,894	116	3.1%
Housing & Homelessness	10,773	(7,419)	3,354	1,908	(1,446)	-43.1%
Business Support	1,116	(111)	1,005	1,057	52	5.2%
TOTAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S	75,404	(53,988)	21,416	19,999	(1,417)	-6.6%
TOTAL DIRECTORATE BUDGETS	392,175	(141,248)	250,927	250,757	(170)	-0.1%
Council Wide Budgets	48,999	(970)	48,029	42,111	(5,918)	-12.3%
Appropriations to Earmarked Reserves				4,004	4,004	0.0%
NET BRIDGEND CBC	441,174	(142,218)	298,956	296,872	(2,084)	-0.7%

NB: Differences due to rounding of £000's

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

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

#### CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE - QUARTER 2 REPORT 2021-22

#### 1. Purpose of report

##### 1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- comply with the requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) 'The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (2017 edition)
- provide an update of the capital position for 2021-22 as at 30 September 2021 (**Appendix A**)
- seek agreement from Cabinet to present a report to Council for approval for a revised capital programme for 2021-22 to 2030-31 (**Appendix B**)
- note the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2021-22 (**Appendix C**)

#### 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 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 Capital investment in the Council's assets is a key factor in meeting the Council's well-being objectives as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan.



### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003, as amended, contain detailed provisions for the capital finance and accounting controls, including the rules on the use of capital receipts and what is to be treated as capital expenditure. They modify accounting practice in various ways to prevent adverse impacts on authorities' revenue resources.
- 3.2 As well as the legislation, the Council manages its Treasury Management and Capital activities in accordance with the following associated guidance:
- CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice
  - CIPFA's The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities
  - Welsh Government (WG) revised Guidance on Local Authority Investments
- 3.3 The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities requires Local Authorities to have in place a Capital Strategy which demonstrates that the Authority takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability. To demonstrate that the Council has fulfilled these objectives, the Prudential Code sets out a number of Indicators that must be set and monitored each year. The Council's Capital Strategy, incorporating the Prudential Indicators for 2021-22, was approved by Council on 24 February 2021.
- 3.4 On 24 February 2021 Council approved a capital budget of £62.363 million for 2021-22 as part of a capital programme covering the period 2021-22 to 2030-31. The programme was last updated and approved by Council on 21 July 2021. This report provides an update on the following:
- Capital Programme monitoring quarter 2 2021-22
  - A revised Capital Programme for 2021-22 to 2030-31
  - Capital Strategy monitoring
  - Prudential and other indicators

### **4. Current situation/proposal**

#### **Capital Programme 2021-22 Quarter 2 update**

- 4.1 This section of the report provides Members with an update on the Council's capital programme for 2021-22 since it was last approved by Council and incorporates any new schemes and grant approvals. The revised programme for 2021-22 currently totals £76.600 million, of which £54.378 million is met from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) resources, including capital receipts and revenue contributions from earmarked reserves, with the remaining £22.222 million coming from external resources, including General Capital Grant. Table 1 below shows the capital programme for each Directorate from the July 2021 (quarter 1) approved Council position to quarter 2:

**Table 1 – Capital Programme per Directorate 2021-22**

Directorate	Approved Council July 2021 £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virements £'000	Slippage to future years £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000
Education & Family Support	14,766	387	283	0	15,436
Social Services and Well-being	3,115	0	396	(1,936)	1,575
Communities	62,796	1,117	(429)	(10,890)	52,594
Chief Executive's	5,716	575	0	0	6,291
Council Wide	954	0	(250)	0	704
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,347</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(12,826)</b>	<b>76,600</b>

- 4.2 Table 2 below summarises the current funding assumptions for the capital programme for 2021-22. The capital resources are managed to ensure that maximum financial benefit for the Council is achieved. This may include the realignment of funding to maximise government grants.

**Table 2 – Capital Programme 2021-22 Resources**

CAPITAL RESOURCES	£'000
<b><i>BCBC Resources:</i></b>	
Capital Receipts	18,704
Earmarked Reserves	15,557
Unsupported Borrowing	5,465
Supported Borrowing	3,953
Other Loans	9,552
Revenue Contribution	1147
<b>Total BCBC Resources</b>	<b>54,378</b>
<b><i>External Resources:</i></b>	
Grants	22,222
<b>Total External Resources</b>	<b>22,222</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>76,600</b>

- 4.3 **Appendix A** provides details of the individual schemes within the capital programme, showing the budget available in 2021-22 compared to the projected spend at 30 September 2021.
- 4.4 A number of schemes have already been identified as requiring slippage of budget to future years (2022-23 and beyond). At quarter 2 the total requested slippage is £12.826 million, which comprises the following schemes:

City Deal (£2.702 million)

The Council's contribution to Cardiff Capital Region City Deal has been slipped due to a revised funding profile for the scheme. The overall contribution remains unchanged.

Childrens Residential Hub (£1.936 million)

The Brynmenyn Hub project has been delayed as a result of the contractor going into administration shortly before they were due to start the demolition process, requiring a retender for the required works. Arrangements are underway to re-procure a demolition contractor in order to complete demolition as soon as possible. The demolition process has earmarked funds of £0.1 million and this is likely to be the only major spend on the project before 31 March 2022. Remaining funding is to be slipped into 2022-23, when the Council will need to tender for the main building contract.

Porthcawl Townscape Heritage Initiative (£0.119 million)

Whilst two schemes will be completed this year, £0.119 million will be allocated to other Heritage Initiatives Projects across Bridgend, Maesteg and Porthcawl in 2022-23.

Community Play Areas (£0.696 million)

The project team is still in the process of developing the commissioning specification, which has taken longer than anticipated, so whilst the play areas work will commence in the spring, the majority of the programme will be delivered in the summer of 2022. The budget will be adjusted accordingly to reflect this position.

Caerau Heat Network (£4.373 million)

A review of the scheme is in progress and works are unlikely to commence until 2022-23. A report will be presented to Cabinet as soon as possible to provide an update on progress of the scheme.

Bridgend Town Heat Scheme (£3.0 million)

The project is nearing the end of the procurement process to appoint the design, build operate and maintain contractor. This process is expected to conclude by the end of October 2021 and a report taken to Cabinet in November 2021 to approve the appointment of the contractor. It is anticipated that construction will commence in February 2022.

## **Capital Programme 2021-22 Onwards**

- 4.5 Since the last capital report approved by Council in July 2021, there have been a number of new externally funded schemes approved and internally funded schemes, which have been incorporated into the capital programme, including:

### **Active Travel Fund (£0.098 million)**

Welsh Government has awarded the Council with an additional £0.098 million to meet the full costs required to deliver crossing points/footway works and further design, to enhance connections from Pyle railway station to Pyle cross, Village Farm Industrial Estate and Cynffig Comprehensive School.

### **Bridgend College Relocation (£0.650 million)**

Welsh Government has awarded the Council with £0.910 million from the Transforming Towns Programme towards Phase 1 of the Bridgend College Relocation. This is a proposed joint regeneration scheme with Bridgend College to redevelop a strategically located site within Bridgend Town Centre. The proposal is for the Council to acquire the current Police Station site at Cheapside and to demolish the existing building, with the aim of leasing the site to Bridgend College via a long-term lease. This will enable the relocation of the remaining education provision at Bridgend College's Cowbridge Road campus to the Town Centre. The £0.650 million represents the capital cost of acquiring the site.

### **Abercerdin Primary School Community Hub (£0.3 million)**

Abercerdin Primary School are proposing a scheme of works to create a community focused hub within the curtilage of the school grounds. . The works are estimated to cost £0.30 million including all fees and costs. It is proposed that these works are jointly funded by the school and the Council. The Council's contribution of £0.105 million will be funded from the Welsh Government Schools Capital Maintenance Grant 2021-22. In addition a £0.195 million revenue contribution has been added to reflect the school's funding contribution.

### **Brynteg Comprehensive School Multi Use Sports Pitch (£0.324 million)**

The Redgra surfaced pitch at Brynteg Comprehensive School has become dilapidated and uneven, which has led to drainage issues often rendering the surface un-usable. A replacement is needed that includes new floodlights to maximise usage through the winter and outside of school hours. The estimated project cost is £0.324 million. It is proposed that the cost of the project is funded equally by the school and Council. The Council's contribution of £0.162 million will be funded from the Welsh Government Schools Capital Maintenance Grant 2021-22. In addition, a £0.162 million revenue contribution has been added to reflect the schools funding contribution.

### **Accessibility & Safety Road Improvements (£0.148 million)**

Welsh Government has awarded the Council with additional transport grant of £0.148 million. This funding will enable safety and accessibility enhancements to be made from Broadlands to Newbridge Fields, at a cost of £0.057 million,

with the remaining £0.091 million allocation being ringfenced for a Minor Road Crossing Improvement Programme.

#### Minor Works (£0.221 million)

An additional £0.221 million has been added to the programme in relation to a range of planned minor works which are of a capital rather than revenue nature so are now included as part of the capital program. These will be funded from the existing revenue minor works budget.

#### Health and Wellbeing Village (£0.480 million)

The Sunnyside Wellness Village is a proposed integrated social housing, health and green open space project on the edge of Bridgend Town Centre that is being developed by Linc Cymru. £0.480 million of grant funding from the Integrated Care Fund capital budget has been approved towards the scheme overall costs. The funding agreement is directly between Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and the Council. It is condition of the funding letter that the Council must put in place appropriate grant terms and conditions in line with their funding conditions when passing the funding on to any third party recipient. It is anticipated that these conditions will be met during the second half of 2021-22 and the funding will be passed to Linc Cymru.

#### Maesteg Town Hall (0.250 million)

Further additional essential works have been identified as part of the construction contract for Maesteg Town Hall. These are in respect of;

##### South Annex Roof

Following removal of the existing roof covering to replace with new, it was discovered that the timber supporting beams, of which some are supported by the buildings historic apse, are in need of urgent replacement. Surveys undertaken previously and which formed the basis of the returned tender costs showed the timber in adequate condition, but since this time they have degenerated to a state where replacement is required. The project team are currently designing options for renewal however the total cost of the works is expected to be in the region of £0.100 million.

##### Ground Contamination

Following preparation works for the building extension on Talbot Street, non-hazardous contamination has been found in the ground under the former external staircase. Ground investigation surveys were carried out at design stage and several trial holes were undertaken in the area, however it was not possible to survey the area previously due to the external staircase being in situ. Recent site test investigations have revealed the contamination is localised and costs for its removal are currently being assessed. The contractors estimate the cost of this to be in the region of £0.120 million.

### Gantries

A concern has been raised in regard to the gable walkways and high level gantry access over the stage and leading towards the attic space over the main hall. Anticipated cost for repair is circa £0.040 million.

Contingency funding is being ringfenced for the purpose of these works with a £0.250 million addition from the unallocated capital fund but not for any other unforeseen works. If alternative funding is approved at a later date any new grant funding will be used to replace the additional £0.250 million unallocated capital fund contribution.

### CCTV WiFi Project (£0.072 million)

A Smart Borough is a place where existing networks and services are made more efficient through the use of digital technologies for the benefit of residents and businesses in that area. The CCTV infrastructure will be providing the foundations for a Smart Borough and it presents the opportunity of overlaying Wi-Fi services onto the infrastructure. This will provide a “free public usage” Wi-Fi model which will encourage users to visit the Council’s Wi-Fi landing page to access information and services safely. The Wi- Fi project will initially cover 4 key areas, Bridgend, Porthcawl, Maesteg and Pencoed and will cost £0.072 million which is to be funded from a revenue contribution to capital.

- 4.6 There are a number of other schemes within the Capital Programme that are awaiting confirmation of external funding over the Autumn period. Once approval is known, it may also result in some schemes needing re-profiling. The Capital Programme has not been updated at this time for these schemes and further reports will be brought to Cabinet and Council in due course for approval.
- 4.7 A revised Capital Programme is included as **Appendix B**.

### **Prudential and Other Indicators 2021-22 Monitoring**

- 4.8 In February 2021, Council approved the Capital Strategy for 2021-22, which included the Prudential Indicators 2021-22 to 2023-24 together with some local indicators.
- 4.9 The Capital Strategy is intended to give an overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future sustainability. To this end, a number of prudential indicators were included within the Capital Strategy and approved by Council. In line with the requirements of the Prudential Code, the Chief Finance Officer is required to establish procedures to monitor both performance against all forward-looking prudential indicators.
- 4.10 Appendix C details the actual indicators for 2020-21, the estimated indicators for 2021-22 set out in the Council’s Capital Strategy and the projected indicators for 2021-22 based on the revised Capital Programme. These show that the Council is operating in line with the approved limits.

## **Capital Strategy Monitoring**

- 4.11 The Capital Strategy also requires the monitoring of non-treasury management investments and other long-term liabilities. The Council does have an existing investment portfolio which is 100% based within the County Borough and primarily the office and industrial sectors. The income streams are generally spread between the single and multi-let office investments on Bridgend Science Park, the multi-let industrial estates and the freehold ground rent investments. The total value of Investment Properties was £5.090 million at 31 March 2021.
- 4.12 The Council has a number of other long term liabilities which are included within the Capital Strategy, the most significant being the Maesteg School Private Finance Initiative (PFI), for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg. This forms a long-term liability for the Council which is £14.77 million at 31 March 2021. This is a 25 year agreement which will end during the 2033-34 financial year. Other long term liabilities totalling £2.036 million include lease arrangements for the Innovation Centre, the Council's Waste Contract and a Welsh Government energy efficiency loan.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 As required by Financial Procedure Rule 3.5.3 within the Council's Constitution, "The Chief Finance Officer shall report quarterly to Cabinet an update on the Capital Strategy and the Prudential Indicators."

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. Projects within the capital programme will be subject to the preparation of Equality Impact Assessments before proceeding. However, it is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

- 7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report. Specifically, the development of a 10 year capital programme, which reflects the Council's affordability in terms of capital receipts and borrowing, supports the principle of sustainability over the long term.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 The financial implications are outlined in the body of the report.



## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- notes the Council's Capital Programme 2021-22 Quarter 2 update to 30 September 2021 (**Appendix A**)
- agree that the revised Capital Programme (**Appendix B**) be submitted to Council for approval
- notes the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2021-22 (**Appendix C**)

Gill Lewis

**Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change**

October 2021

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Finance Manager – Financial Control and Closing

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CF31 4AP

**Background documents:** None

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	Budget 21-22 (Council July 21)	New Approvals	Virement	Slippage	Revised Budget 2021-22	Total Expenditure To Date	Projected Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000

Education & Family Support

21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS BAND B	400	-	-		400	-	400
CCYD CLASSROOMS	-	30			30	1	30
HIGHWAYS SCHEMES BAND B	3,400		-		3,400	-	3,400
YSGOL BRYN CASTELL SPECIAL SCHOOL	22		-		22	36	22
BRYNMENYN PRIMARY	44		-		44	-	44
LAND PURCHASE BAND B SCHOOLS	4,910		-		4,910	1	4,910
YSGOL GYFUN GYMRAEG LLANGYNWYD	-		50		50	-	50
GATEWAY TO THE VALLEYS SECONDARY SCHOOL	135	-	-		135	5	135
GARW VALLEY SOUTH PRIMARY PROVISION	139		-		139	(8)	139
PENCOED PRIMARY	54		-		54	-	54
GARW VALLEY PRIMARY HIGHWAYS	30		-		30	-	30
PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL HIGHWAYS WORKS	56		-		56	-	56
ABERCERDIN PRIMARY SCHOOL HUB	-	195	105		300	-	300
BRYNTEG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL ALL WEATHER PITCH	-	162	162		324	-	324
BRYNMENYN SCHOOL HIGHWAYS WORK	12		-		12	-	12
REDUCTION OF INFANT CLASS SIZES	-		3		3	3	3
CROESTY PRIMARY SCHOOL	15		(3)		12	2	12
SCHOOLS CAPITAL MINOR WORKS	128		233		361	3	361
SCHOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY	208				208	1	208
SCHOOL MODERNISATION RETENTION	573				573	-	573
CEFN CRIBWR PRIMARY ALN	-				-	(8)	-
EDUCATION S106 SCHEMES	169				169	-	169
MYNYDD CYNFFIG PRIMARY SCHOOL MOBILES	98				98	(13)	98
SCHOOLS' CAPITAL MAINTENANCE GRANT	2,456		(267)		2,189	251	2,189
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - BETTWS	747				747	5	747
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - BRIDGEND	53				53	-	53
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - OGMORE	807		-		807	19	807
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - PORTHCAWL	53		-		53	-	53
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - HIGHWAYS	100		-		100	-	100
EAST HUB - BRYNTEG COMPREHENSIVE	-		-		-	(30)	-
MAES YR HAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL SOLAR PANELS	32				32	-	32
CYNFFIG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL EXTERNAL CANOPY	42				42	-	42
ICT FOR SCHOOLS KITCHENS	40		-		40	40	40
LITCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL SOLAR PANELS	43		-		43	-	43
TOTAL Education & Family Support	14,766	387	283	-	15,436	310	15,436

Social Services and Wellbeing

BRYNGARW HOUSE	17		(17)		-	-	-
COMMUNITY CENTRES	280				280	45	280
PENCOED LIBRARY	13		(13)		-	-	-
BRYNGARW PARK - ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS	33		16		49	-	49
BRYN Y CAE - HFE'S	40				40	-	40
TY CWM OGWR	-		340		340	6	340
WELLBEING MINOR WORKS	113		50		163	-	163
TREM Y MOR - ACCOMODATION	175				175	152	175
BAKERS WAY MINOR WORKS	10				10	-	10
GLAN YR AFON CARE HOME	51				51	-	51
CHILDRENS RESIDENTIAL HUB	2,036			(1,936)	100	18	100
HARTSHORN HOUSE	47		20		67	64	67

	Budget 21-22 (Council July 21)	New Approvals	Virement	Slippage	Revised Budget 2021-22	Total Expenditure To Date	Projected Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
BRIDGEND RECREATION	150				150	76	150
HEOL AND AWEN ACCESSIBILITY	150				150	-	150
<b>TOTAL Social Services &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>(1,936)</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>1,575</b>

**Communities**  
**Street Scene**

COMMUNITY PLAY AREAS	336	-	460	(696)	100	10	100
PARKS/PAVILIONS/COMMUNITY CENTRES CAT	580	-			580	94	580
ABERFIELDS PLAYFIELDS	11	-			11	-	11
CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL	2,702	-		(2,702)	-	-	-
PORTHCAWL TOWN SEA DEFENCE	27	-			27	-	27
ACCESSIBILITY & SAFETY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	-	148			148	-	148
COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM	815	-			815	100	815
REMEDIAL MEASURES - CAR PARKS	135	-			135	-	135
CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT	38				38	-	38
ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES	256		80		336	32	336
PYLE TO PORTHCAWL PHASE 1	250	98			348	21	348
ACTIVE TRAVEL- BRIDGEND TO PENCOED PHASE 2	1,841				1,841	163	1,841
HIGHWAYS STRUCTURAL WORKS	344				344	93	344
CARRIAGEWAY CAPITAL WORKS	255				255	191	255
ACTIVE TRAVEL - BRIDGEND TO BRACKLA	-				-	(14)	-
ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	229				229	-	229
PROW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT STRUCTURES	141		40		181	0	181
HIGHWAYS REFURBISHMENT GRANT	810				810	(10)	810
CARRIAGEWAY & FOOTWAYS RENEWAL	1,360		200		1,560	856	1,560
NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK PHASE 2	-				-	(3)	-
REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHTING	538	-	(150)		388	81	388
BRIDGE STRENGTHENING A4061	51	-			51	27	51
COMMUNITIES MINOR WORKS	401		60		461	15	461
RIVER PROTECTION MEASURES	11		150		161	-	161
RESILIENT ROADS FUND	475				475	-	475
ULTRA LOW EMISSIONS VEHICLE TRANSFORMATION FUND	462				462	-	462
PYLE PARK AND RIDE METRO	-	-			-	(7)	-
LOCAL TRANSPORT FUND - PENPRYSG ROAD BRIDGE	-	-			-	36	-
SAFE ROUTES	174				174	29	174
RESIDENTS PARKING BRIDGEND TC	128				128	-	128
FLEET VEHICLES	1,236		140		1,376	2	1,376
RELOCATE RECYCLING CENTRE	660		138		798	704	798
AHP WASTE	207				207	177	207
HEOL MOSTYN JUNCTION	540				540	21	540
EXTENSION TO CORNELLY CEMETERY	301	-			301	11	301
EXTENSION TO PORTHCAWL CEMETERY	199	-			199	6	199
STREET LIGHTING ENERGY SALIX	629	-			629	96	629
HIGHWAYS S106 MINOR SCHEMES	60	-			60	7	60
GULLY SUCKING EQUIPMENT	140		(140)		-	-	-
TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT	250				250	-	250
PLAYGROUND REFURBISHMENT	460		(460)		-	-	-
FOOTPATH REFURBISHMENT	200		(200)		-	-	-
FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM TONDU WASTE DEPOT	140				140	-	140
<b>TOTAL Streetscene</b>	<b>17,392</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>(3,398)</b>	<b>14,558</b>	<b>2,737</b>	<b>14,558</b>

**Regeneration & Development**

BRIDGEND BUS SUP NETWORK	25		110		135	101	135
PORTHCAWL RESORT INVESTMENT FOCUS (PRIF)	70				70	42	70

	Budget 21-22 (Council July 21)	New Approvals	Virement	Slippage	Revised Budget 2021-22	Total Expenditure To Date	Projected Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COSSY CORNER PRIF	1,885				1,885	48	1,885
CONVERGANCE SRF BUDGET	990		(110)		880	-	880
VRP - BRYNGARW PARK	151				151	164	151
VRP - PARC SLIP	88				88	56	88
THEMATIC PROJECTS (UCPE AND UCLG)	687				687	166	687
PORTHCAWL REGENERATION PROJECT	2,541				2,541	2	2,541
BERWYN CENTRE AND OGMORE VALE WASHERIES	183				183	133	183
COVID RECOVERY FOR TOWN CENTRES	334				334	81	334
TRANSFORMING TOWNS BRIDGEND POLICE STATION	-	650			650	-	650
ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROJECT	831				831	146	831
COASTAL RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	6,309				6,309	1,580	6,309
LLYNFI DEVELOPMENT SITE	2,260				2,260	-	2,260
BRIDGEND HEAT SCHEME	3,390			(3,000)	390	29	390
MAESTEG TOWN HALL CULTURAL HUB	5,421		250		5,671	803	5,671
TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND	224				224	18	224
CAERAU HEAT NETWORK	4,373			(4,373)	-	-	-
PORTHCAWL THI	134			(119)	15	-	15
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ENHANCEMENT FUND	150				150	22	150
<b>TOTAL Regeneration &amp; Development</b>	<b>30,046</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>(7,492)</b>	<b>23,454</b>	<b>3,390</b>	<b>23,454</b>

**Corporate Landlord**

CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT FUND	820				820	-	820
CORPORATE LANDLORD ENERGY EFFICIENCY SAVINGS	1,279				1,279	94	1,279
ENTERPRISE HUB	1,902				1,902	38	1,902
RAVEN'S COURT MINOR WORKS	447				447	-	447
RELOCATION OF REGISTRARS	-				-	2	-
BRIDGEND/MAESTEG MARKET MINOR WORKS	10				10	-	10
DDA WORKS	156		252		408	156	408
MINOR WORKS	1,293	221	(1,218)		296	5	296
FIRE PRECAUTIONS MINOR WORKS	142		107		249	43	249
BRYNCETHIN DEPOT FACILITIES	370				370	20	370
NON OPERATIONAL ASSETS	480				480	-	480
WATERTON UPGRADE	8,144				8,144	-	8,144
EVERGREEN HALL	130				130	-	130
INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES	185		(138)		47	-	47
<b>Total Corporate Landlord</b>	<b>15,358</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>(997)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,582</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>14,582</b>

<b>TOTAL Communities</b>	<b>62,796</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>(429)</b>	<b>(10,890)</b>	<b>52,594</b>	<b>6,485</b>	<b>52,594</b>
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**Chief Executive**

DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS (DFG)	2,093		(54)		2,039	631	2,039
TARGET HARDENING GRANTS	-		11		11	11	11
DISCRETIONARY HOUSING GRANTS	200				200	-	200
HOUSING RENEWAL AREA	118				118	8	118
VALLEYS TASK FORCE EMPTY PROPERTIES GRANT	300				300	-	300
COMFORT SAFE & SECURITY GRANTS	-		4		4	4	4
WESTERN VALLEY EMPTY HOMES PILOT	260				260	-	260
EMERGENCY REPAIR LIFETIME GRANT	-		39		39	39	39
ENABLE SUPPORT GRANT	198				198	19	198
HEALTH AND WELLBEING VILLAGE		480			480	-	480
<b>TOTAL Housing/Homelessness</b>	<b>3,169</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,649</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>3,649</b>

ICT INFRA SUPPORT	400	23			423	125	423
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	Budget 21-22 (Council July 21)	New Approvals	Virement	Slippage	Revised Budget 2021-22	Total Expenditure To Date	Projected Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
WCCIS HARDWARE REFRESH	1,352				1,352	133	1,352
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	200				200	-	200
REPLACEMENT CCTV	595	72			667	-	667
<b>TOTAL ICT</b>	2,547	95	-	-	2,642	259	2,642
<b>TOTAL Chief Executive</b>	5,716	575	-	-	6,291	970	6,291
<b>Council Wide Capital Budgets</b>							
CORPORATE CAPITAL FUND	200				200	-	200
UNALLOCATED	754		(250)	-	504	-	504
	954	-	(250)	-	704	-	704
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>87,347</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(12,826)</b>	<b>76,600</b>	<b>8,126</b>	<b>76,600</b>

Credit balances under ‘Total Expenditure to Date’ represent amounts payable and accrued as at 31 March 2021. Payments made during 2021-22 will be set against the credit balances shown

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021-2031

APPENDIX B

	Total 2021-2031			2021-2022					FUTURE YEARS									CUMULATIVE
	Total Cost £'000	BCBC Funding £'000	External Funding £'000	Council July 2021 £'000	New Approvals £'000	Vire £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised 2021-22 £'000	2022-2023 £'000	2023-2024 £'000	2024-2025 £'000	2025-2026 £'000	2026-2027 £'000	2027-2028 £'000	2028-2029 £'000	2029-2030 £'000	2030-2031 £'000	Total 2021 - 2031 £'000
Education & Family Support																		
Highways Schemes Band B Schools	3,400	3,400	-	3,400				3,400										3,400
21st Century Schools Band B	49,505	15,654	33,851	400				400	2,471	6,051	29,528	10,302	753					49,505
CCYD classrooms	30	30			30			30										30
Ysgol Bryn Castell Special School	22	22		22				22										22
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	50	50				50		50										50
Brynmenyn Primary School	44	44		44				44										44
Land Purchase Band B	4,910	4,910		4,910				4,910										4,910
Gateway to the Valleys C C Y D Comprehensive School	135	135	-	135				135										135
Garw Valley South Primary Provision	139	139		139				139										139
Pencoed Primary School	55	55		55				55										55
Garw Valley Primary Highways Works	30	30	-	30				30										30
Pencoed School Highways Works	55	55	-	55				55										55
Abercerdin Primary School Hub	300	300	-		195	105		300										300
Brynteg Comprehensive School All Weather Pitch	324	324	-		162	162		324										324
Brymenyn Primary Highways Works	12	12	-	12				12										12
Reduction of Infant Class Sizes - Bro Ogwr	15	-	15	15				15										15
Schools Minor Works	361	361	-	128		233		361										361
Schools Traffic Safety	208	208	-	208				208										208
School Modernisation	573	573	-	573				573										573
Education S106 Schemes	169	-	169	169				169										169
Mynydd Cynffig Primary School Mobiles	98	98	-	98				98										98
School's Capital Maintenance Grant	2,189	2,157	32	2,456		(267)		2,189										2,189
Welsh Medium Childcare Provision - Bettws	747	-	747	747				747										747
Welsh Medium Childcare Provision - Bridgend	550	-	550	53				53	497									550
Welsh Medium Childcare Provision - Ogmore	807	-	807	807				807										807
Welsh Medium Childcare Provision - Porthcawl	550	-	550	53				53	497									550
Welsh Medium Childcare Provision - Highways Schemes	100		100	100				100										100
Maes Yr Haul Primary School Solar Panels	32	32		32				32										32
Cynffig Comprehensive School External Canopy	42	42		42				42										42
ICT for School Kitchens	40	40		40				40										40
Litchard Primary School Solar Panels	43	43	-	43				43										43
Total Education and Family Support	65,535	28,714	36,821	14,766	387	283	-	15,436	3,465	6,051	29,528	10,302	753	-	-	-	-	65,535
Social Services and Well-being																		
Adult Social Care																		
Bridgend Recreation	150	150		150				150										150
Bryngarw Park- Access	49	49		33		16		49										49
Bryn Y Cae	40	40		40				40										40
Trem Y Mor	175	175		175				175										175
Ty Cwm Ogwr Care Home	340	340				340		340										340
Wellbeing Minor Works	163	163		113		50		163										163
Bakers Way	10	10	-	10				10										10
Glan Yr Afon Care Home	51	51	-	51				51										51
Children's Residential Accommodation Hub	2,036	2,036	-	2,036			(1,936)	100	1,936									2,036
Hartshorn House	67	67		47		20		67										67
Culture																		
Bryngarw House	-	-		17		(17)		-										-
Community Centres	280	280		280				280										280
Pencoed Library	-	-	-	13		(13)		-										-
HALO and AWEN Accessibility	150	150		150				150										150
Total Social Services and Well-being	3,511	3,511	-	3,115	-	396	(1,936)	1,575	1,936	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,511
Communities																		
Street Scene								-										
Community Play Areas	796	796	-	336		460	(696)	100	696									796
Parks/Pavilions/Community Centres CAT	580	580	-	580				580										580
Aber Playing Fields	11	11		11				11										11
Cardiff Capital Region City Deal	7,691	7,691	-	2,702			-2,702	-	3,138	4,451	103							7,691



	Total 2021-2031			2021-2022					FUTURE YEARS									CUMULATIVE
	Total Cost £'000	BCBC Funding £'000	External Funding £'000	Council July 2021 £'000	New Approvals £'000	Vire £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised 2021-22 £'000	2022-2023 £'000	2023-2024 £'000	2024-2025 £'000	2025-2026 £'000	2026-2027 £'000	2027-2028 £'000	2028-2029 £'000	2029-2030 £'000	2030-2031 £'000	Total 2021 - 2031 £'000
Town Beach Revetment Sea Defence, Porthcawl	27	27		27				27										27
Accessibility & Safety Road Improvements	148	-	148		148			148										148
Coychurch Crem Works	815	-	815	815				815										815
Remedial Measures - Car Parks	135	135	-	135				135										135
Civil Parking Enforcement	38	38	-	38				38										38
Road Safety	336	336	-	256		80		336										336
Pyle to Porthcawl Phase 1	348		348	250	98			348										348
Active travel Bridgend to Pencoed Phase 2	1,841	-	1,841	1,841				1,841										1,841
Road Safety Improvements	229		229	229				229										229
Highways Structural Works	3,404	3,404	-	344				344	340	340	340	340	340	340	340	340	340	3,404
Carriageway Capital Works	2,505	2,505	-	255				255	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	2,505
Road Safety Improvements - Heol Mostyn	540	540	-	540				540										540
Prow Capital Improvement Programme	181	181		141		40		181										181
Highways Refurbishment Grant	810	-	810	810				810										810
Carriageway Resurfacing & Renewal of Footways	1,560	1,560	-	1,360		200		1,560										1,560
Replacement of Street Lighting Columns	3,988	3,988	-	538		(150)		388	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	3,988
Bridge Strengthening - A4061 Ogmore Valley	51	51	-	51				51										51
Communities Minor Works	461	461	-	401		60		461										461
River Bridge Protection Measures	161	161	-	11		150		161										161
Resilient Roads Fund	475		475	475				475										475
Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation Fund	462		462	462				462										462
Safe Routes-	174	-	174	174				174										174
Residents Parking Bridgend Town Centre	128	128	-	128				128										128
Fleet Vehicles	1,376	1,376	-	1,236		140		1,376										1,376
Re-locate Household Waste Recycling Centre - West	798	798	-	660		138		798										798
AHP Waste	207	207	-	207				207										207
Extension to Cornelly Cemetery	301	301	-	301				301										301
Extension to Porthcawl Cemetery	199	199	-	199				199										199
Street Lighting Energy Efficiency	629	629		629				629										629
S106 Highways Small Schemes	60	-	60	60				60										60
Gully Sucking Equipment	-	-		140		(140)		-										-
Traffic Signal Replacement	250	250		250				250										250
Playground Refurbishment	-	-		460		(460)		-										-
Footpath Refurbishment	-	-		200		(200)		-										-
Fire Suppression System Tondy Waste Depot	140	140		140				140										140
Regeneration & Development																		
Business Support Framework	135	135	-	25		110		135										135
Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus	70	50	20	70				70										70
Special Regeneration Funding	880	880		990		(110)		880										880
Cosy Corner (PRIF)	1,885	885	1,000	1,885				1,885										1,885
VRP- Bryngarw Country Park	151	-	151	151				151										151
VRP - Parc Slip	88	-	88	88				88										88
Tri Thematic Projects (UCPE and UCLG )	687	-	687	687				687										687
Transforming Towns Bridgend College Relocation	650		650		650			650										650
Porthcawl Regeneration	2,541	2,541	-	2,541				2,541										2,541
Berwyn Centre and Ogmore Vale Washeries	183		183	183				183										183
Covid recovery for town centres	334		334	334				334										334
Economic Stimulus Grant	831	831	-	831				831										831
Coastal Risk Management Program - Porthcawl	6,459	6,459		6,309				6,309	150									6,459
Llynfi Valley Development Programme	2,260	2,260	-	2,260				2,260										2,260
Bridgend Heat Scheme	3,390	2,323	1,067	3,390			(3,000)	390	3,000									3,390
Maesteg Town Hall Cultural Hub	5,671	2,717	2,954	5,421		250		5,671										5,671
Town & Community Council Fund	674	674	-	224				224	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	674
Caerau Heat Network	6,293	1,168	5,125	4,373			(4,373)	-	5,904	389								6,293
Porthcawl Townscape Heritage Initiative	134	134	-	134			(119)	15	119									134
Commercial Property Enhancement Fund	150	150		150				150										150
Corporate Landlord																		
Capital Asset Management Fund	820	820	-	820				820										820
Corporate Landlord - Energy Savings Strategy	1,279	1,279		1,279				1,279										1,279
Enterprise Hub - Innovation Centre	1,937	589	1,348	1,902				1,902	35									1,937
Raven's Court	447	447		447				447										447

	Total 2021-2031			2021-2022					FUTURE YEARS									CUMULATIVE
	Total Cost £'000	BCBC Funding £'000	External Funding £'000	Council July 2021 £'000	New Approvals £'000	Vire £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised 2021-22 £'000	2022-2023 £'000	2023-2024 £'000	2024-2025 £'000	2025-2026 £'000	2026-2027 £'000	2027-2028 £'000	2028-2029 £'000	2029-2030 £'000	2030-2031 £'000	Total 2021 - 2031 £'000
Bridgend Market	10	10	-	10				10										10
DDA Works	408	408	-	156		252		408										408
Minor Works	10,466	10,466	-	1,293	221	(1,218)		296	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	10,466
Fire Precautions	249	249	-	142		107		249										249
Bryncethin Depot Facilities	370	370	-	370				370										370
Non-Operational Assets	480	480	-	480				480										480
Waterton Upgrade	8,144	8,144	-	8,144				8,144										8,144
Evergreen Hall	130	130	-	130				130										130
Investing in Communities	47	47	-	185		(138)		47										47
Total Communities	90,108	71,139	18,969	62,796	1,117	(429)	(10,890)	52,594	15,212	7,010	2,273	2,170	2,170	2,170	2,170	2,170	2,170	90,108
Chief Executive's																		
Housing / Homelessness																		
Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)	17,789	17,067	722	2,093		(54)		2,039	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	17,789
Target Hardening Grants	11	11	-			11		11										11
Discretionary Housing Grants	2,000	2,000		200				200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	2,000
Housing Renewal / Empty Properties	1,018	1,018	-	118				118	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	1,018
Valleys Taskforce Empty Properties Grant	300	105	195	300				300										300
Comfort Safe & Security Grants	4	4				4		4										4
Western Valley Empty Homes Pilot	260	91	169	260				260										260
Emergency Repair Lifetime Grant	39	39	-			39		39										39
Enable Grant	198	-	198	198				198										198
Health and Wellbeing Village	480	-	480		480			480										480
ICT																		
Investment in ICT	4,023	4,023	-	400	23			423	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	4,023
WCCIS Hardware Refresh	1,352		1,352	1,352				1,352										1,352
Digital Transformation	200	200	-	200				200										200
Replacement CCTV	667	667		595	72			667										667
Total Chief Executive's	28,341	25,225	3,116	5,716	575	-	-	6,291	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	28,341
Council Wide Capital Budgets																		
Corporate Capital Fund	2,000	2,000		200				200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	2,000
Unallocated	8,014	8,014	-	754		(250)		504	167		200		1,283	1,515	1,515	1,515	1,515	8,014
Total Council Wide Capital budgets	10,014	10,014	-	954	-	(250)	-	704	367	200	200	200	1,483	1,715	1,715	1,715	1,715	10,014
Total Expenditure	197,509	138,603	58,906	87,347	2,079	-	(12,826)	76,600	23,430	15,711	34,451	15,122	6,856	6,335	6,335	6,335	6,335	197,509
Expected Capital Resources																		
General Capital Funding																		
General Capital Funding - General Capital Grant	25,536	25,536	-	3,963				3,963	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	2,397	25,536
General Capital Funding - Supported Borrowing	39,410	39,410	-	3,953		15	(15)	3,953	3,953	3,938	3,938	3,938	3,938	3,938	3,938	3,938	3,938	39,410
Capital Receipts - Schools	3,184	3,184	-	576				576			1,762	846						3,184
Capital Receipts - General	20,304	20,304	-	19,781		2	(1,655)	18,128	1,655				521					20,304
Earmarked Reserves	31,694	31,694	-	20,648			(5,091)	15,557	5,584	5,300	5,254							31,694
Revenue Contribution	1,508	1,508	-	822	703	(17)	(361)	1,147	361									1,508
Prudential Borrowing (Directorate Funded)	3,474	3,474	-	3,474			(1,822)	1,652	1,822									3,474
Prudential Borrowing (Corporately Funded)	3,813	3,813	-	3,813				3,813										3,813
Local Govt Borrowing Initiative (Coastal defence)	5,490	5,490	-	5,362				5,362	128									5,490
SALIX Interest Free Loan - WG	1,930	1,930		1,930				1,930										1,930
Llynfi Development Site Loan - WG	2,260	2,260	-	2,260				2,260										2,260
Sub-Total General Capital Funding	138,603	138,603	-	66,582	703	-	(8,944)	58,341	15,900	11,635	13,351	7,181	6,856	6,335	6,335	6,335	6,335	138,603
External Funding Approvals																		
WG - Highways Grant	810	-	810	810				810										810
WG - Other	4,796		4,796	4,796				4,796										4,796
WG - 21st Century Schools	33,802	-	33,802					-	1,100	3,661	21,100	7,941						33,802
WG - Enable Grant	198	-	198	198				198										198
WG - Safe Routes in Communities	403	-	403	403				403										403
WG - Integrated Care Fund (ICF)	1,202	-	1,202	722	480			1,202										1,202
WG - Welsh Medium Capital Grant	2,754	-	2,754	1,760				1,760	994									2,754
WG - Infant Class Size Grant	15	-	15	15				15										15
WG- VRP/Transforming Towns	1,406	-	1,406	756	650			1,406										1,406
WG - TRI	687	-	687	687				687										687
S106	310	-	310	261				261	23	26								310
Transport Grant	3,274	-	3,274	3,028	246			3,274										3,274
Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)	682	-	682	682				682										682

[illegible]

## PRUDENTIAL AND OTHER INDICATORS 2020-21 and 2021-22

The Prudential Indicators are required to be set and approved by Council in accordance with CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. Table 1 shows the 2020-21 actual capital expenditure, the capital programme approved by Council on 24 February 2021 and the latest projection for the current financial year which has incorporated slippage of schemes from 2020-21 together with any new grants and contributions or changes in the profile of funding.

*Table 1: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Expenditure*

	<b>2020-21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection £m</b>
Council Fund services	23.461	61.883	76.120
Investment Properties	-	0.480	0.480
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.461</b>	<b>62.363</b>	<b>76.600</b>

All capital expenditure must be financed, either from external sources (government grants and other contributions), the Council's own resources (revenue, reserves and capital receipts) or net financing requirement (borrowing, leasing and Private Finance Initiative). The planned financing of the expenditure has been projected as follows:

*Table 2: Capital financing*

	<b>2020-21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection £m</b>
External sources	15.583	16.563	24.482
Own resources	1.511	30.939	35.408
Net Financing Requirement	6.367	14.861	16.710
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.461</b>	<b>62.363</b>	<b>76.600</b>

The net financing requirement or 'debt' is only a temporary source of finance, since loans and leases must be repaid, and this is therefore replaced over time by other financing, usually from revenue which is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). As well as MRP, the Council makes additional voluntary revenue contributions to pay off Prudential or Unsupported Borrowing. The total of these are shown in Table 3 below:-

Table 3: Replacement of debt finance

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	2.927	2.997	2.969
Additional Voluntary Revenue Provision	1.502	1.925	1.757
<b>Total MRP &amp; VRP</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>4.922</b>	<b>4.782</b>
<b>Other MRP on Long term Liabilities</b>	<b>0.743</b>	<b>0.801</b>	<b>0.801</b>
<b>Total Own Resources</b>	<b>5.172</b>	<b>5.723</b>	<b>5.527</b>

The Council's cumulative outstanding amount of debt finance is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This increases with new debt-financed capital expenditure and reduces by the MRP amount within the year. Based on the above figures for expenditure and financing, the Council's estimated CFR is as follows based on the movement on capital expenditure at quarter 1:

Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate £m	2021-22 Projection £m
<b>Capital Financing Requirement</b>			
Opening CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	155.466	157.405	157.405
Opening PFI CFR	16.310	15.566	15.566
<b>Total opening CFR</b>	<b>171.776</b>	<b>172.971</b>	<b>172.971</b>
Movement in CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	1.938	9.939	11.984
Movement in PFI CFR	(0.743)	(0.801)	(0.801)
<b>Total movement in CFR</b>	<b>1.195</b>	<b>9.138</b>	<b>11.183</b>
<b>Closing CFR</b>	<b>172.971</b>	<b>182.109</b>	<b>184.154</b>
<b>Movement in CFR represented by:</b>			
Net financing need for year (Table 2 above)	6.367	14.861	16.710
Minimum and voluntary revenue provisions	(4.429)	(4.922)	(4.726)
MRP on PFI and other long term leases (Table 3)	(0.743)	(0.801)	(0.801)
<b>Total movement</b>	<b>1.195</b>	<b>9.138</b>	<b>11.183</b>

The capital borrowing need (Capital Financing Requirement) has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This is known as Internal Borrowing. Projected levels of the Council's

total outstanding debt, which comprises of borrowing, PFI and Other Long Term Liabilities, are shown below compared with the Capital Financing Requirement:-

*Table 5: Prudential Indicator: Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement*

	<b>2020-21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection £m</b>
Debt (incl. PFI & leases)	113.670	<b>120.545</b>	<b>114.848</b>
Capital Financing Requirement	172.971	<b>182.109</b>	<b>184.154</b>

Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the capital financing requirement, except in the short-term. As can be seen, the Council expects to comply with this in the medium term.

The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the authorised limit for external debt) each year. In line with statutory guidance, a lower “operational boundary” is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.

*Table 6: Prudential Indicators: Authorised limit and operational boundary for external debt in £m*

	<b>2020-21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection £m</b>
Authorised limit – borrowing	170.000	<b>170.000</b>	170.000
Authorised limit – other long term liabilities	30.000	<b>30.000</b>	30.000
<b>Authorised Limit Total</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>200.000</b>	<b>200.000</b>
Operational boundary – borrowing	120.000	<b>130.000</b>	130.000
Operational boundary – other long term liabilities	25.000	<b>25.000</b>	25.000
<b>Operational Boundary Limit Total</b>	<b>145.000</b>	<b>155.000</b>	<b>155.000</b>
<b>Total Borrowing and Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>113.670</b>	<b>120.545</b>	<b>114.848</b>

Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue budget, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue, offset by any investment income receivable. The

net annual charge is known as financing costs; this is compared to the net revenue stream i.e. the amount funded from Council Tax, business rates and general government grants.

*Table 7: Prudential Indicator: Proportion of financing costs to net revenue stream*

	<b>2020-21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection £m</b>
Capital Financing Central	6.623	6.707	6.571
Other Financing costs	3.448	3.872	3.704
<b>TOTAL FINANCING COSTS</b>	<b>10.072</b>	<b>10.579</b>	<b>10.276</b>
Proportion of net revenue stream	3.71%	3.89%	3.77%

This shows that in 2021-22, 3.77% of our net revenue income will be spent paying back the costs of capital expenditure.



## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

## REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER - FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE

### FEES AND CHARGES POLICY

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Cabinet for a revised Fees and Charges Policy.

#### 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** – 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 to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

- 2.2 The Council's ability to generate fees and charges to support its budget is a key factor in the achievement of its corporate well-being objectives. Income from fees and charges represent an important source of funds to the Council, and enable it to provide a wider range of services to the County Borough than it would otherwise be able to do so.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 As part of the approval process for the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2016-17 to 2019-20, Council was asked to approve an Income Generation and Charging Policy which aimed to set a consistent approach across Council services and outline key principles to be applied. These included that where a decision has been taken to charge for a service, the Council will aim for full cost recovery, except where there is

a conscious decision which is consistent with council priorities, recognising that the service would then be subsidised by council tax payers. In addition, in line with the MTFS, generally charges should be increased by the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1%.

- 3.2 During scrutiny of the MTFS 2021-22 to 2024-25, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) recommended that:

*“the Fees and Charges policy be reviewed in 2021-22 to change it from “inflation +1%”, to just “inflation” with a view to it being implemented from the budget in 2022-23.”*

In response Cabinet agreed that, since the Income Generation and Charging Policy had been in place since 2016, that it would be thoroughly reviewed and brought back to Cabinet to decide on any changes that are needed.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 A review has recently been undertaken of the policy, and account taken of the comments raised by COSC. A revised ‘Fees and Charges Policy’ is attached at **Appendix A**.

- 4.2 The main changes to the contents of the policy are:

- a table showing charging strategy considerations (Table 2);
- the inclusion of more detail on the process for reviewing fees and charges, and the general assumptions for this (Section 7). This has been amended to:

***This means that, in general, charges should be increased by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).***

*(The appropriate CPI increase date will be that for December prior to the start of the financial year, as set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy)*

- a reference to updated Delegated Powers (paragraph 7.3).
- the process to be followed where it is not proposed to increase fees and charges (paragraphs 7.4 – 7.6).
- a section on the publication of fees and charges (Section 9).

#### **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.

#### **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This report is an overarching charging policy, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment in the production of this report. Individual service managers will be required to undertake

an Equality Impact assessment if they propose changes to their individual, service specific, charging proposals.

- 6.2 The overarching policy does require service managers to consider areas where services should be subsidised, including concessions for target groups.

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

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

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 This policy clarifies the important role that charging and income generation has in supporting the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves the updated Fees and Charges Policy at **Appendix A**.

Gill Lewis

**INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE**

October 2021

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



## **BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **FEES AND CHARGES POLICY**



**October 2021**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Income from fees and charges represent an important source of funds to the Council, and enable it to provide a wider range of services to the County Borough than it would otherwise be able to do so. The decision to charge for local public services impacts upon everyone. Where councils charge for services, users pay directly for some or all of the costs of the services they use. Where no charges are made, or where charges do not recover the full cost of providing a service, council taxpayers subsidise users.
- 1.2 Currently the Council charges for a range of services, the income from which provides a significant contribution (around 30%) to the Council's gross revenue budget. Decisions on whether to charge (and the amount to charge) are not always within the control of the Council. Where they are controlled locally, however, it is important that the implications of the charging decisions being taken are fully understood and that the appropriate information is available to make informed decisions.

## **2. PURPOSE**

- 2.1 This policy exists to clarify the important role that charging and income generation has in supporting the Medium Term Financial Strategy. It provides a clear and consistent approach to charging across the Council. Its key aims are:
  - to create a consistent and coordinated approach to charging, that is applied across services;
  - to set out a clear framework within which fees and charges levied by the Council are agreed and regularly reviewed.
  - to outline the key principles for charging by Bridgend County Borough Council;
  - to set out the annual review process for all discretionary charges.
- 2.2 This policy also provides guidance to managers on how to cost services, the annual inflation increases, concessions and exemptions, and the processes to be followed for reviewing, approving and publishing of the fees and charges.

## **3. KEY PRINCIPLES**

- 3.1 For some services charges are mandatory, and the fee is set nationally, whilst for other services the Council is expressly prohibited from charging. Therefore, a basic assumption is that the Council will apply and collect statutory charges as appropriate and further consideration is therefore outside of the scope of this document.
- 3.2 However discretionary fees and charges represent an important source of revenue, providing finance for activity that is designed to achieve the Council's



objectives. Nevertheless, there is a potential conflict between raising revenue, promoting access and the usage of services whilst considering the challenges of poverty and social exclusion that exist within the Borough and also the effects on local taxpayers.

- 3.3 This is particularly important with the new Socio-Economic Duty, which came into force on 31 March 2021 and which requires specified public bodies, when making strategic decisions such as deciding priorities and setting objectives, to consider how their decisions might help reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.
- 3.4 A consistent and informed approach to charging across the different services of the Council will enable this conflict to be reconciled and managed in the interests of achieving the Council's objectives. All discretionary charges will be covered by this policy.
- 3.5 The Local Government Act 2003 gave local authorities the general power to charge for discretionary services. Discretionary services are those services that an authority has the power but not a duty to provide. This covers those services which are not covered by any other legislation with the following restrictions:
- the income from charges for a service should not exceed the cost of providing that service (over a "reasonable" but unspecified period, e.g. 3 years);
  - the recipient of the service must have agreed to its provision and agreed to pay for it;
  - different people and/or organisations may, where it is fair to do so, be charged different amounts.
- 3.6 As well as discretionary services, there are also statutory services that the Council has to provide, for which the Council is allowed to generate income, in particular where there are additions or enhancements to such statutory services above the level or standard that an authority has a duty to provide.
- 3.7 Specific decisions and charging policies should support delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and other local strategies and service objectives. Charging decisions will take account of the council's corporate well-being objectives and have regard for the potential impact on other service areas.

#### **4. WHEN TO CHARGE**

- 4.1 Whenever future consideration is given to funding sources for specific services, it will be expected that the Council will charge for services, except where a clear decision is taken not to do so for one of the reasons given below. In particular, charges should be levied to support Council corporate well-being objectives and to encourage behaviour change of our customers.

#### 4.2 Reasons for not charging are:

- a. There is a legal or statutory reason forbidding the levy of charges.
- b. The Council has entered into other contractual arrangements which prevent the levy of charges.
- c. The costs incurred as a result of collecting a charge would be greater than the income generated.
- d. The potential risks to the Council incurred as a result of charging outweigh the benefits. Introducing a charge would result in a high risk that:
  - There would be a significant fall in demand and as a result the Council would not achieve one or more of its corporate well-being objectives as defined in the Corporate Plan or the cost of doing so would become prohibitively expensive.
  - The reputation of the Council would be significantly damaged.
  - Charging would change behaviour of customers resulting in a high likelihood that costs would be incurred elsewhere in the business which would be greater than the income generated.

### 5. SETTING OF FEES AND CHARGES

- 5.1 Charges should be set using clear and transparent evidence and knowledge to support the level of charge. Each fee or charge (or group of similar charges) should be linked to one of the charging strategies set out in Table 1 below and the appropriate charging strategy adopted in establishing and reviewing charging rates for that particular service or activity.
- 5.2 In all cases, in determining an appropriate charging strategy proper consideration should be given to the wider equality implications that could affect accessibility of Council services to any groups.
- 5.3 The objectives of different charging strategies are as follows:

Table 1: Charging Strategies

Charging Strategy	Objective
Full Commercial Charges	<p>The Council will aim to cover the cost of providing the service and make a surplus used to fund other priority services.</p> <p>The full cost of the service, including an element for capital financing costs, support services and corporate overheads, will be the starting point for calculating charges.</p>
Full Commercial with Discounts	<p>As above, but with discounted concessions being given to enable disadvantaged groups to access the service.</p>
Full Cost Recovery	<p>In this instance, the Council wishes to make the service generally available but does not wish to allocate its own resources to the service.</p> <p>The council will aim to recover the costs of providing this service from those who use it. The full cost of the service, including an element for capital financing costs, support services and corporate overheads, will be the starting point for calculating charges.</p>

Cost Recovery with Discounts	As above, but the council is prepared to subsidise the service to ensure disadvantaged groups have access to the service.
Subsidised	Council policy is to make the service widely accessible, but believe users of the service should make some contribution from their own resources.  This might be to meet a service objective or allow competition with other providers.
Free	The Council may choose to make the service available at no charge to meet a service objective - cost of service will then met by all Council Tax payers.
Statutory	Charges will be determined in line with legal requirements

5.4 Where new charges are being introduced or changes in charging strategy are proposed, the charging strategy should be made clear as part of the decision making process. However, when determining specific charges, it is appropriate to take into account some or all of the following:

- Encouraging specific activities and use of certain services;
- Discouraging some undesired activities and frivolous demands for a service;
- Ensuring regulatory compliance;
- Whether the Council wishes to act as a supplier of last resort;
- Contributing to long-term sustainability of some activities or services;
- Local market factors;
- Consideration of charges for similar services raised by other local authorities or private sector competitors;
- Whether in some cases reduced charges should be available to some groups to promote inclusion;
- Whether discounts (for example age related charges) or promotion (for example seasonal charges) will be offered;
- Whether scope exists to increase take-up through more effective marketing and publicity and the form that this might take.

5.5 Some of the specific issues that need to be considered for each of the charging strategies are set out in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Charging Strategy Considerations

Charging Strategy	Strategy Considerations
Full Commercial Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the charges high enough for the service to be profitable? If not, consider whether the service should be provided.</li> <li>• Are competitors charging similar prices?</li> <li>• Does the council offer any premium in terms of service levels that customers would be prepared to pay more for?</li> <li>• How would changes in pricing structures affect demand for the service and potentially its profitability?</li> <li>• How does the proposed fee structure fit in with the long term business plan for the service?</li> </ul>

Full Cost Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do charges recover the full costs, including overheads, capital charges and recharges?</li> <li>• Is it possible to charge on a full commercial basis and if so has the loss of income from not charging on a full commercial basis been evaluated?</li> <li>• Are Members aware of the effect on demand for this service from this charging policy?</li> <li>• What would be the effect of changing the policy to a different one e.g. subsidised?</li> </ul>
Subsidised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has the cost of the subsidy been evaluated?</li> <li>• What has been the impact on demand and on service levels from adopting this approach?</li> <li>• Does this approach fit in with the requirements of other funding streams i.e. grants?</li> <li>• Is this approach legally required?</li> <li>• Is there a potential problem from frivolous use of the service?</li> </ul>
Free	
Statutory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are charges in line with statutory requirements?</li> <li>• Are they set at the maximum permitted levels?</li> </ul>

- 5.6 If the income from a service does not meet its costs, this should be as a result of a conscious decision, consistent with council well-being objectives. The service will then be subsidised by Council Tax payers.

## 6. SUBSIDIES AND CONCESSIONS

- 6.1 It may be appropriate to consider subsidising some services, particularly if this helps to achieve corporate objectives and supports local strategies and policies. Some of the main reasons for charging less than full cost include:

- The desire to encourage particular sections of the community to use specific services and they could not afford, or might otherwise be deterred by, full cost charges.
- Use of the service is sensitive to a change in price – an increase in charges reduces demand and income.
- The council incurs higher costs than other providers because the service is provided in a way that is appropriate and accessible for all sectors of the community.

- 6.2 Charges should be set at a level that is fair to service users and Council Tax payers. Concessions may be available to those determined to be unable to pay the full charge. The impact on service users of charging increases should be considered, particularly where they may impact disproportionately on particular groups of Council Tax payers. Impact assessments will be carried out to assess changes and where this is significant steps should be taken to minimise them.

- 6.3 Charges for similar services should be consistent across the Council. Concessions for target groups should be applied consistently across the Council, where concessions are not mandatory (see below).

6.4 There are two types of concessions:

- mandatory concessions as determined by statute; and
- discretionary concessions which are wholly within the power of the Council.

6.5 The principle of recovering full costs through charging for all services wherever it is possible to do so applies to concessions. Therefore, concessions will not be provided unless:

- There is a legal or statutory reason expressly stating the need to provide a concession. These mandatory concessions will be provided in line with national guidelines.
- The cost of the concession can be estimated and can be accommodated within the Council's budget, making it affordable.
- Target groups (e.g. those in receipt of means-tested benefits) would be disadvantaged or would not be able to access the service without a concession, and as a result the Council would not achieve its corporate well-being objectives as defined in the Corporate Plan.

6.6 It is recognised that in some circumstances concessions may not be appropriate and that, in all cases, it will be necessary to carefully consider the impact on income before introducing discounts or concessions to service areas which do not currently offer them.

## 7. REVIEWING FEES AND CHARGES

7.1 Charges will be reviewed annually as an integral part of the MTFS and budget and service planning processes.

7.2 The annual review process will take into account the following:

- Costs increases, inflationary or otherwise, to ensure these are adequately reflected in the charges. The general assumption will be that the value of fees and charges should be maintained in real terms over time, and increased annually in line with estimated inflation.

***This means that, in general, charges should be increased by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).***

*(The appropriate CPI increase date will be that for December prior to the start of the financial year, as set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy)*

- Benchmarks from comparator authorities.
- Legislative changes, either restricting or providing new flexibility or freedom to charge.

- Change in Council policy or priorities as determined in the MTFS where charges or concessions could be introduced, varied or removed to support these priorities.
- Change in service provision or level of provision, which may result in additional or increased charges.
- New and improved methods of collecting payments reducing the cost and increasing the effectiveness of doing so.
- Changes to any reasons not to charge.
- Changes to any reasons for a decision taken not to recover the full costs of a service through charges or the provision of concessions.
- Other new or changed social, community, economic or environmental pressures that will affect charging or individuals' and groups' ability to pay.

7.3 Under the Council's Delegated Powers Scheme (Scheme A, paragraph 1.6) each Cabinet Member has the authority:

To approve, subject to the budget process:

- (i) Fees and charges for new services in accordance with any relevant charging policy approved by the Cabinet; and
- (ii) All fees and charges which are in accordance with any relevant charging policy approved by the Cabinet and which are necessary to reflect either inflation or other increases in costs.

7.4 Where a service manager proposes **not to** increase charges for a particular service for a financial year, then they should set out the reasons why they should not be increased and seek approval from their Director and the Section 151 Officer prior to the start of the financial year.

7.5 Where increases in fees and charges, or new charges, support MTFS savings proposals, this will be made clear in the MTFS report presented to Cabinet and Council prior to the start of the financial year. Individual service managers will be responsible for undertaking equality impact assessments in respect of new or changed fees and charges, not in line with the Fees and Charging Policy, and presenting reports to Cabinet or Council as appropriate.

7.6 Where charges will not made for a service or are set below the full cost recovery level, the reasons should be reconsidered annually as part of the annual Medium Term Financial Strategy process to ensure that they remain valid and that significant income is not being foregone. The council recognises that, for some services, the costs may have been historically under-recovered and a period of adjustment towards full cost recovery may be required.

## **8. ADMINISTRATION OF FEES AND CHARGES**

8.1 The Council will use simple, practical and efficient methods of collecting charges. The basic principles for administering fees and charges will be:

- Charges should be simple to understand and administer;

- Charges should be well promoted so that service users can clearly understand the charging structure and methods of payment before they become liable to pay;
- Where possible methods of payment should be flexible, convenient and take into account the needs of disadvantaged/vulnerable groups in the community; wherever possible online payment should be encouraged;
- Where possible and practicable payment should be made prior to the service being received or at the point of delivery;
- Invoices should be issued promptly and appropriate collection and recovery procedures followed;
- Documentation should be retained to substantiate that the customer accepted liability of the charge to support any debt recovery action required should payment not be received.

8.2 The Council will take a fair but firm stance on debt recovery. Service users and Council Tax payers should not expect to subsidise services whilst others avoid paying. Service managers should ensure that the Council's debt recovery policy is properly followed and enforced.

## **9. PUBLICATION OF FEES AND CHARGES**

- 9.1 Each service should maintain a schedule of fees and charges levied, in a format agreed by the S151 Officer. This schedule should include, but identify separately, those charges where there are national / external procedures or other specific procedures for determining and reviewing rates of charge.
- 9.2 Generally the Council's fees and charges should be set prior to the start of each financial year. They should be widely published, including through the Council's website.
- 9.3 Reasonable notice should be given to service users before any decisions to amend or introduce new fees and charges are implemented, together with clear advice on VAT, and information on any discounts or concessions available. In the absence of any specific requirements, reasonable notice is defined broadly as one calendar month.

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

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

#### TREASURY MANAGEMENT – HALF YEAR REPORT 2021-22

#### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- comply with the requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's 'Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice' to produce interim Treasury Management Reports;
- report on the projected Treasury Management Indicators for 2021-22.

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

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

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

2.2 The Treasury Management Report is integral to the delivery of all of the Council's well-being objectives as the allocation of resources determines the extent to which the well-being objectives can be delivered.

#### 3. Background

3.1 Treasury management is the management of the Council's cash flows, borrowing and investments, and the associated risks. The Council is exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of financial risk are therefore central to the Council's prudent financial management.

3.2 Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a Treasury Management Strategy



(TMS) before the start of each financial year. The CIPFA Code also requires the Council to set a number of Treasury Management Indicators, which are forward looking parameters and enable the Council to measure and manage its exposure to treasury management risks, and these are included throughout this report. In addition, the Welsh Government (WG) issued revised Guidance on Local Authority Investments in November 2019 that requires the Council to approve an Investment Strategy before the start of each financial year. This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the Welsh Government Guidance.

3.3 In 2017 CIPFA also published a new version of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code). The updated Prudential Code includes a requirement for Local Authorities to provide a Capital Strategy, which is a summary document approved by full Council covering capital expenditure and financing, treasury management and non-treasury investments. The definition of investments in the 2017 CIPFA Code now covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which the authority holds primarily for financial return. The Council's Capital Strategy 2021-22, complying with CIPFA's requirement, includes the Prudential Indicators which in previous years were included in the TMS, along with details regarding the Council's non-treasury investments. The Capital Strategy and TMS should be read in conjunction with each other as they are interlinked as borrowing and investments are directly impacted upon by capital plans and were approved together by Council on 24 February 2021.

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

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

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

4.1 The Council has complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements during the first half of 2021-22. The TMS 2021-22 was approved by Council on 24 February 2021 with the Half Year Report scheduled to be presented on 20 October 2021.

4.2 A summary of the treasury management activities for the first half of 2021-22 is shown in table 1 in **Appendix A**. Since the start of the financial year the Council has had surplus funds for investment. The Council receives two instalments of Welsh Government core funding (Revenue Settlement Grant) during April at £12.6 million per instalment, and was able to carry forward additional grant

funding from 2020-21. As a result, the balance on investments at 30 September 2021 was £79.84 million with an average rate of interest of 0.06%. This is a significant reduction from the same time last year when the average rate was 0.24% and shows the impact of the reductions in interest rates as a result of the pandemic.

- 4.3 The Council has not taken long-term borrowing since March 2012. The TMS 2021-22 anticipated that the Council would need to borrow £30.37 million during the year, however, this was on an assumption that the Council would have £43 million held in usable reserves that it could use in the short term to finance expenditure. As at 31 March 2021 the Council's usable reserves stood at £114 million, an increase from £83 million as at 31 March 2020, which was not foreseen when the TMS was approved. The Council received £20.6 million from the Welsh Government Hardship Fund, which was more than had been anticipated during the year, as well as further additional grants from Welsh Government in the final quarter of 2020-21 of £8.9 million and capital receipts during the year of £2.9 million, as reported to Council in the Revenue Budget Outturn 2020-21 report on 23 June 2021. However, it is important to note that while the use of usable reserves in lieu of new borrowing is prudent, it is a short-term position and as the reserves are used for specific projects it will become necessary to borrow in the future to finance Capital expenditure. Based on the current capital programme and the expected use of reserves allocated therein, it is expected that there will not be a requirement for new long-term borrowing in 2021-22. Detail on forecast capital spend is provided in the Capital Strategy 2021-22 which was approved by Council on 24 February 2021 and the Quarter 2 Capital Monitoring report going to Council on 20 October 2021.
- 4.4 Restructuring of the debt portfolio, and in particular the Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans has been previously considered. The LOBOs have two trigger points during the year at which point the lender may consider offering the Council the option to repay the loan without penalty. At the current interest rates the lender is not likely to exercise that option. Any renegotiation of the LOBO would result in a premium payable by the Council. At current rates the premium would far outweigh the savings achievable. The Council will continue to review its long-term lending and would take the option to repay these loans at no cost if it has the opportunity to do so.
- 4.5 Table 4 in section 4 of **Appendix A** details the movement of the investments by counterparty types and shows the average balances, interest received, original duration and interest rates for the first half of 2021-22.
- 4.6 The TM Code requires the Council to set and report on a number of Treasury Management Indicators. The indicators either summarise the expected activity or introduce limits upon the activity. Details of the estimates for 2021-22 set out in the Council's TMS, against current projections, are shown in **Appendix A** and these show that the Council is operating in line with the approved limits.
- 4.7 The Council defines high credit quality as organisations and securities having a credit rating of A- or higher and **Appendix B** shows the equivalence table for

credit ratings for Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's and explains the different investment grades.

- 4.8 CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires all local authorities to conduct a mid-year review of its treasury management policies, practices and activities. The outcome of this review is that there are no changes required.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 As required by Financial Procedure Rule 20.3 within the Council's Constitution, all investments and borrowing transactions have been undertaken in accordance with the TMS 2021-22 as approved by Council with due regard to the requirements of the CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of the report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

- 7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. As the report is for information only and is retrospective in nature it is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 The financial implications are reflected within the report.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
- note the Council's treasury management activities for 2021-22 for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 and the projected Treasury Management Indicators for 2021-22.

**Gill Lewis**

**Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change**  
**October 2021**

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**Background documents:**

None

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## APPENDIX A

### SUMMARY OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES 2021-22 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

#### 1. External Debt and Investment Position

On 30 September 2021, the Council held £96.87 million of external long-term borrowing and £79.84 million of investments. The Council's external debt and investment position for 1 April to 30 September 2021 is shown below in Table 1; more detail is provided in section 3 - Borrowing Strategy and Outturn - and section 4 - Investment Strategy and Outturn:

**Table 1: External debt and investment position 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021**

	Principal 01/04/2021 £m	Average Rate 01/04/2021 %	Principal 30/09/2021 £m	Average Rate 30/09/2021 %
<b>External Long Term Borrowing:</b>				
Public Works Loan Board	77.62	4.70	77.62	4.70
Lender's Option Borrower's Option	19.25	4.65	19.25	4.65
<b>Total External Borrowing</b>	<b>96.87</b>	<b>4.69</b>	<b>96.87</b>	<b>4.69</b>
<b>Other Long Term Liabilities (LTL):</b>				
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)*	15.56		15.16	
Other LTL	2.33		2.81	
<b>Total Other Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>17.89</b>		<b>17.97</b>	
<b>Total Gross External Debt</b>	<b>114.76</b>		<b>114.84</b>	
<b>Treasury Investments:</b>				
Debt Management Office	0.00	0.00	15.34	0.01
Local Authorities	48.50	0.22	28.50	0.13
Banks	1.00	0.05	12.00	0.04
Money Market Fund***	2.05	0.02	24.00	0.01
<b>Total Treasury Investments</b>	<b>51.55</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>79.84</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>Net Debt</b>	<b>63.21</b>		<b>35.00</b>	

\* (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg 12.75 years remaining term

\*\*\* these funds provide instant access

Where a Council finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside revenue resources to repay that debt in later years and this amount charged to revenue is called the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2008 requires the Council to produce and approve an annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement before the start of the financial year that details the methodology for the MRP charge and this is detailed in the Council's Capital Strategy. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital

Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. The Council's current strategy is to delay the need to borrow externally by temporarily using cash it holds for other purposes such as earmarked reserves. This is known as internal borrowing. This strategy is prudent as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is relatively high. The CFR is forecast to increase from 2020-21 levels due to the amount of prudential borrowing in the capital programme in future years. The Loans CFR is estimated to be £170.25 million as shown in table 2 below.

The liability benchmark measures the Council's projected net debt requirement plus a short-term liquidity allowance in the form of minimum cash and investment balances. The purpose of the benchmark is to set the level of risk which the Council regards as its balanced or normal position. The forecast liability benchmark, or level of debt, as at 31 March 2022 is £100.31 million, which is lower than the estimate within the TMS. The current level of long-term borrowing is £96.87 million. As the Council has available reserves it can use them to fund capital expenditure in the short term, which is a prudent approach to managing its cash resources. Table 2 below has been produced using estimates of capital spend and forecasts on usable reserves for the current financial year. The Loans CFR ignores cash balances and may be too high if the authority benefits from long term positive cash flows which this Council does benefit from. The benchmark assumes that cash and investment balances are kept to a minimum level of £10 million at each year-end to maintain sufficient liquidity but minimise credit risk.

**Table 2: Liability benchmark**

	<b>2020-21 Actual</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate TMS</b>	<b>2021-22 Projection</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Loans Capital Financing Requirement	158.21	166.35	170.25
Less: Usable reserves	(114.43)	(49.11)	(79.94)
Plus: Actual/Minimum investments	10	10	10
<b>Liability Benchmark</b>	<b>53.78</b>	<b>127.24</b>	<b>100.31</b>

## 2. External Context

The Bank of England (BoE) has continued to hold the Bank Rate at 0.1% following the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voting unanimously for rates to remain unchanged at its meeting of 22 September 2021.

Annual CPI inflation rose to 2.1% in May and then again to 3.2% in August. As inflation rates during the pandemic remained low, small increases have a relatively large impact on the current inflation rate. In addition global cost pressures have continued to affect UK consumer goods prices. To a lesser degree, the reopening of the economy has led to a further increase in some

consumer services prices. Inflation expectations are currently being driven by rising oil prices and, in the UK, on-going signs of supply shortages. The HGV driver shortage and the higher wages being offered in that sector are likely symptomatic of the various effects of both Brexit and the pandemic.

The furlough scheme ended at the end of September with the Bank of England only expecting a small rise in unemployment. Since March 2020 when the pandemic began and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme was introduced, the furlough scheme has supported the wages of 11.6 million workers at a cost of over £68 billion. However, the impact of the ending of the scheme will only be known over the forthcoming months.

### **3. Borrowing Strategy and Outturn for 1 April to 30 September 2020**

At 30 September 2021, the Council held £96.87 million of long-term loans as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes. The TMS 2021-22 forecast that the Council would need to borrow £30.37 million in 2021-22. Currently it is forecast that the Council will not need to take out new borrowing during the year, however this is dependent on the progress of the Capital Programme expenditure during the year and the use of available earmarked reserves during the year. More detail on forecast capital spend is provided in the Capital Strategy 2021-22 which was approved by Council on 24 February 2021 and the Quarter 2 Capital Monitoring report going to Council on 20 October 2021.

The Council's chief objective when borrowing money is to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving certainty of those costs over the period for which funds are required. The flexibility to renegotiate loans, should the Council's long-term plans change, is a secondary objective. Therefore the major objectives to be followed in 2021-22 are:

- to minimise the revenue costs of debt
- to manage the Council's debt maturity profile i.e. to leave no one future year with a high level of repayments that could cause problems in re-borrowing
- to effect funding in any one year at the cheapest cost commensurate with future risk
- to monitor and review the level of variable interest rate loans in order to take greater advantage of interest rate movement
- to reschedule debt if appropriate, in order to take advantage of potential savings as interest rates change
- to optimise the use of all capital resources including borrowing, both supported and unsupported, usable capital receipts, revenue contributions to capital and grants and contributions

Given the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the economy and public finances in general, as well as on local government funding in particular, and the uncertainty going forward, the Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term



stability of the debt portfolio. The ever increasing uncertainty over future interest rates increases the risks associated with treasury activity. As a result the Council will take a cautious approach to its treasury strategy. With short-term interest rates currently much lower than long term rates, it is likely to be more cost effective in the short term to either use internal resources or take out short term loans instead.

The Council's primary objective for the management of its debt is to ensure its long term affordability. The majority of its loans have therefore been borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) at long term fixed rates of interest but we will also investigate other sources of finance, such as Welsh Government and local authority loans and bank loans that may be available at more favourable rates. Following the increase in the numbers of local authorities taking out PWLB loans to buy commercial properties for yield, following a UK government consultation HM Treasury issuing revised lending terms for PWLB borrowing by local authorities in November 2020. As a condition of accessing the PWLB, local authorities will be asked to confirm that there is no intention to buy investment assets primarily for yield in the current or next two financial years. Local authorities' Section 151 Officers, or equivalent, will be required to confirm that capital expenditure plans are current and that the plans are within acceptable use of the PWLB. Whilst this in itself does not preclude the Council from investing in commercial activities, investing in assets for yield would preclude the Council from accessing PWLB borrowing. Given the investment and borrowing requirement to support the Capital Programme, the Council is unlikely to consider any investments in commercial assets primarily for yield. CIPFA are also currently undertaking a consultation on proposed changes to the Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code of Practice. The outcome of this consultation will provide further clarification around what is commercial activity and investment and confirm that the purchase of property cannot lead to an increase in the capital financing requirement. It will also set out that it would not be considered prudent for a Local Authority to borrow to invest primarily for financial return, and therefore it must not do so.

The last time the Council took out long term borrowing was £5 million from the PWLB in March 2012. Should there be a need to borrow it is likely to be from the PWLB. For estimate purposes it has been assumed that this would be over 30 years. The Council may also take out short term loans (normally for up to one month) to cover unexpected cash flow shortages. Market conditions have meant that there has been no rescheduling of the Council's long term borrowing so far this year however, in conjunction with the Council's Treasury Management advisors Arlingclose, the loan portfolio will continue to be reviewed for any potential savings as a result of any loan rescheduling.

The £19.25 million in table 1 above relates to Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans which have a maturity date of 2054, however these may be re-scheduled in advance of this maturity date. The LOBO rate and term may vary in the future depending upon the prevailing market rates, the lender exercising their option to increase rates at one of the bi-annual trigger points (the trigger dates being July and January) and therefore, the Council being

given the option to accept the increase or to repay the loan without incurring a penalty. The lender did not exercise their option on 22 July 2021 and the next trigger point is 22 January 2022. The lender is unlikely to exercise their option in the current low interest rate environment, however, an element of refinancing risk remains. The Council would take the option to repay these loans at no cost if it has the opportunity to do so in the future. The current average interest rate for these LOBO's is 4.65% compared to the PWLB Loans average interest rate of 4.70%. The premiums payable to renegotiate the Council's Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) continues to be cost prohibitive.

The Treasury Management indicator shown in Table 3 below is for the Maturity Structure of Borrowing and is set for the forthcoming financial year to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk with respect to the maturity of the Council's external borrowing and has been set to allow for the possible restructuring of long term debt where this is expected to lead to an overall saving or reduction in risk. It is the amount of projected borrowing maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of borrowing set out in the TMS 2021-22 and the projections for 2021-22 are:

**Table 3: Treasury Management Indicator Maturity Structure of Borrowing 2021-22**

Refinancing rate risk indicator Maturity structure of borrowing 2020-21	TMS 2021-22 Upper limit %	TMS 2021-22 Lower limit %	Projection 31-3-22 %
Under 12 months	50	-	19.87
12 months and within 24 months	25	-	-
24 months and within 5 years	25	-	9.59
5 years and within 10 years	40	-	16.33
10 years and within 20 years	50	-	16.64
20 years and above	60	25	37.57

The 19.87% shown in Table 3 above relates to the £19.25 million LOBO loans which may be re-scheduled in advance of their maturity date of 2054, as detailed in the paragraph above. The CIPFA Code requires the maturity of LOBO loans to be shown as the earliest date on which the lender can require payment, i.e. the option/call dates in 2021-22, so the maturity date is actually uncertain but is shown in the "Under 12 months" category as per the Code.

#### **4. Investment Strategy and Outturn 1 April to 30 September 2021**

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

The major objectives during 2021-22 were:-

- To maintain capital **security**

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

The Annual Investment Strategy incorporated in the Council's TMS 2021-22 includes the credit ratings defined for each category of investments and the liquidity of investments. The Council's investments have historically been placed in mainly short-term bank and building society unsecured deposits and local and central government. However, investments may be made with any public or private sector organisations that meet the minimum credit criteria and investment limits specified in the Investment Strategy. The majority of the Council's surplus cash is currently invested in Money Market Funds and with other local authorities, but the Council will continue to look at investment options in line with the limits detailed in the Investment Strategy. In the last 6 months Arlingclose has been constantly stress testing the financial institutions on its recommended counterparty list during the pandemic and, as a result, has removed a number from its recommended list for unsecured deposits and revised the credit rating, outlook and recommended deposit period for a number of others. This reflects the revised likely credit worthiness of the institutions from the economic and financial market implications of coronavirus. The Council takes into account updated advice from its advisors before making any investment decisions.

The Council holds surplus funds representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves and as shown in Table 1 above, the balance on investments at 30 September 2021 was £79.84 million. Table 4 below details these investments by counterparty type. The average investment rate in the period 1 April to 30 September 2021 was 0.08% (Table 4) and was 0.06% at 30 September 2021 (Table 1 – Total Treasury Investments).

**Table 4: Investments Profile 1 April to 30 September 2021**

Investment Counterparty Category	Balance 01 April 2021 (A)	Investments raised (B)	Investments Repaid (C)	Balance 30 September 2021 (A+B-C)	Investment income received** Apr-Sept 2021	Average original duration of the Investment Days	Weighted average investment balance Apr-Sept 2021 £m	Weighted average interest rate Apr-Sept 21 %
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£'000			
Government DMO	-	173.50	158.16	15.34	0.63	12	10.63	0.01
Local Authorities	48.50	35.50	55.50	28.50	65.08	192	25.19	0.18
Banks (Fixed Maturity)	1.00	24.00	16.00	9.00	1.62	32	2.69	0.07
Banks Instant Access/Notice Period Account	-	3.00	-	3.00	0.09	-	5.90	0.03
Building Societies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Money Market Fund (Instant Access)	2.05	33.85	11.90	24.00	1.78	-	22.56	0.02
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>51.55</b>	<b>269.85</b>	<b>241.56</b>	<b>79.84</b>	<b>69.20</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>66.97</b>	<b>0.08</b>

\*\* actual income received in year excluding accruals

The Treasury Management indicator shown below in Table 5 is for Principal Sums Invested for periods longer than a year. Where the Council invests, or plans to invest, for periods longer than a year, an upper limit is set for each forward financial year period for the maturing of such investments. The purpose

of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of long-term investments. The limit on the long-term principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end are set out in the TMS 2021-22.

**Table 5: Treasury Management Indicator Principal Sums Invested for periods longer than a year**

Price risk indicator	TMS 2021-22 £m	Projection 31-3-22 £m
Limit on principal invested beyond financial year end	15	Nil

All investments longer than 365 days (non-specified) will be made with a cautious approach to cash flow requirements and advice from Arlingclose will be sought as necessary.

There were no long-term investments (original duration of 12 months or more) outstanding at 30 September 2021. All investments at 30 September 2021 were short term deposits including Government Debt Management Office (DMO), Money Market Funds, Local Authorities, instant access and notice accounts. Table 6 below details these investments by counterparty type based on the remaining maturity period as at 30 September 2021:

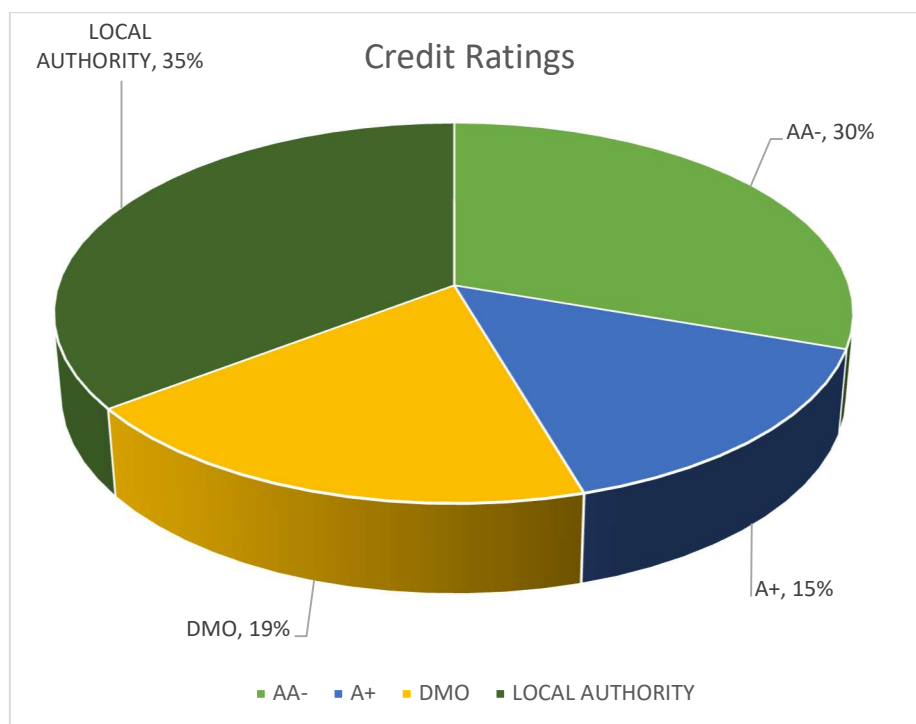
**Table 6: Investments Outstanding Maturity Profile 30 September 2021**

Counterparty Category	Instant Access £m	Deposits Maturing Within 1 Month £m	Deposits Maturing Within 2-3 Months £m	Deposits Maturing Within 4-12 Months £m	Total £m
Government DMO		15.34			15.34
Local Authorities			4.50	24.00	28.50
Banks	3.00	9.00			12.00
Building Societies					0.00
Money Market Funds	24.00				24.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>24.34</b>	<b>4.50</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>79.84</b>

Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from a selection of external rating agencies to ensure that this lies within the Council's agreed minimum credit rating. Where available the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used. However, investment decisions are never made solely based on credit ratings, and all other relevant factors including external advice will be taken into account. **Appendix B** shows the equivalence table for credit ratings for three of the main rating agencies Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's and explains the different investment grades. The Council defines high credit quality as organisations and securities having a

credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or a foreign country with a sovereign rating of AA+ or higher.

The pie chart below summarises Table 6 by credit ratings and shows the £79.84 million investments at 30 September 2021 by percentage. Most Local Authorities do not have credit ratings and the £24 million invested with AA- rated MMF's were on an approved counterparty by Arlingclose, whilst the remainder of the investments all had a credit rating of A or above.



## 5. Interest Rate Exposures – Borrowing and Investments

The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument periods. Short term and variable rate loans expose the Council to the risk of short-term interest rate rises and are therefore subject to the Treasury Management indicator in Table 7 below to manage Interest Rate Exposures.

**Table 7: Treasury Management Indicator Interest Rate Exposures**

Interest rate risk indicator	Indicator £'000	As at 30-09-21 £'000
One year revenue impact of a 1% rise in interest rates	(273)	(573)
One year revenue impact of a 1% fall in interest rates	474	765

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

The figures for the 1% fall in interest rates indicator are not the same figures as the 1% rise in interest rates (but reversed) as the borrowing relates to variable LOBO loans where it is assumed that the lender would not exercise their option if there was a fall in interest rates. All other borrowing does not have a rate reset in the next year and is with the PWLB at fixed rates

## **6. Review of the Treasury Management Strategy 2021-22**

CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires all local authorities to conduct a mid-year review of its treasury management policies, practices and activities. The outcome of this review is that no changes to the TMS 2021-22 are required at this time.

## APPENDIX B

**Credit Rating Equivalence Table**

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

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

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

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

##### UPDATE ON THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE (ECEC) PILOT

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update regarding the proposed Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) pilot.

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

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective/objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**
- **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.
  - **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.
  - **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 At its meeting on 25 February 2020, Cabinet agreed that the local authority would work alongside Welsh Government towards piloting the ECEC initiative in 2021-2022.
- 3.2 The following options were presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 25 February 2020 with **Option 2** approved.

<b>Option 1</b> 'Do nothing'	The local authority <b>does not</b> progress the proposed pilot.
<b>Option 2</b>	The local authority provides 30 hours of provision to <b>all</b> parents of <b>all</b> 3



'All for all parents'	<p>and 4 year-olds at <b>any</b> setting from the <b>term</b> after a child's <b>3<sup>rd</sup> birthday</b> for 48 weeks (ie 39 weeks term-time provision and 9 weeks of school holiday provision).</p> <p>The funding available from Welsh Government to support this option would be up to <b>£3.5m per year</b>.</p>
<p><b>Option 3</b></p> <p>'All for working parents only'</p>	<p>The local authority provides 30 hours of provision to <b>working</b> parents of <b>all</b> 3 and 4 year-olds at <b>any</b> setting from the <b>term</b> after the child's <b>3<sup>rd</sup> birthday</b> for 48 weeks (ie 39 weeks term-time provision and 9 weeks of school holiday provision).</p> <p>The funding available from Welsh Government to support this option would be up to <b>£3.5m per year</b>.</p>
<p><b>Option 4</b></p> <p>One year scoping exercise</p>	<p>There is a fourth option open to Cabinet should they feel more time is needed to consider how the ECEC pilot would work in practice.</p> <p>The pilot could be delivered over a longer timescale, with the first year focusing more on scoping the pilot and working with settings to understand the implications on the ground.</p> <p>The specific parameters of this approach would need to be determined, but the available funding would not exceed £1m in Year 1.</p>

3.3 It was agreed that the local authority would test a number of ECEC elements and the pilot was planned to take a staged approach to implementation. Some fundamental ECEC elements were to be tested in the first year and those would be built on in following years by the testing of additional elements where possible.

3.4 In summary, the overarching parameters of the pilot were identified as:

- Welsh Government provided Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) with funding for the ECEC pilot.
- Bridgend to continue to commit to provide 30 hours education provision for 'rising 4s'.
- Within the pilot, an incremental number of settings who expressed an interest to pilot, both schools and childcare sector, would have been supported to deliver 30 hours of ECEC provision including holiday provision.
- Working parents were to be no worse off in Bridgend than in other local authorities (ie working parents will be able to access the Childcare Offer for Wales hours during terms where part-time Foundation Phase Nursery provision would be available, alongside holiday childcare provision).
- Within the ECEC pilot areas, all parents were to be able to access ECEC and therefore holiday provision.

- Evaluation and monitoring activity was to run alongside the pilot.
- 3.5 As part of the development activity, the local authority appointed an ECEC Manager in November 2020 (on an agency basis due to time limited funding) to lead this work, under the oversight of the Early Years and Childcare Manager.
  - 3.6 The ECEC Manager has, during the pilot project, established a number of focus groups and working parties to engage with key stakeholders across the maintained and non-maintained early years' sector, including national umbrella organisations.
  - 3.7 Headteachers, early years leads, childcare setting owners and managers and advisors from umbrella groups have met to discuss the impact, consequences and steps required to move the proposed pilot forwards. Stakeholders from the full range of potential partners were invited to collaborate with this development work, including Care Inspectorate Wales, Estyn, colleagues from Central South Consortium, and early years' leads in other councils. The learning from these groups has been significant and Welsh Government colleagues have offered their thanks to all those who have contributed to this research.
  - 3.8 The pilot aimed ultimately to focus on the removal of barriers that exist between education and care, in order to ensure that any setting, whether a school or private/voluntary childcare, could offer ECEC provision. The universal funding for ECEC was agreed at the same rate as the Childcare Offer for Wales. A development plan included working towards proposed criteria for participation, detailed scoping exercises, designed delivery models, and development of a system for ECEC delivery. Five delivery models were proposed outlining where it was possible to pilot an ECEC approach in Bridgend (see Appendix B).
  - 3.9 This work around the development of the pilot to date has been complex and detailed. Scoping the project raised a number of benefits and barriers to the implementation of delivery. Both Bridgend and Welsh Government now have a more evidenced-based and strategic understanding of the complex infrastructure changes that would need to take place for any future effective pilot.
  - 3.10 Potential barriers to delivery were significant. Implications include the absence of a joint inspection framework between Estyn and Care Inspectorate Wales which would include the maintained nursery sector and childminders. This situation indicates that only the funded non-maintained sector would be able to offer ECEC without national changes to inspection processes.
  - 3.11 The most crucial findings were around the lack of appropriate and available space within school sites available to develop ECEC childcare which would comply with meeting the National Minimum Standards set out by Care Inspectorate Wales.
  - 3.12 Implications for the pilot have been identified, including the absence of a joint inspection framework which would include the maintained nursery sector and childminders.
  - 3.13 Furthermore, fundamental concepts that would need significant development to support the proposed pilot were identified. These included the lack of acknowledged capital funding within the ECEC allocation, making it difficult for schools to adapt accommodation to meet the National Minimum Standards and for the non-

maintained sector to expand their premises to accommodate larger numbers of children.

- 3.14 Welsh Government's lack of a current plan for the delivery of parity between the maintained and non-maintained sectors regarding free school meals and school transport for eligible nursery-aged children receiving their education entitlement in the non-maintained sector was also a factor that became significant during the investigations.
- 3.15 The need to develop a coherent national plan and secure funding to enable parity between the maintained and non-maintained sectors for school transport would need to be in place for children receiving their education entitlement who have additional learning needs, disabilities or those travelling to specific Welsh-medium provision was also identified.
- 3.16 The school admissions process for non-statutory aged children was also investigated suggesting the need to clarify whether schools would manage their own admissions to ECEC provision, as the funded non-maintained sector currently do.
- 3.17 The barriers identified highlight the considerable challenges in achieving parity between the non-maintained and maintained sectors at a legislative level to develop real choice for parents of three and four-year-old children.
- 3.18 Some of the barriers highlighted are long term and embedded in regulation and legislation. Given that these are national level issues which cannot be resolved at the local level, the solutions therefore need to be explored and identified at a national level by Welsh Government, before any future delivery of ECEC provision can commence.
- 3.19 In addition, it became clear that ECEC places could impact on each school's pupil admission number (PAN), where if numbers of children in a maintained ECEC nursery provision exceeded the school's PAN for numbers of statutory school-aged children, there could be significant numbers of children effectively 'turned away' from moving up into the reception class, causing the risk of potential additional transitions at a young age.
- 3.20 The challenge of differing staff qualifications in the maintained and non-maintained sector were acknowledged as considerable challenges in achieving parity between the non-maintained and maintained sectors, when developing provision in both sectors in order to offer real choice for parents of three and four-year-old children.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 Welsh Government remain committed to a ten-year transformation programme to develop the philosophy of ECEC. However, since the election in May 2021, the priorities for Welsh Government have refocussed in response to the pandemic and planned recovery programme.
- 4.2 At this time, with the complexities and national implications for delivery of ECEC that have been identified during the scoping process, Welsh Government has advised the local authority that the ECEC pilot will be discontinued. Colleagues

from Welsh Government have stated their thanks to the local authority for the significant learning to date and advised that the knowledge around any future development of ECEC will benefit significantly from the work undertaken.

- 4.3 Although Welsh Government has advised that the pilot is to be discontinued, they have confirmed that funding to support the administration of the ECEC pilot remains in place for the financial year 2021-2022. This agreement is in place to support an appropriate and planned exit strategy, alongside a thorough evaluation of the work to date.
- 4.4 It is essential that the local authority agrees appropriate steps towards the closing of the pilot with Welsh Government colleagues, and the partnership work to deliver this continues. The detailed development/business plan had set out scheduled progress with identified resource recognised, to support and achieve the agreed timescales and targets. The early years' team and strategic officers in the local authority waited a significant time for a response to the proposals designed from Welsh Government following the May 2021 elections. It is important that time now be set aside to ensure a safe and strategic end to the pilot is achieved.
- 4.5 While the decision made by Welsh Government means the end of the pilot, some investigations and scoping work will continue this financial year to capture and clarify the issues and barriers and indeed propose potential solutions. Welsh Government has advised that it is paramount that they continue to develop further the understanding of the issues identified by Bridgend in order to more fully and appropriately develop any further ECEC approach in Wales.
- 4.6 The service continues to meet with Welsh Government colleagues to collate the information and evidence highlighted during the scoping period. The ECEC Manager will remain in post in order to fully complete a post-pilot evaluation report.
- 4.7 An effective communication plan has once again been devised to ensure all the stakeholders who participated in the pilot are offered an opportunity to contribute towards the final findings of the work undertaken.
- 4.8 A timescale has been agreed with Welsh Government to ensure an effective and thorough exit strategy is developed alongside the review of the learning to date.
- 4.9 Colleagues both within Bridgend and wider will be able to review the learning and contribute to the findings of the evaluation report.
- 4.10 Activities identified as being relevant to the ongoing progression of early years services within Bridgend will be able to be categorised with many contributing to effective plans for future developments across the early years sector. The service has identified many areas for development these include:
  - Development of further effective partnership frameworks between the maintained and non-maintained sector to further enhance transition and shared pedagogy, to reflect Welsh Government's commitment to an early years quality framework.
  - Continued development around the role of Bridgend's 'Quality Matters' toolkit.

- Increased development of the work with the child-minding sector to explore opportunities for the sector to offer services as funded non-maintained providers.
- Development of enhanced opportunities for increased professional development in the childcare sector particularly linked to skills in business leadership.
- Opportunities to develop a mentorship approach across the provider sector.
- Review of childcare offer/school admissions communications to parents to support understanding a complex system.

- 4.11 While the intensity of the work has been demanding for the local authority and the services involved it is important to note that there are many benefits emerging. The local authority has gained increased intelligence across both the early years and early education sector and this will do doubt further enhance and improve the forthcoming Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and implications for school modernisation including new buildings.
- 4.12 The evaluation of the findings will provide an effective conclusion and enable those who participated to clearly learn from the findings and concepts explored during the pilot and hopefully make recommendations for future development.
- 4.13 In bringing the outcomes of the pilot together in a final report and setting out effective evaluated conclusions, Welsh Government will be able to fully understand the complexity of the proposed pilot and potential next steps clearly identified. Bridgend early years' sector will continue to benefit from the enhanced partnerships developed during the pilot and use this to continue to expand and improve the breadth of expertise available.
- 4.14 The local authority will no longer be required to develop a digital system to support the ECEC pilot and will now progress the development of Bridgend parents and practitioners migrating towards the proposed national Childcare Offer for Wales digital platform.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 None arising from this report.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 A full equalities impact assessment would have been completed as part of the proposed development plan.

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

- 7.1 A Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 assessment was completed to support the pilot and is detailed at Appendix A.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 Welsh Government remains committed to the work within Bridgend of both the early years' service and the project board. Funding has been agreed to support related activities and administration including the development of an in-depth, post-pilot report and analysis to conclude the ECEC pilot to the sum of £200k. The service will be able to support effective actions with the wider stakeholder group to ensure all relevant learning is captured and shared with Welsh Government and stakeholders.

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- consider this report;
- agree that the Education and Family Support Directorate brings the work of the ECEC pilot to a close, following safe and effective actions around the proposed exit strategy and the development of a final evaluation report to be provided to Welsh Government; and
- consider the post-pilot evaluation report and its findings when this is completed.

**Lindsay Harvey**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT**

**October 2021**

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**Background documents:**

## WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015 ASSESSMENT

Section 1 Complete the table below to assess how well you have applied the 5 ways of working.	
<b>Long-term</b>  (The importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs)	<b>1. How does your project / activity balance short-term need with the long-term and planning for the future?</b>  <p>The proposed pilot of ECEC will meet both short-term and long term needs of children and their families accessing the early years' education, while the long-term strategic implications intend to support families out of poverty and offer children the opportunity to access high quality education. In addition, childcare providers will benefit from this scheme on a long-term basis as the potential increased flexibility or potential additional numbers of children accessing provision, dependent on the option selected, will support sustainability within the sector.</p> <p>Sustainable childcare, along with developing new childcare places to meet the commitments of the Childcare Offer for Wales aspect of the ECEC system, will, in the long term, help the local authority with its statutory duty of providing sufficient childcare across the county borough for working parents and those parents training with the intention of returning to work.</p>
<b>Prevention</b>  (How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives)	<b>2. How does your project / activity put resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse?</b>  <p>The delivery of the proposed pilot of ECEC, will contribute towards support and continued development of childcare in the county borough and support the local authority in meeting its statutory duty of providing sufficient childcare for working parents.</p> <p>The ECEC pilot scheme will also support the focus on the development of Welsh-medium places which will offer more choice to parents wishing to access Welsh-medium provision.</p>
<b>Integration</b>	<b>3. How does your project / activity deliver economic, social, environmental &amp; cultural outcomes</b>

<p>(Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the wellbeing goals, on their objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies)</p>	<p>together?</p>
	<p><b>Economic</b></p> <p>The pilot of ECEC system with the integral Childcare Offer for Wales support for working parents focuses on encouraging parents back into work, therefore potentially reducing the numbers of children in poverty.</p> <p><b>Social</b></p> <p>The proposed pilot of ECEC will provide children the opportunity to access education provision across a range of settings. This universal early years' provision will offer children social environments. Working families who struggle to meet the costs of children during school holiday periods will continue to benefit with children supported by high quality provision, offering parents the opportunity to thrive in employment.</p> <p><b>Environmental</b></p> <p>Offering education provision locally, or close to a workplace, will help support the environment by reducing the carbon footprint of families travelling additional miles to a childcare provision. The focus of the local authority is to try and secure such childcare for every eligible family in the county who are seeking it. However, it is acknowledged that many families will need to access provision in other geographical areas.</p> <p><b>Cultural</b></p> <p>The pilot of the ECEC system will continue the focus on ensuring sufficient education and childcare places for those who wish to access provision in the medium of Welsh.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration</b></p> <p>(Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the</p>	<p>4. How does your project / activity involve working together with partners (internal and external) to deliver well-being objectives?</p> <p>The planning phase of the ECEC pilot is supported by a project board. Stakeholders, both internal and external, are able to contribute to advising Bridgend County Borough Council.</p> <p>The childcare team works effectively with external partners, particularly the childcare umbrella organisations,</p>



body meet its well-being objectives)	and this will continue to be built upon during the implementation of the proposed pilot ECEC system.
<b>Involvement</b>	<b>5. How does your project / activity involve stakeholders with an interest in achieving the well-being goals? How do those stakeholders reflect the diversity of the area?</b>
(The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves)	<p>The stakeholders involved in the project board includes childcare providers and organisations, including those who support families with children who have additional learning needs, and Welsh language organisations.</p> <p>Wellbeing of the target audience/users is a strong focus, where the education and care of the child is of the utmost importance to the local authority. However, it remains the choice of the parents as to what part of the proposed pilot ECEC system they access, where and when. The well-being of the parents is also a focus of this scheme, ensuring that childcare costs are not a barrier to accessing work or training.</p>

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<b>Section 2      Assess how well your project / activity will result in multiple benefits for our communities and contribute to the national well-being goals (use Appendix 1 to help you).</b>		
<b>Description of the Well-being goals</b>	<b>How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?</b>	<b>Is there any way to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?</b>
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.	The pilot ECEC will support children's early years' experience of both education and childcare alongside parents in employment and those wishing to return to employment to meet the costs of childcare, which can often be seen as a barrier. It is hoped that more flexible education and funding for holiday childcare will remove barriers and continue to allow parents to take advantage of the additional financial benefit and/or return to work.	The engagement and promotion of the pilot ECEC system will be vital to ensure all parents are aware of this more flexible approach and where parents in the ECEC pilot areas who are eligible for funded childcare in the holiday periods feel able to access the support, if they so wish.
<b>A resilient Wales</b> A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).	Children and families benefiting from the pilot ECEC system will be well placed to support this wellbeing goal based on the activities delivered by the range of educare providers.	Promotion of the pilot ECEC system across the County borough will assist in maximizing the benefits of the natural environment based on the activities delivered by education and childcare providers.
<b>A healthier Wales</b> A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.	Parents in the identified pilot ECEC areas will receive financial support for childcare costs to offer to reduce or remove the financial barriers to returning to work can, in many cases, benefit the health and well-being of the household, both mentally and	The engagement and promotion of the pilot ECEC approach will be vital to ensure those parents who are eligible are accessing the support, if they so wish.  Evaluation of the scheme will be

	<p>physically.</p> <p>Uptake of early years' education in Bridgend is highly effective. This pilot of ECEC will potentially enhance provision which could enable children to discover environments that they have not had experience of before, broadening their horizons and benefitting their well-being.</p>	<p>undertaken by both Bridgend County Borough Council officers and Welsh Government officials to measure the impact that this has had on families.</p>
<p><b>A more equal Wales</b></p> <p>A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</p>	<p>The pilot ECEC universal scheme will become incrementally available and support all parents. The background of families is not relevant to eligibility the ECEC pilot.</p> <p>The ECEC pilot will incrementally allow all parents both working and those not in work to meet their potential by removing the financial constraints of holiday childcare whilst at work, empowering them to remain in, extend or return to the workplace.</p>	<p>With the ECEC pilot designed to become incrementally universal Bridgend will move away from the current position where only children who are in a household of working parent(s) are able to access the funded school holiday provision within the Childcare Offer. (In household consisting of two parents, both must work. If the household consists of a single parent, they must be in work.)</p> <p>There are however currently other grants managed by the local authority's childcare team that could be considered for support of children during this interim period for ineligible families to access childcare, minimising any negative impact this may have on certain families and/or communities.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b></p> <p>Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>	<p>Early years' provision and education is often at the centre of a community, particularly if it is attached, or in close vicinity to, a school building. Communities with a range of schools and childcare provisions are often thriving and further</p>	<p>Sufficient childcare is a statutory duty of the local authority. The local authority ensures this duty is met by focusing childcare development in areas of need and identified in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA). The Childcare Team</p>

	educare development will be a focus of the designed ECEC pilot system.	is well established and has staff with experience and expertise in this area, allowing the required development to be supported effectively.
<b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.	The pilot ECEC supports greater flexibility for parents who wish to access provision in the medium of Welsh. It is a priority of the Childcare Team on behalf of BCBC to ensure that enough places are secured to meet this demand. This includes the development of four Welsh-medium childcare provisions strategically placed across the county. These developments will ensure that parents will be able to access the childcare in the Welsh language and encourage parents who have not yet made a decision to consider Welsh-medium provision.	Promotion and engagement is underway regarding the Cymraeg 2050 capital programme, ensuring that communities have an input into the additional services on offer in the Welsh language.
<b>A globally responsible Wales</b> A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.	This scheme will offer positive outcomes to the people of Bridgend and Wales. Having a thriving, successful and resourceful Bridgend and Wales will make a positive contribution to global well-being.	Promotion and maximising take-up of the education and childcare will improve economic social environmental and cultural well-being.

**Section 3**

**Will your project / activity affect people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Explain what will be done to maximise any positive impacts or minimise any negative impacts**

Protected characteristics	Will your project / activity have any positive impacts on those with a protected characteristic?	Will your project / activity have any negative impacts on those with a protected characteristic?	Is there any way to maximise any positive impacts or minimise any negative impacts?
Age:	Yes	No	.
Gender reassignment:	No	No	
Marriage or civil partnership:	No	No	
Pregnancy or maternity:	No	No	
Race:	No	No	
Religion or Belief:	No	No	
Race:	No	No	
Sex:	No	No	
Welsh Language:	Yes	No	

<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Identify decision meeting for Project/activity e.g. Cabinet, Council or delegated decision taken by Executive Members and/or Chief Officers</b>
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Cabinet
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<b>Compiling Officers Name:</b>	Mark Lewis
<b>Compiling Officers Job Title:</b>	Group Manager –Family Support
<b>Date completed:</b>	March 2021

# Early Childhood Education Care Workshop Options 21 January 2020

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Option	Who is it for?	Which provision could parents choose from?	What would it cover?	What would it cost?	What are the potential benefits?	What are the potential risks?
<b>Option 1</b> 'Do nothing'	Status quo					
<b>Option 2</b> 'All for all parents'  30 hours to all parents of 3 and 4 year olds at any setting from term after their 3 <sup>rd</sup> birthday for 48 weeks	All parents – working and non-working	Any provision – non-maintained or schools for both 3 and 4 year olds	Term time and holiday provision	% take up ceiling where the pilot becomes unaffordable would be 65% - 70% excluding additional ALN costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple to communicate</li> <li>• Gives parents more choice</li> <li>• Provider neutral</li> <li>• Easier to administer</li> <li>• No children miss out.</li> <li>• Gives parity of access to all</li> <li>• Additional value to current offer is clear to WG</li> <li>• Delivers quickly on ECEC vision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it affordable?</li> <li>• Cost pressures around take up/ALN/other (eg free school meals and transport)</li> <li>• Creates expectations for parents that are difficult to step away from</li> <li>• Capacity to deliver new places in non-maintained and schools limited</li> <li>• Schools may lose out if can't offer childcare</li> </ul>
<b>Option 3</b> 'All for	Working parents only –	Any provision – non-maintained or schools for	Term time and holiday provision	Minimal financial risk to BCBC as the £3.5m should	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides savings on current offer</li> <li>• Fits with focus of current</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less generous than current Bridgend offer for non-working parents</li> </ul>

<p>working parents only'</p> <p>30 hours to working parents of all 3 and 4 year olds at any setting from term after their third birthday for 48 weeks</p>	<p>same criteria as current childcare offer</p>	<p>both 3 and 4-year-olds</p>		<p>cover the additional costs.</p>	<p>childcare offer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives parents more choice</li> <li>• Provider neutral</li> <li>• Potential to change make up of provision – non-maintained start to offer early ed and schools start to offer childcare</li> <li>• Provides a step towards ECEC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-working parents lose access to free school nursery provision</li> <li>• Parental choice may result in some providers losing children</li> <li>• Less children benefitting from early education</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 4</b></p> <p>One year scoping exercise</p>	<p>Welsh Government officials have indicated that the pilot could be delivered over a longer timescale, with the first year focusing more on scoping the pilot and working with settings to understand the implications on the ground.</p> <p>Additional funding would be provided towards the staffing and engagement costs associated with this, though this would be lower than £3.5m. The specific parameters of this approach would need to be determined, but the available funding would not exceed £1m.</p>					



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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

#### SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

#### MYNYDD CYNFFIG PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- apprise Cabinet on the outcome of the feasibility study in respect of locating a proposed 2 form-entry (FE) plus 75-place nursery replacement Mynydd Cynffig Primary School on the junior site; and
- seek approval to undertake a statutory process in respect of the proposal.

#### 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**:

- **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 focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
- **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 deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

#### 3. Background

3.1 In April 2009, Cabinet approved a number of individual projects that emerged from a feasibility study, which reviewed 3 to 18 learning provision in the Cefn Cribwr, Cornelly, Kenfig Hill and Pyle area. Approval was received to progress a project to cater for a proposed amalgamation of the then Mynydd Cynffig Infant and Junior Schools.

3.2 In December 2010, the Council's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme was submitted to Welsh Government (WG) and a replacement Mynydd Cynffig Primary School scheme was identified as a

Band A project. In 2011, the project was again confirmed as a priority Band A scheme in a further SOP submission to WG.

- 3.3 A feasibility study was undertaken in 2011 to establish the most suitable site for the primary school. That study considered the establishment of primary provision on Mynydd Cynffig Infant and Junior Schools' sites plus the site of Cynffig Comprehensive School, the outcome of which determined that the preferred site was that of the Junior School.
- 3.4 Following the establishment of Mynydd Cynffig Primary School in September 2015, a decision was made to undertake further feasibility work to explore the potential of remodelling Cynffig Comprehensive School, in order to accommodate Mynydd Cynffig Primary School at that location.
- 3.5 The feasibility study showed that Cynffig Comprehensive School site allowed for suitable alternative solutions to the critical issues of sufficient developable area and appropriate site access. It also offered sufficient space to develop a 2-form entry (FE) school plus nursery and remove some secondary surplus places.
- 3.6 The outcome of the feasibility study was reported to Cabinet in July 2016 and approval was provided to commence the consultation process to relocate the primary school to the secondary school site.
- 3.7 The outcome of the consultation was reported to Cabinet in January 2017. The community strongly opposed the proposal and Cabinet determined to consider a counter proposal from the objectors (ie to locate the new school on the school's junior site).
- 3.8 In March 2017, the outcome of a review of the 2011 feasibility study and the counter proposal was reported to Cabinet together with concerns regarding revised budget estimates for the new school development at the secondary school site. Cabinet determined to abandon the proposal, as there was insufficient funding available to take forward the scheme at the comprehensive or junior site.
- 3.9 In October 2017, Cabinet approved Bridgend's Band B priorities and agreed that further feasibility work would be undertaken for a replacement Mynydd Cynffig Primary School which, depending on the outcome and available funding, could be delivered as a priority scheme in Band C.
- 3.10 In November 2019, the Mynydd Cynffig Primary School's infant site suffered a catastrophic failure of its heating system and the repair forced the temporary closure of the school building.
- 3.11 A subsequent building condition survey reduced the school from its previous condition, that is 'C', to a category 'D' (ie 'Bad – life expired and/or at risk of imminent closure, requiring significant immediate/urgent works'). The nature and assortment of the disrepairs highlighted within the survey made isolated repair works to individual fabric elements at the school extremely challenging and economically unfeasible. As a result of the health and safety risk to pupils

and staff, it was agreed that the school building would close and alternative teaching accommodation would be provided as a matter of urgency.

- 3.12 Funding was made available through the capital programme to procure temporary accommodation.
- 3.13 On 30 June 2020 Cabinet approval was received to reprioritise Band B, bringing forward the replacement school scheme for Mynydd Cynffig Primary. Approval was received to submit a revised SOP to WG to reflect this and for officers to commence an options appraisal and feasibility study for the proposed replacement primary school.
- 3.14 In September 2020 the outcome of the options appraisal process was reported to Cabinet and approval received to undertake a feasibility study on Mynydd Cynffig Primary School's junior site.
- 3.15 In December 2020, the Strategic Outline Business Case received Ministerial approval.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 The feasibility study has concluded. The most notable advantage of developing the site is that its entirety falls within BCBC ownership. There is potential to increase the developable area by incorporating adjacent allotment gardens and leased areas, subject to relocating these facilities. These additional areas could add a potential 1.85 acres to the site which would ensure it is of a sufficient size to accommodate an aspirational 2FE school (ie one which meets the maximum recommended area in Building Bulletin guidance). Community ties to a school at that location would be maintained and can be enhanced. Removing the existing split site nature of the school allows staff and learners to be located on one site.
- 4.2 As stated at paragraph 4.1, BCBC land adjacent to the site is required to ensure there is sufficient developable area. One site is used by the Air Training Corp (ATC) and is subject to a lease dated 9 January 2004, which was granted to the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales for a term of 20 years from 25 February 2003. This expires on 24 February 2023. The tenant has a right to a lease renewal upon expiry of the lease. However, a statutory notice can be served by the Council to bring the tenant's occupation to an end. As the Council is redeveloping the site, there is a statutory process to follow. There is a risk that the tenant may challenge the statutory notice. Compensation in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 will be applicable once the tenant has vacated the property.
- 4.3 The legal position in respect of the lease is clear. However, to successfully bring the lease to an end, there must be a genuine intention to demolish the premises. The council is not obliged as landlord to source the tenant alternative accommodation; the council can support the ATC where reasonably possible to ensure they are able to continue their function within the local community area.
- 4.4 An initial high-level search of the locality with local agents has not yielded any obvious solutions, however to carry out a more meaningful search, on behalf of

the ATC, officers would need to understand their requirement more fully. Consideration could also be given to incorporating their usage into any new development. Both these elements will be progressed if approval to the wider scheme is given.

- 4.5 The second site is allotment gardens which occupy 1.5 acres of land and are located to the north east of the junior site. The Pwlllygarth Allotment Association occupy the site under an Agreement dated 29 September 1976. However, there is no copy of the Agreement available. The allotments are not statutory allotments as the land was acquired for educational purposes as part of the larger site acquisition for the junior school by Mid Glamorgan County Council. It is proposed that the allotments are relocated to a new area within the site. Officers would enter into discussions with Pwlllygarth Allotment Association at the appropriate time and support the relocation to the new allotments, which would be provided as part of the overall school development project.
- 4.6 Restrictive covenants affecting the land will not prevent the development of the new school.
- 4.7 Registration of a strip of land located between the school building and playing field has now been completed and BCBC has been granted possessory title. However, work is still required to extinguish the highway rights on the land and a stopping up order is necessary.
- 4.8 In terms of providing a new school building and amenities, these would be fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The original buildings and play areas have both become in need of repair. From a parental perspective, learners can be brought to and collected from the same school site. Teacher and support staff expertise can be shared across the foundation phase and key stage 2 more effectively as all would be based at one site. Transition plans for pupils can be carried out more effectively and resources can be deployed more efficiently as all would be based at one site.
- 4.9 The local authority has employed third party consultants to undertake a transport assessment (TA) and they have provided the following narrative in respect of their findings: 'The proposed access design is unlikely in itself to change the conclusions relating to the highway capacity assessments carried out to-date. However, we note a slight increase in the reported number of staff that would be parking at the school as well as being dropped-off/picked up compared to the original assumptions. This would need to be tested for consistency purposes. In terms of safety we have noted that the area is not prone to present accident black spots, even in proximity of the school site. The concerns about learners and general public safety relating to the growth in traffic demand at the school would be mitigated by the access design provisions along Pwlllygath Street where a new 3.5m wide footway (set back from the road) would provide an improved walking route to/from the school as well as waiting space outside the school. Furthermore, parking restrictions along Pwlllygath Street, coupled with car mounted enforcement cameras, would dissuade on street parking in front of the school. Parking demand for school pick-ups in particular is likely to spill over onto nearby streets if it cannot be accommodated along Pwlllygath Street and at the drop-off facilitates within the school. Likely

outcomes are that vehicles would need to park further away from the school as spaces nearby are limited; this means that in the short term congestion may be experienced as people try to park as close as possible to the school. In the medium to long-term. However, the time spent searching for parking may dissuade people from travelling by car to the site, especially if living within one mile of the school'. A School Travel Plan will be developed by the school in order to encourage and support a whole-school approach to active and sustainable travel. It must be noted that local authority Highway officers have not assessed the TA; the assessment will be undertaken in due course.

- 4.10 A site investigation has been undertaken. No concerns were raised in relation to the ground conditions and there are minimal contamination issues. The site is made up of a series of separate parts all with differing plateau levels, and some which slope significantly, and this could result in a 'split-level' solution being necessary. The complicated nature of the existing site layout along with the requirement to relocate the allotments and to demolish existing buildings, will result in a phased development which will extend the construction period. Radon levels at the site are such that only basic radon protection is required, and no other gas emissions were detected in the borehole standpipes.
- 4.11 Infiltration tests confirmed that soak away drainage cannot be used and some other Sustainable Urban Drainage method will have to be utilised. Coal Authority records show that the site of the proposed school is not in an area that would be affected by ground movements from historic or proposed mine workings. However a mine entry is recorded to the north west of the site and the direction of the entry runs under the site. The mine entry will not affect ground stability but the possibility that the entry might allow mine gasses to infiltrate the site has to be investigated. If found, this would be mitigated through design.
- 4.12 In January 2021, a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was undertaken consisting of a desk study and field survey. A number of recommendations were made to mitigate against affecting the species present at the site. However, the report concluded that providing the recommendations are successfully implemented, it should be possible for the development to proceed without there being long-term impacts on the key protected species present at the site.
- 4.13 The Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) mapping database suggests that there are separate foul and surface water networks located within the highway adjacent to the school. It is likely that the existing school site is also served by separate foul and surface water drainage networks. Infiltration tests have been undertaken as part of the site investigation have proved infiltration is not viable, therefore surface water will be disposed to the public sewer utilising either the existing connections serving the school or new foul and surface water connections points to the DCWW public sewerage system located within the highway. Separate foul and surface water pumping stations may be required depending on proposed site levels serving the new development and invert levels of the existing sewerage system. Discharge rates to the existing public

sewers will be determined by DCWW with surface water attenuation provided to cater for the 1 in 100yr + 30% CC storm event. Sustainable drainage features will be incorporated into the design to ensure compliance with the sustainable drainage legislation.

- 4.14 Corporate Landlord Department has provided the following information in respect of the infant site. Comprising of 1.92 hectares (ie 4.74 acres) which includes the playground (although retention or replacement of the playground would be essential in this locality), the site would be marketed on the assumption of a residential use. However, this assumption is subject to overcoming a number of factors which will impact the likely disposal value.
- 4.15 The site is currently allocated for education use and the adjacent land as an informal recreation area and children's playground in the Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space Audit 2017. Therefore, the assumption of a residential use is subject to Planning, as well as a number of other site constraints including highways access and ecology issues.
- 4.16 Independent specialist valuation advice has been sought and the value is considered to be in the range of £150k - £450k. The higher range of the value is based upon the assumption that the land would be suitable for a residential use and of suitable density to make it viable. The lower value is based upon abnormally high demolition and site clearance costs that make allowance for the amount of asbestos containing materials and subterranean mechanical and electrical systems. There is also the potential for access issues that may impact upon future development densities on site. The possibility of a 'land swap' arrangement with the ATC and the Allotment Association, which would involve part of the vacated infants school site, could be investigated should it not be possible to relocate them to a new area within the new development site.
- 4.17 Initially, in determining the size of school required, officers had identified the need for 60 nursery places. However, it is recognised that there is a need for an additional 15 full-time equivalent (FTE) nursery places to be provided for rising 3's.
- 4.18 In light of the above comments, it is considered that the Mynydd Cynffig Primary School junior site presents an appropriate and beneficial location for development of the proposed primary school. The site allows for suitable solutions to the critical issues of sufficient developable area and appropriate site access and technical officers are of the opinion that solutions can also be applied to other issues which may be encountered.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken which established that the proposal is unlikely to negatively impact on any protected group. There have been positive impacts identified, including gender and age as detailed in the

table above. As there have been no negative impacts identified, it will not be necessary to undertake a full equalities impact assessment.

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

7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment provides a comprehensive summary of the outcomes expected from the implementation of the service.

Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fulfils the Council's statutory duty to provide sufficient pupil places.</li><li>• Allows teaching and learning to take place on one site, assisting with sharing expert knowledge and resources.</li><li>• Supports the day-to-day management and operation of the school.</li><li>• Helps parents with drop-off and pick-up arrangements, as all pupils will attend one site.</li></ul>
Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safeguards the Council's position in terms of any potential legal challenge regarding the supply of school places.</li></ul>
Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensures that the curriculum can be delivered from a purpose built facility that meets social, environmental and cultural objectives.</li></ul>
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Works effectively with schools and many internal and external partners to ensure that the building meets the short-term and future needs of users and the community that it will serve.</li></ul>
Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engagement of potential stakeholders including Cabinet, members, governors, staff, pupils, community, internal and external partners.</li></ul>

## **8. Financial implications**

8.1 In December 2018, the Council approved a programme envelope of £71.3m, covering Band B new school builds of £68.2m and potential highways works of £3.1m (the cost of highway works will have to be met in full by the local authority, as there is no match funding from WG). Following subsequent amendments to the capital programme, the current position is that there are budgets of £49.504m for works and £3.4m for infrastructure within the capital programme, with the remaining schemes funded via the revenue funded Mutual Investment Model (MIM).

8.2 £10.2m has been allocated in the Capital Programme for this project and the WG intervention rate is 65%. The additional 15 FTE places for rising 3's would need to be funded from BCBC capital and would form part of the total project costs. Contractor inflation and the impact of Covid-19 and 'Brexit' may have a



detrimental impact on the scheme costs. However, this would be monitored and reviewed regularly throughout the course of the project. Any changes to the total cost of the scheme or council contributions will be reported back to cabinet and council as appropriate.

- 8.3 The scheme, should it go ahead, could generate revenue cost efficiencies as a consequence of moving from multiple sites to a single site. The exact amounts are difficult to quantify at present as they will form part of the annual formula funding process. Any potential revenue costs involved with moving allotments and ATC would be minimal.
- 8.4 The cost of the feasibility study has been funded from the Band B revenue feasibility funding allocation.

## **9. Recommendations.**

9.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- note the outcome feasibility study; and
- give approval to commence a statutory consultation process to enlarge Mynydd Cynffig Primary School to a 2FE school, plus a 75-place nursery to be located on the junior site and open with effect from September 2025.

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**19 October 2021**

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## **Background documents**

Where appropriate, all relevant reports are in the public domain.

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING

##### NOVATION OF CONTRACTS WITHIN ADULT SOCIAL CARE

### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- (i) seek authority to modify the following existing contracts in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule 3.3.4:
  - For the Provision of a Specialist Supported Living provision for people with a learning disability and complex challenging behaviour, including autistic spectrum conditions (at Condors Rest);
  - Supported Living Framework Agreement 2020-2024; and
- (ii) to seek consent to novate the service level agreement

For the provision of a Short Term Respite & Recovery Service for carers with Hafal

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

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

- **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.
- **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

#### Dimensions UK

3.1 Dimensions UK currently have two contracts with the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate:

- (i) Provision of a Specialist Supported Living provision for people with a learning disability and complex challenging behaviour, including autistic spectrum conditions (at Condors Rest)
- (ii) Supported Living Framework Agreement 2020-2024

Both contracts were awarded to Dimensions-UK following a procurement process for each contract in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

3.2 The details of the contracts are as follows:

**Condor's Rest Specialist Supported Living Contract:**

Contract commencement date: 01/04/2018

Expiry date: 31/03/2022 with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months

The Provider runs a Specialist Supported Living (Closer to Home) Scheme for 4 Individuals. 24 Hour daily care and support is provided 365 days per year, with just over 500 hours per week of service time, at a cost of approximately £8,350 per week.

**Supported Living Framework Agreement:**

Contract commencement date: 01/04/2020

Expiry Date: 31/03/22 with the option to extend for up to a further 24 months

There is no service delivery attached to this Framework Agreement, which functions as a contractual arrangement to invite the Provider to tender for subsequent Call-off contracts under the Framework.

- 3.3 Dimensions UK has undertaken a corporate restructuring exercise. Under the auspices of the parent company Dimensions-UK, a subsidiary company has been established – Dimensions Cymru Limited – for the purpose of registering with Care Inspectorate Wales and delivering local and regional services in Wales. Dimensions Cymru was incorporated with Companies House on 24 March 2020.
- 3.4 On 10 May 2021 BCBC received a formal request to novate the two contracts detailed above from Dimensions-UK to Dimensions Cymru, to ensure that all business and contractual matters come under the responsibility of Dimensions Cymru.
- 3.5 Both contracts have provision allowing the provider to transfer the contract with the consent of the Council.

Hafal

- 3.6 The Council entered into a service level agreement (SLA) with Hafal for the provision of a Short Term Respite & Recovery Service for carers. The SLA commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and is due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months. The value of the SLA is £34,217 per annum.
- 3.7 On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, Hafal merged with three other charities to become Adferiad Recovery Ltd.

3.8 On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 BCBC received a formal request from Hafal to novate this SLA to Adferiad Recovery Ltd following the merger.

3.9 The SLA contains a provision allowing the provider to transfer the contract with the written consent of the Council.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

##### Dimensions UK

4.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) 3.3.4 provides that contracts and framework agreements may be modified without requiring a new procurement procedure where:

*"a new Contractor replaces the one to which the Council had initially awarded the Contract as a consequence of:*

*(i) an unequivocal review clause or option in conformity with Rule 3.3.1, or  
(ii) universal or partial succession into the position of the initial Contractor, following corporate restructuring, including takeover, merger, acquisition or insolvency, of another economic operator that fulfils the criteria for qualitative selection initially established, provided that this does not entail other substantial modifications to the Contract and is not aimed at circumventing the application of the Public Contract Regulations 2015;"*

4.2 The Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate has carried out due diligence on both Dimensions-UK (as Parent Company) and Dimensions Cymru to ensure that the subsidiary company meets the requirements of the original criteria for qualitative selection initially established in the respective tenders for both contracts. Dimensions Cymru has completed and returned the qualifying tender criteria and was found to have fulfilled the requirements for selection.

4.3 It is therefore proposed that the Council consents in writing to the proposed novation of the two contracts, listed in Paragraph 3.1 above, from Dimensions-UK to Dimensions Cymru Ltd.

##### Hafal

4.4 Due diligence has been carried out on Adferiad Recovery Ltd to ensure Adferiad Recovery Ltd meet the requirements for the SLA and they fulfill those requirements.

4.5 The overall nature and terms of the SLA will not be altered by entering into this novation.

4.6 There are currently no concerns in respect of the services being provided by Hafal and Dimensions Cymru Ltd and therefore it is considered that there are no operational risks in novating the SLA and Contracts.

#### **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no impact upon the policy framework and procedure rules. Approval is being sought to modify the following existing contract and framework agreement in accordance with CPR 3.3.4 of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules:
- (i) Provision of a Specialist Supported Living provision for people with a learning disability and complex challenging behaviour, including autistic spectrum conditions (at Condors Rest)
  - (ii) Supported Living Framework Agreement 2020-2024

## 6. Equality Act 2010 implications

- 6.1 Initial EIA screenings have identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

- 7.1 Novation of the contracts supports the five ways of working under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, as follows:

**Long Term** – novating the contracts will enable the continuity of the service and staff to individuals in receipt of the service.

**Prevention** – the services support people to continue to live independently in their own tenancies in their local community and maintain their relationships with staff who currently deliver the services.

**Integration** – the service providers will continue to work with individuals to be supported to access their local community where required.

**Collaboration** – the services will continue to collaborate with partner agencies who provide specialist support.

**Involvement** – the services support individuals to be involved in the delivery of their care and support.

## 8. Financial implications

- 8.1 **Dimensions UK:** The ongoing cost for the Specialist Supported Living contract at Condor's Rest will continue at circa £8,350 per week, or circa £435,370 per annum, for the duration of the existing contract which expires on 31/03/2022, with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months. Novation of this contract will have no effect on estimated costs.
- 8.2 **Dimensions UK:** There is no cost related to the Supported Living Framework Agreement, as there is no active service delivered from the Framework Agreement until Stage 2 Call-off contracts have been awarded under it. Novation of this contract will have no effect.
- 8.3 **Hafal:** The value of the SLA for Short Term Respite & Recovery Service for Carers is £34,217 per annum for the 12 month duration of the SLA which expires on 31/03/2022, with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months. Novation of this SLA will have no effect on estimated costs.

## 9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- Authorises the modification of the existing contract with **Dimensions-UK** in relation to the provision of a **Specialist Supported Living provision at Condors Rest** by consenting to the novation of that contract to **Dimensions Cymru** in accordance with CPR 3.3.4;
- Authorises the modification of the existing contract with **Dimensions-UK** in relation to the **Supported Living Framework Agreement** by consenting to the novation of that contract to **Dimensions Cymru** in accordance with CPR 3.3.4;
- Delegates authority to the Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing to provide written consent to the above novations and enter into deeds of novation with Dimensions-UK and Dimensions Cymru Limited in consultation with the Interim Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer and Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy and to arrange execution of the deeds of novation on behalf of the Council, subject to such delegated authority being exercised in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy;
- Authorises the novation of the SLA for the provision of a **Short Term Respite & Recovery Service for Carers** from Hafal to **Adferiad Recovery Ltd**;
- Delegates authority to the Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing to provide written consent to the novation of the SLA for the provision of a Short Term Respite and Recovery Service for Carers in consultation with the Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change and Section 151 Officer and Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy .

**Claire Marchant**  
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**October 2021**

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**Background documents:**  
None

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

#### VARIATION TO THE OLDER PEOPLE PARTNERSHIP S33 AGREEMENT

#### RELEASING SERVICE CAPACITY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE TEAM

##### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request approval to vary the current Overarching Partnership Agreement for integrated community services with Cwm Taff Morgannwg University Health Board to include provision for a pilot scheme utilising Health Care Support Workers within the Community Resource Team. The intention of the pilot scheme is to seek to mitigate the current risks linked to reduced service capacity due to the inability to recruit to vacant social care worker posts.

##### 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**:
- **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.
  - **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 During the transition arrangements for the health board boundary change, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) signaled a commitment to continue to work in partnership to deliver intermediate care services for Adult and Older People's Services. Following negotiation in terms of the content and structure of this agreement the formal partnership agreement took effect from 1st April 2019.

##### 4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 It is forecast that the long-term impact of COVID-19, alongside the already known pressures of an ageing population, increasing dementia rates and more complex



and challenging needs is going to result in increasing demands on already pressurised services.

- 4.2 The demands on care and support at home services are significantly increasing, care at home hours delivered in August 2021 were 7-8% greater than those hours provided in April 2020, before the pandemic took effect.
- 4.3 Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, demand has increased for both hospital and community services and both are operating under significant pressure.
- 4.4 Difficulties in recruiting to social care support posts mean that current resources are not adequate to meet the increasing demand, therefore creating bottlenecks at critical service points that have resulted in reduced flow within the hospital and community systems.
- 4.5 The reported difficulties in recruitment does not seem to be affecting our Health Board partners to the same degree.
- 4.6 In order to maintain and deliver safe, timely and efficient health and social care, there is an urgent need to work in partnership with CTMUHB to increase service capacity.
- 4.7 In August 2021, a report was written for the Bridgend Integrated Locality Group triumvirate and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) Adult Social Care with a proposal that CTMUHB recruit 4 Whole Time Equivalent (6 x 25 hr contracts) band 2 Community Health Care Support Workers (HCSW) into the current integrated Community Resource Team (CRT) structure to provide support for people to reduce the need for social care input. The aim of this was releasing social care capacity within the current system and therefore improve the availability of short-term assessment care packages within the locality.
- 4.8 As a joint venture, it is proposed that this pilot follows similar management procedures that are in place for existing joint arrangements within the CRT.
- 4.9 The HCSW's will comply with CTMUHB policies and procedures and be accountable to their Local Authority/CTMUHB line manager within CRT.
- 4.10 The HCSW's will meet regularly with their CRT Line Manager for clinical and operational support.
- 4.11 The proposed pilot will be monitored closely by the lead for CRT who will report on its effectiveness in terms of quality, safety and people experience outcomes.
- 4.12 After seeking legal advice within the Health Board and BCBC it has been recommended that a variance under the current Section 33 Agreement be initiated.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no direct impact on the Council's policy framework and procedure rules. The pilot scheme is being undertaken under a variance to the current Section 33 agreement for Community Integrated services.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

- 7.1 The proposal to pilot the use of Community Health Care Support Workers within the community resource team supports the five ways of working under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, as follows:

**Long Term** – the proposal aims to have a positive impact on service delivery by bringing additional capacity in community services to release beds in hospital that are occupied due to people being unable to access care and support. This releases capacity within the hospital to undertake interventions on acutely ill people.

**Prevention** – Community Resource Team services are essential preventative services that aim to mitigate the need for more costly residential care placement, where individuals are supported to maintain independence and live in their own homes for as long as is possible and appropriate to do so.

**Integration** – the Community Resource team is an integrated service governed under a Section 33 agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

**Collaboration** – the proposal is founded on close collaboration between the primary care, community services and secondary health services.

**Involvement** – Key stakeholders have been involved to help shape the proposal to ensure a co-productive resolution to the current recruitment difficulties.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 It is proposed that the posts within the pilot, which is planned to commence in November 2021, are funded from the eleven 20 hr Support Worker vacancies currently within the CRT services. This will require cross charging between the agencies which is a current monthly activity for other posts within the integrated community services.
- 8.2 The proposed posts are benchmarked at Band 2 £18,005- £19,337 pro rata. The BCBC vacancies are on a Grade 5 which is £20,092 pro rata and therefore sufficient to cover the costs.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- considers the contents of this report, the current challenges this proposal aims to mitigate; and
- delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Social Services and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Interim Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change and the Chief Officer, Legal, HR & Regulatory Services, to negotiate and enter into a variation agreement to the Overarching Partnership Agreement for the integrated community services with Cwm Taff Morgannwg University Health Board Board to include provision for a pilot scheme utilising Health Care Support Workers within the Community Resource Team in accordance with the proposal set out in this report.

**Claire Marchant**  
**Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing**  
**October 2021**

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**Background documents:** None

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

### COSY CORNER TOURISM ATTRACTOR DESTINATION FUNDING

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress of securing funding through the Tourism Attractor Destination Programme to take forward a project on Cosy Corner, Porthcawl, and to accept an offer of funding and enter into required agreements.

#### 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. **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 In October 2020 Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) were informed that Credu Charity Ltd had filed notice of intention to appoint administrators and had been informed by Welsh Government of the withdrawal of funding for what was known as The Maritime Centre project, funded through the Visit Wales Tourism Attractor Destination Programme (TAD). As a result of this BCBC terminated the agreement for the lease relating to the Maritime Centre at the Cosy Corner site.
- 3.2 Following discussion with Welsh Government, officers undertook an outline appraisal of the short to medium term options available to BCBC to seek to access possible funds through the TAD programme for Cosy Corner.
- 3.3 In December 2020 the following were proposed to, and agreed by, Cabinet as a set of guiding principles for the way forward, based on information available at the time:
- Desire to ensure funding allocated for Cosy Corner is retained for Cosy Corner. There is potentially funding still available through the TAD programme for Cosy Corner
  - Adopting a partnership approach with key stakeholders

- Taking action in a suitable timeframe
- Minimising the period of time that Cosy Corner remains in its current condition
- Minimising the on-going maintenance requirements and costs for BCBC
- Enhancing the tourism offer of Porthcawl

3.4 Should funding be available through the TAD programme the following were proposed as potential outcomes, depending on resources available:

- Improvements for use by community organisations, in particular the Sea Cadets
- Improvements to the local economy and tourism offer, in particular small retail / start up spaces
- Improvements for Marina users, in particular storage and changing facilities
- Improvements for use by the wider community, in particular a Changing Places facility, children's free play area, public seating, public realm/landscaping and an outdoor event space

These options were based on information known at the time and are therefore subject to change and are by no means definitive.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 In December 2020 Cabinet authorised the Corporate Director Communities to develop and submit a proposal to access possible resources for improvements to Cosy Corner through the TAD programme.
- 4.2 Cabinet also agreed to receive a further report relating to the detail of any funding offer if successful and, should it be required, recommend to Council an update to the Capital programme.
- 4.3 A proposal was submitted to Visit Wales and the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) in January 2021 based on the principles outlined in section 3.3 and the potential outcomes outlined in section 3.4.
- 4.4 In February 2021 BCBC received confirmation from Welsh Government that WEFO had completed the assessment of six of the nine criteria for assessment of operations /projects and requested that further information be supplied in order to complete the remaining assessment stages, which are cross cutting themes, value for money and financial and compliance.
- 4.5 In addition WEFO and Welsh Government have requested confirmation of match funding and confirmation of State Aid cover.
- 4.6 In March 2021 Cabinet authorised the Corporate Director Communities to proceed at risk with the development of the remaining information required by WEFO and Welsh Government and to utilise the already agreed direct match funding of £384,615 to do so in order to secure a potential £1m grant, resulting in a capital project budget of £1,384,615.
- 4.7 In May 2021 BCBC concluded a procurement exercise and appointed architects with the required consultancy support to progress the project. The architects began producing the remaining information required by WEFO and Welsh Government taking the project up to RIBA stage 3 with the intention of giving greater cost certainty,

confirmation of the level of match funding required, confirmation of deliverables for which State Aid cover would need to be considered and a forecast delivery profile.

- 4.8 At the end of 2020-21 a £500,000 earmarked reserve was established for the project, therefore increasing the available capital project budget to £1,884,615. This updated capital budget was approved by Council at its meeting in June 2021.
- 4.9 BCBC have now received an updated cost plan from the design team. The cost plan update for the building design has been based on prices in August 2021 and in order to ensure sufficient contingency to support mitigation measures that respond to price fluctuations £230,000 was identified in August 2021 from the Strategic Regeneration Fund (SRF). This funding is already within the capital programme and does not require separate Council approval.
- 4.10 The project must be completed by December 2022 which creates a tight timescale for delivery. Based on the project values above a delivery profile and confirmation of match funding was submitted to WEFO and WG in August 2021 to minimise the risk of losing the resources available through the TAD programme.
- 4.11 WEFO and Welsh Government have now confirmed an offer of £1,000,000 funding towards a total project cost of £2,114,615. The remaining funding of £1,114,615 will be provided from BCBC resources as outlined above. Authority is now sought to accept the offer of funding and to enter into required agreements to progress the project.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no direct impact on the Council's policy framework and procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

- 7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment Template has been completed and a summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is below:
- Long-term: By seeking to secure funds for future improvement of Cosy Corner, BCBC is seeking to improve the area beyond its current condition for use and access in the long-term.
  - Prevention: Seeking resources to undertake improvements to Cosy Corner will ensure that the condition of the site does not deteriorate further.
  - Integration: The proposal will achieve this way of working by recognising the approaches that are proposed for support are those that have been identified by

internal and external stakeholders and the proposal itself will integrate with other existing activity in the area.

- Collaboration: Future action on Cosy Corner as outlined above will take place in collaboration with partners through the Harbour Operational Group and the Harbour Board.
- Involvement: Proposals relating to the future of Cosy Corner will be developed and delivered in close partnership with key stakeholders. Discussions and development with key BCBC officers will be undertaken.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 A proposal was submitted to WEFO and Welsh Government in August 2021 based on a capital programme budget of £2,114,615. It was proposed that this value included £1,000,000 grant and £1,114,615 match funding from BCBC. The match fund is made up of £384,615 via the Communities Directorate public realm budget, £500,000 from earmarked reserves and £230,000 from the SRF. An offer of funding on this basis has now been received by BCBC.
- 8.2 Should Cabinet not be minded to accept the offer of funding outlined in 8.1, then a further report will need to be presented to Cabinet that sets out what options may be available to take forward on Cosy Corner without the TAD funding. Any re-designed scheme would incur additional design costs and may result in a completion date later than December 2022. In addition, any costs incurred to date may be abortive costs and need to be met from the Council's budget.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet delegates authority to the Corporate Director Communities, in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy and the Interim Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change to accept the offer of funding to deliver the Cosy Corner project as part of the Visit Wales Tourism Attractor Destination Programme.

**Janine Nightingale**  
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**19 October 2021**

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**Background documents:**  
Cosy Corner, Cabinet report, 9 March 2021  
Cosy Corner, Cabinet report, 15 December 2020

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

### INFUSE PROGRAMME

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Cabinet on progress in developing the Cardiff Capital Region Challenge Fund and Infuse Programme and to request approval to enter into a Partnership Agreement with Monmouthshire County Council for the Infuse Programme.

#### 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. **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 In October 2020, the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) Cabinet approved the £10m CCR Challenge Fund to focus on local wealth re-building in a post-COVID state, through solving societal challenges that will have economic impact and potential commercial-scale opportunities. The purpose of the Fund is to demonstrate how applying innovation to big challenges can promote novel solutions and radical improvements.
- 3.2 Following approval of the Outline Business Case by the CCR Cabinet in June 2020, the CCR Challenge Fund team conducted, a "Challenge Hack", in July 2020 with political leaders and senior officials from the CCR Local Authorities to further refine the thematic areas. Three priority themes emerged, and these were:

- accelerating decarbonisation – flood, transport and public estate;
- community cohesion – town centres and high streets; and
- wellbeing – food and health/ food security

These priority themes will deliver against the Challenge Funds key objectives:



- solve the greatest societal challenges across the region;
- deliver economic impact for the region;
- drive commercial scalable opportunities;
- create innovative solutions; and
- build local wealth.

3.3 The Infuse Programme has been designed alongside this to develop innovation skills and capability alongside consideration of the changes and challenges we are facing, so that learning and value is applied and can continue to spread and scale. Infuse received approval from CCR Cabinet in October 2020 and WEFO approval in November 2020.

3.4 The Infuse Programme will introduce officers to new process and concepts and provide a safe and supported environment for them to try them out by:

- Demonstrating how new skills, tools and different ways of thinking can help solve shared regional challenges by taking a collaborative approach
- Developing new tools and methods that participants can take on and use outside of the Programme to improve future service delivery – creating efficiencies, saving money or improving the impact of service delivery for the people who use and deliver them
- Ensuring better trained and equipped public servants that can develop their knowledge and practice so that they can take new skills back into their own organisations and share them with other colleagues

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

4.1 The Infuse Programme will take a challenge-led approach, by identifying two thematic areas of high importance to the Cardiff Capital Region, for example looking at problems and opportunities linked to Decarbonisation. The Themes are the focus for each of the three work streams:

- Research and development - finding ways to test new ideas to understand what works and what does not
- Data for decision making - making the most of the vast amount of data that's available to people, by making better-informed decisions that improve public services
- Procurement – simplifying the process for procuring innovative goods and services and creating a culture and an environment for change

4.2 The Infuse Programme will be led by Monmouthshire County Council, as Lead Beneficiary, with the CCR Challenge Fund aspect directed by CCR City Deal team. Whilst the finances for each of the programmes will be operated and managed separately and in line with WEFO and CCR Terms and Conditions, the two elements will come together operationally and will align to present one comprehensive and complementary programme. It is envisaged that project ideas that come from the Infuse cohorts will be channelled into funding applications into the CCR Challenge Fund, so ideas that are identified regionally can have local impact.

4.3 The programme has been developed in partnership with the ten regional CCR Local Authorities, the CCR City Deal Office, Y Lab (Wales' Public Service Innovation Lab),

Cardiff University and Nesta (the UK Innovation Foundation). Monmouthshire County Council will be the manager of the Programme.

- 4.4 This comprehensive programme of activity has been designed to run for three years until December 2023. While participants will work within one of the three work streams identified above (R&D, Data or Procurement), there will be opportunities for collaboration and sharing between teams and in-depth engagement with senior leaders. This will ensure that the right level of buy-in and leadership support for the programme is secured to enable it to be successful over the long-term.
- 4.5 Through a series of cohorts, it is intended that a target of 120 officers from across the region will be involved on the three year period of the programme. Officers will be recruited, via open call at regular intervals, to form a number of small teams (2-3 per cohort) that will take on collaborative projects that will help them to develop and test new skills, whilst working towards solving a shared challenge.
- 4.6 It is anticipated that there will be the creation of six cohorts (three sequential cohorts per theme), estimating that each of the ten Local Authorities in the region will commit to a member of staff, from a range of disciplines, for one to two days per week for a period of 3-6 months. This will enable staff to complete the work envisaged in the adaption, data and procurement labs, to develop solutions within the two themes and generate sufficient match funding to release the requested level of ESF.
- 4.7 In order to participate fully in the Infuse Programme, BCBC is required to enter into a Partnership Agreement as a Joint Beneficiary with Monmouthshire County Council, along with the other Joint Beneficiaries. The other Joint Beneficiaries are Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Torfaen County Borough Council, Newport City Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Cardiff University and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.
- 4.8 Infuse requires an organisational shift to innovation. This requires the whole organisation and all layers of management involvement. Infuse recognises that a problem needs to be framed correctly, this requires many lenses, those of the operational day to day involvement right up to strategic level, different viewpoints consider different perspectives and priorities. All challenges considered as part of the programme are around public service delivery and therefore the staff delivering these services are often best placed to identify, frame and start to focus on potential solutions.
- 4.9 The learning captured by the Infuse participants will be captured by the programme's continuous improvement evaluation, additionally case studies will be released and shared with all joint beneficiaries as examples of best practice become clear. There will also be other opportunities to share the learning through webinars and workshops. The learning of those who go through the programme can be the catalyst to a wider innovation culture change with the Infuse Associates, having the Alumni for support, championing innovation throughout the region.
- 4.10 Negotiations are currently taking place with the parties over the final terms of this Partnership Agreement. Therefore, Cabinet approval is sought to delegate authority to the Corporate Director Communities to negotiate and agree the final terms of the

Partnership Agreement in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy and the Interim Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change and, subject to such agreement, to enter into the Partnership Agreement. If, following negotiations, final terms cannot be agreed between the parties or any perceived risks to BCBC exist that cannot be removed or mitigated then BCBC will not continue to take part in the Infuse Programme.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no direct impact on the Council's policy framework and procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

- 7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment Template has been completed and a summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is below:

- Long-term: Although the Programme is funded for a limited period of three years the solutions that will be developed will impact longer term in relation to developing a broader skills set throughout the public sector within the CCR.
- Prevention: The Programme will enable officers to apply into the CCR Challenge Fund the focus of which is providing economic support for local economies in the sectors hardest hit by the economic fallout of COVID-19 – public transport, food, tourism and retail/ leisure and hospitality.
- Integration: The Programme aligns with the Well Being of Future Generations Act and the wellbeing goals as well as the five ways of working. It focuses on understanding and solving societal problems, by using innovative techniques whilst sharing learning at a regional level.
- Collaboration: The Programme is a partnership across the public, third and academic sectors. Benefits will be felt across the whole CCR.
- Involvement: The content of the Programme has been developed with CCR Local Authority Officers and Members.

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 The decision is to accept an offer to be part of the Infuse Programme along with the nine other Local Authorities in the Cardiff City Region and sign associated funding agreements as a joint beneficiary. Monmouthshire County Council are the lead beneficiary and will be the recipient of the funding. BCBC contribution will be in the form of staff match time in kind. Signing as a joint beneficiary does not create a legally binding agreement between a Joint Beneficiary and the Welsh Ministers.

- 8.2 The total financial value of the programme, which will be managed by Monmouthshire County Council is set out in table 1 below.

**Table 1 – Infuse Programme value**

Eligible Expenditure - ESF	£3,228,278
Ineligible expenditure – ESF (where applicable)	£0
ESF maximum Financial Support (EU grant) payable:	£2,421,206
Total anticipated match funding	£807,072
Rate of Financial Support (as a percentage of ESF Eligible Expenditure (revenue)):	74.99%
Flat rate financing for Indirect Costs	40%
Total Cost of the Operation	£3,228,278

- 8.3 BCBC's contribution to the project will be in the form of staff match time in-kind. It is anticipated there will be the creation of six cohorts (three sequential cohorts per theme), estimating that each LA will commit to a member of staff, from a range of disciplines, for one to two days per week for a period of 3-6 months. This will enable staff to complete the work envisaged in the adaption, data and procurement labs, to develop solutions within the two themes and generate sufficient match funding to release the requested level of ESF. If sufficient match funding is not generated to support the programme then the overall programme envelope will need reviewing, and maybe reducing, to ensure that sufficient grant can be drawn down to cover the costs of the programme. This may result in a smaller project.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 9.1.1 note the progress in developing the Cardiff Capital Region Challenge Fund and Infuse Programme;
- 9.1.2 delegate authority to the Corporate Director Communities, in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy and the Interim Chief Officer, Finance, Performance and Change to agree and approve the terms of the Infuse Partnership Agreement any further deeds and documents which are ancillary to that agreement and to arrange execution of those agreements on behalf of the Council.

**Janine Nightingale**  
**Corporate Director - Communities**  
**19 October 2021**

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**Background documents:**  
None

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

### CAERAU HEAT SCHEME

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on recent activity in relation to the Caerau Heat Scheme and to seek approval to change the scope of the Caerau Heat Scheme and submit a re-profile of the project to the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO).

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

- 2.1. This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective/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. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Caerau Heat Scheme was established as a highly innovative project that proposed to extract heat from water contained within flooded former coal mine workings, to provide a resource for properties within Caerau. The water would be transported via a network of pipes to the properties with the temperature being boosted to the residents required level by a ground source heat pump.
- 3.2. The innovative nature of the project has presented several challenges most notably how to commercially use mine water as a resource, how to secure customers to a heat network largely serving the housing market and how to create a commercially affordable and viable project.
- 3.3. In June 2021 a report was taken to Cabinet detailing options for taking forward the Caerau Heat Scheme. The decision taken by Cabinet was to progress with

a blended option of a demonstrator mine water scheme, serving the school, and a heat network with an alternative heat source serving homes and a private wire connection from the wind farm.

#### **4. Current situation / proposal**

- 4.1. Following the decision made by Cabinet at its meeting in June 2021 further work was undertaken on the approved proposal in order to inform the re-profile of the project business plan to WEFO. This work identified a number of challenges facing the project and so a re-profile has not yet been submitted.
- 4.2 Work undertaken since the June 2021 report has identified a number of challenges such as financial viability after the inclusion of business rates, domestic customer sign up to the heat network, meeting the project delivery target date of June 2023 and the delivery of a financially viable project.
- 4.3 Each of the challenges presented in section 4.2 were reviewed and assessed for the impact on the approved option for project progression.

##### ***Challenge 1: Business Rates***

- 4.4 For the Caerau Heat Scheme to proceed in line with the option approved by Cabinet in June 2021 an exemption from Welsh Government for the application of business rates to the project would be required. No such exemption for heat network projects exists in Wales and consequently the project is not financially viable if business rates are included.

##### ***Challenge 2: Domestic Customer Sign Up***

- 4.5 An engagement event with residents on the Tudor Estate was held in July and showed an interest in the scheme but also highlighted the difficulty in recruiting 100 homes to the project in a limited time period in order to deliver a commercially viable project.

##### ***Challenge 3: Meeting June 2023 Delivery Target***

- 4.6 In order to fully utilise the ERDF funding the Council has to complete the project by June 2023. In order to secure the number of customers needed and then procure and construct the scheme as well as obtain business rates relief financial viability is not achievable in the timeframe required by the ERDF funding.

##### ***Challenge 4: Delivery of a Financially Viable Project***

- 4.7 Full relief from business rates as well as 100 homes connected to the heat network element of the project are required in order for the project to be considered financially viable. The further work undertaken following the decision of Cabinet in June 2021 shows that it is not possible to achieve either of these elements within the project timescales and therefore it would not be a financially viable scheme.

4.8 Consequently, alternative options were investigated and it is considered that the only options now suitable for progression are:

- Option A: close the project, or;
- Option B: remove the Tudor Estate heat network element of the project and deliver a mine water demonstrator project with a private wire arrangement from the wind farm providing a lower cost supply of electricity to the heat pump at Caerau Primary School.

4.9 Closing the project would be the option only if it was not possible to deliver a viable project centered on the school. WEFO would need to agree that this option still aligns with the criteria of the funding and consequently, Cabinet approval is sought to prepare and submit to WEFO a re-profile, based upon Option B, which would be a mine water demonstration project centered on the school using a heat pump and a private wire connection to the local wind farm.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1. There is no direct impact on the Council's policy framework and procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

6.1. An initial EIA screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

7.1. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment Template has been completed and a summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is below:

Long Term: The project will provide a key opportunity to deliver a decarbonised heat system that support efforts through an innovation project to meet the UK decarbonisation targets.

Prevention: The project will provide an opportunity to test mine water as a heat resource which will inform future potential heat projects in Caerau that could assist the village to decarbonise.

Integration: The project will offer carbon reductions and assist the school in meeting its 2030 Net Zero Public Sector target by creating a template that is using local resources (mine water and wind) to decarbonise and create economic opportunities through a clearly identified value chain



Collaboration: BCBC is working with both UK Government and Welsh Government as well as private sector partners to deliver the decarbonisation agenda.

Involvement: The project involves working with a variety of stakeholders to deliver sustainable solutions around the creation of a holistic decarbonisation solution for Caerau Primary School.

## 8. Financial implications

- 8.1. The total scheme cost, as approved by the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO), is £9,732,922, split between capital and revenue as set out in the table below. This also shows the funding sources for the scheme.

<b>Caerau Heat Scheme</b>	<b>Total cost</b>	<b>ERDF grant approved</b>	<b>Other grants &amp; service charges</b>	<b>BCBC contribution</b>
	£	£	£	£
Capital	7,827,791	6,293,463	366,218	1,168,110
Revenue	1,905,131	1,002,782	529,308	373,041
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,732,922</b>	<b>7,296,245</b>	<b>895,526</b>	<b>1,541,151</b>

- 8.2 The figures presented in the above table are based around the project as it was considered to be at the last re-profile. The re-profile developed around Option B (as presented in section 4.8) will have a new set of figures that will be presented to the Section 151 Officer for agreement ahead of submission to WEFO.
- 8.3 A report would then be presented to Cabinet at a future date to update on the outcome of the WEFO re-profile and to outline next steps in respect of the scheme, including financial implications.

## 9. Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
- Approves the change to the Caerau Heat Scheme as detailed in sections 4.8 and 4.9 of this report being to remove the Tudor Estate heat network element of the project and deliver a mine water demonstrator project with a private wire arrangement from the wind farm providing a lower cost supply of electricity to the heat pump at Caerau Primary School;
  - Delegates authority to the Corporate Director Communities, in consultation with the Chief Officer - Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate and the Section 151 Officer to agree and submit the Scheme re-profile to WEFO based on the changes to the Caerau Heat Scheme outlined in sections 4.8 and 4.9 of this report;

- Notes that a further report shall be presented to Cabinet following the outcome of the submission of the re-profile to WEFO

**Janine Nightingale**  
**Corporate Director, Communities**  
**19<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

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**Background documents:**

None

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

#### EXTENSION TO CONTRACT FOR BUS SERVICES 65 AND 70

##### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to approve the modification of an existing contract to allow for a 12 month extension to Service No. 65 (Bridgend to Talbot Green via Heol-y-Cyw) and Service No. 70 (Bridgend to Cymmer via Maesteg) in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 3.3.6.

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

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being-objectives.

##### 3. Background

- 3.1 Bus Service No. 65 and Service No. 70 are funded through the Welsh Governments 'Bus Services Support Grant' (BSSG), with the funding administered and distributed by Monmouthshire Council (Lead Authority). Both services are classed as regional bus services, operating into other local authority areas.
- 3.2 This contract was awarded for a 12 month period, and started on 01 November 2016 to 31 October 2017 (with options to extend for periods of up to Twelve (12) months each, and up to a maximum extension period available of Forty Eight (48) months).
- 3.3 The current contract is due to expire after 31 October 2021.

##### 4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 Bus travel has been severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic with passenger numbers plummeting, whilst social distancing and additional cleansing requirements have placed added burdens and costs on operators. Early engagement was undertaken with the Corporate Procurement Team to consider available options as to the retendering or extension of the contract. It was identified that the market would be disrupted due to the impact of the pandemic and that the pace of recovery would dictate the appropriate renewal / extension process and a wait and see approach may be appropriate in the first instance.

- 4.2 During 2021 Welsh Government have stepped in to support the sector with substantial financial assistance. The sector is still trying to recover but the current emergency with restrictions still in place on public transport in Wales, and numbers not recovered to pre pandemic levels, means any current tendering process will be affected by the current restrictions within the sector. Concerns have been raised through ATCO (Association of Transport Co-ordinating Officers) about the current situation with retendering bus services. Reduced patronage following COVID-19 is very likely to increase tendered contract costs significantly in any subsequent procurement processes undertaken in the present circumstances.
- 4.3 To seek to avoid the above it is proposed to extend the current contract for a further 12 months on the basis of the same level of remuneration and during which time the contract will be retendered. It is likely that an indexation increase may be applied during the period, with calculations shared by a neighbouring Authority (Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council), using the most current information supplied by the Confederation of Passenger Transport and the Office of National Statistics.
- 4.4 The Council's CPR rule 3.3.6 provides that existing contracts may be modified without the requirement for a new procurement procedure:
- Where the value of the modification is below both of the following values:—
- (i) the relevant applicable financial thresholds contained in the Regulations, and
  - (ii) 10% of the initial Contract Value for service and supply Contracts and 15% of the initial Contract Value for works Contracts,
- provided that the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract.
- 4.4 The initial contract value of the existing contract was £2.3 million. The proposed modification would increase the contract value by £187,227. That increase in value is less than 10% of the initial contract value, is below the relevant applicable financial threshold for the procurement of service under the Public Contract Regulations which is currently set at £189,330 and would not alter the overall nature of the contract.
- 4.5 In accordance with CPR rule 3.6 approval must be sought from Cabinet for any modification of an existing contract where the value of the modification exceeds £100,000.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no effect upon Policy Framework or Procedure Rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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

7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment Template has been completed and a summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is outlined below in respect of the proposal:

- **Long-term**  
The provision of regional public transport bus services provides more suitable and sustainable modes for travel for the public.
- **Prevention**  
Provision of bus services assist persons from being isolated in communities with access to services and employment.
- **Integration**  
Provision of bus services assist access to services for the travelling public
- **Collaboration**  
The service is provided as cross boundary provision between local authorities and the wider capital region.
- **Involvement**  
Provision of services provides connection of communities to employment and services.

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 The financial cost for the provision of the services is fully funded from the Bus Services Support Grant.

## **9. Recommendation**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

9.1 Approve the modification of the bus service contract in accordance with CPR 3.3.6 to allow for a 12 month extension of the contract for Service No. 65 and Service No. 70 from 01 November 2021.

**Janine Nightingale**  
**Corporate Director – Communities**  
**October 2021**

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**Background documents:** None

## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET

20 OCTOBER 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER - LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY

#### FORWARD WORK PROGRAMMES

##### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for items to be included on the Forward Work Programme for the period 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022 and for Cabinet to note the Council and Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes for the same period.

##### 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 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Forward Work Programme will be prepared by the Monitoring Officer to cover a period of four months except when ordinary elections of councillors occur, in which case the Forward Work Programme will cover the period up to the date of the elections.
- 3.2 The Forward Work Programme will contain matters which the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and full Council are likely to consider. It will contain information on:



- (a) the timetable for considering the Budget and any plans, policies or strategies forming part of the Policy Framework and requiring Council approval, and which body is to consider them;
- (b) the timetable for considering any plans, policies or strategies which are the responsibility of the Cabinet;
- (c) any individual matters on which the Cabinet intends to consult in advance of taking a decision, and the timetable for consultation and decision;
- (d) the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, to the extent that it is known.

3.3 The Forward Work Programme will be published at least 14 days before the start of the period covered. The Authority is required to publish once a year a notice in at least one newspaper circulating in the area, stating that a Forward Work Programme will be published and giving the publication dates for that year.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

4.1 The proposed Forward Work Programmes are described below:

- Cabinet 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022 - **Appendix 1**
- Council 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022 - **Appendix 2**
- Overview and Scrutiny 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022 - **Appendix 3**

4.2 In relation to the Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programme above, the dates of Overview and Scrutiny Committees to consider the Medium Term Financial Strategy in December 2021 are likely to change, due to the late publication of the provisional Local Government Settlement by Welsh Government.

4.3 Following consideration by Cabinet, the Forward Work Programmes will be published on the Council's website.

#### **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1 There are no implications relating to the policy framework and procedure rules.

#### **6. Equality Impact 2010 Implications**

6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

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

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 There will be a translation cost of approximately £60 for each quarterly update of the Forward Work programme when it is published on the Bridgend County Borough Council Website. These will be met from within existing budgets.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- Approve the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for the period 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022 at **Appendix 1**;
- Note the Council and Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes for the same period as above, shown at **Appendix 2** and **Appendix 3** of the report, respectively.

**Kelly Watson**

**Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy  
October 2021**

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**Background documents:** None

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**CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME - 1 NOVEMBER 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
<b>16 Nov</b>	<b>General Supported Living Call-Off Contracts</b>	<b>Claire Marchant</b> Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 Email: <a href="mailto:Claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk">Claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>16 Nov</b>	<b>Annual Air Quality Progress report</b>	<b>Kelly Watson</b> Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy Tel: 01656 643248 Email: <a href="mailto:Kelly.watson@bridgend.gov.uk">Kelly.watson@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>16 Nov</b>	<b>Levelling Up Fund Update</b>	<b>Janine Nightingale</b> Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 Email: <a href="mailto:Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk">Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

Date	Title of Report	Contact Officer
16 Nov	Replacement Local Development Plan – Revised Delivery Agreement	Janine Nightingale Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 Email: <a href="mailto:Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk">Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
16 Nov	Amendment To The Financial Procedure Rules (FPRs) Within The Council's Constitution	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
14 Dec	Regulated Care and Support at Home Framework	Claire Marchant Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 Email: <a href="mailto:Claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk">Claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
14 Dec	Harbour Byelaws	Janine Nightingale Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 Email: <a href="mailto:Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk">Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
14 Dec	Outcome of the Consultation 'Shaping Bridgend's Future'	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

Date	Title of Report	Contact Officer
18 Jan	Budget Monitoring 2021-22 – Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
18 Jan	Fraud Risk Assessment Anti-Tax Evasion Policy	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
18 Jan	Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
18 Jan	Capital Programme Update - Quarter 3 2021-22	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
18 Jan	Treasury Management - Quarter 3 2021-22	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

Date	Title of Report	Contact Officer
18 Jan	High Street and Retail Rates Relief Scheme 2022-23 ( <i>provisional</i> )	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
8 Feb	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Draft Budget Consultation Process	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
22 Feb	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
22 Feb	Corporate Plan 2018-2023 reviewed for 2022-23	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
22 Feb	Capital Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy 2022-23 Onwards	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

Date	Title of Report	Contact Officer



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## APPENDIX 2

**COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME - 1 NOVEMBER 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
<b>17 Nov</b>	<b>Replacement Local Development Plan – Revised Delivery Agreement</b>	Janine Nightingale Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 Email: <a href="mailto:Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk">Janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>17 Nov</b>	<b>Amendment To The Financial Procedure Rules (FPRs Within The Council's Constitution)</b>	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>17 Nov</b>	<b>Council Tax Base 2022-23</b>	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>19 Jan</b>	<b>Capital Programme Update – Quarter 3 2021-22</b>	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
<b>19 Jan</b>	<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022-23</b>	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

Date	Title of Report	Contact Officer
19 Jan	Re-appointment To The Standards Committee	Kelly Watson Chief Officer, Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy Tel: 01656 643248 Email: <a href="mailto:Kelly.watson@bridgend.gov.uk">Kelly.watson@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
23 Feb	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 To 2025-26	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
23 Feb	Corporate Plan 2018-2023 Reviewed For 2022-23	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
23 Feb	Capital Strategy And Treasury Management Strategy 2022-23 Onwards	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
23 Feb	Council Tax 2022-23	Gill Lewis Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 Email: <a href="mailto:Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk">Gill.Lewis@bridgend.gov.uk</a>

**APPENDIX 3****OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 1 NOVEMBER 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
10 Nov	<b>Workforce including Stress related sickness</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	Claire Marchant, Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk
10 Nov	<b>Embedding strength based practice in adult and children's services</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	Claire Marchant, Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk
24 Nov	<b>Infrastructure Delivery (including roads, street lights, building and technology)</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	Janine Nightingale, Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk
1 Dec	<b>Budget Monitoring 2021-22 – Quarter 2 Revenue Forecast</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
1 Dec	<b>Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Budget Proposals</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
1 Dec	<b>Q2 Performance Report 2021-22</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk

Date	Title and Description of Report	Scrutiny Committee	Contact Officer
1 Dec	<b>Annual Safeguarding Report</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Claire Marchant, Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk
1 Dec	<b>Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
8 Dec	<b>Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Budget Proposals</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
13 Dec	<b>Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Budget Proposals</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
16 Dec	<b>Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Budget Proposals</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
12 Jan	<b>Corporate Plan 2018-2023 reviewed for 2022-23</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
12 Jan	<b>Capital Strategy 2022-23 onwards</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
12 Jan	<b>Replacement Local Development Plan</b>	Subject	Janine Nightingale, Corporate Director

Date	Title and Description of Report	Scrutiny Committee	Contact Officer
		Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	Communities Tel: 01656 643241 janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk
12 Jan	<b>Scrutiny Recommendations on Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Draft Budget Consultation Process</b>	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer - Finance, Performance and Change Tel: 01656 643302 gill.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk
17 Jan	<b>How Schools coped with the Pandemic</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director Education and Family Support Tel: 01656 642612 lindsay.harvey@bridgend.gov.uk
17 Jan	<b>Youth Justice Service</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1	Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director Education and Family Support Tel: 01656 642612 lindsay.harvey@bridgend.gov.uk
2 Feb	<b>Progress in delivering priorities for wellbeing, leisure and cultural services in Bridgend</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	Claire Marchant, Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk
2 Feb	<b>Mental Health Strategy</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2	Claire Marchant, Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing Tel: 01656 643248 claire.marchant@bridgend.gov.uk
16 Feb	<b>Transport Projects in the County Borough</b>	Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3	Janine Nightingale, Corporate Director Communities Tel: 01656 643241 janine.nightingale@bridgend.gov.uk

Date	Title and Description of Report	Scrutiny Committee	Contact Officer

## REPORT TO CABINET

19 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICE, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY

#### SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with the Shared Regulatory Services Annual Report for 2020-2021 for noting.

#### 2. Connection to corporate improvement 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**:
- **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.
  - **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 In April 2015, Bridgend County Borough Council, Cardiff Council and the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council signed a Joint Working Agreement (JWA) for the provision of regulatory services across the three Council areas. The document underpins the work of the Shared Regulatory Service (SRS) and the SRS Joint Committee.
- 3.2 The Cabinet Member for Well-being and Future Generations and the Chair of the Licensing Committee are the two Bridgend County Borough Council representatives on the SRS Joint Committee following appointment by the Council.
- 3.3 In accordance with the JWA, the SRS is required to produce an Annual Report that covers the operational and financial performance of the service for the preceding year.



- 3.4 In March 2017, the Council ratified the insertion of a new clause into the JWA to enable each partner authority's Cabinet to receive the SRS Annual Report, for information purposes.
- 3.5 A copy of the report considered and approved by the SRS Joint Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021, which incorporates the SRS Annual Report 2020-2021, is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 3.6 The SRS Annual Report 2020-2021 reflects upon the sixth year of operation of the SRS. It outlines the performance of the SRS in 2020-2021, the progress made in achieving the objectives set out in the SRS Business Plan, and the summary revenue account and statement of capital spending.
- 3.7 The management of key operational performance for Shared Regulatory Services in BCBC is the Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, Human Resources and Corporate Policy. The Client lead works closely with finance, legal and other service areas to ensure that the delivery of services is to the required level and, where required, improvements are implemented.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 The key aspects of operational performance across the region from the Annual Report are as follows:
- Sickness absence levels for 2020-21 were 6.32 days per FTE person. This is a decrease on the previous year where absence rates were recorded as 10.13 per FTE person. It is evident that the coronavirus pandemic has affected the sickness absence data in a number of ways. While the virus may have led to additional sickness absence, measures such as social distancing, shielding and increased homeworking appear to have helped reduce other causes of absence. Individuals who were advised to "shield" during the pandemic, together with government asking people to social distance and self-isolate, may have led to less exposure to germs and minimised some of the usual sickness absences. Homeworking could also allow people to work when they were a little unwell; they might not have travelled to a workplace to work but felt well enough to work from home.
  - The SRS reported an overall underspend against the 2020-21 gross revenue budget. The position for 2020-21 includes the achievement of a savings target of £166k required by the Partner Authorities from the 2020-21 budget. The previously forecast overspend position has been mitigated by a £493k contribution towards costs received from Welsh Government in respect of an animal welfare investigation. Covid-19 has also impacted on the income generating ability of the SRS. In 2020-21, £48k has been received from Welsh Government in respect of loss of income claims submitted.

- Additionally, £343k has been received from Welsh Government in respect of claims made against the Covid-19 Hardship Grant which funded the additional activities undertaken in the Covid Compliance and Enforcement teams. Three teams were created mid-year to cover the SRS region. The service has also supported the two Health Boards that cover the SRS region in the provision of the Test, Trace and Protect service, with unbudgeted expenditure recouped from Cardiff and Bridgend Councils TTP provisions.
- Consequently, the report advises on the draft financial outturn position of the Service, and the resulting impact this has for each of the Partner Authorities, appertaining to the provisional outturn position in respect of financial year 2020-21.
- Operational performance throughout 2020-21 has been reported both to the Joint Committee and to each partner Council through the legacy systems. Performance is gauged normally against the targets set out in the Business Plan. Unfortunately, a number of the targets and actions identified in the plan were not achieved. While all the statutory documents were published on time, the service did not complete many of the proactive programmes. Some of this was due to partner organisations being unable to progress matters, but the primary cause was the realignment of resource toward coronavirus work. The following paragraphs reference the key performance criteria and thereafter some commentary on the activities undertaken to control and reduce the spread of the virus.
- The SRS may, through the relevant participative Council, prosecute breaches of legislation, particularly in respect of those who flout the law or who act irresponsibly, or where there is an immediate risk to health and safety. In the period, the service has been successful in challenging a range of unfair practices, many of which attracted significant media attention. The time and work required investigating these matters, and the consequences of officers' ability to carry out day to day work whilst these matters are ongoing, is significant.
- The SRS has been active in the Courts and Appendix 2 of the Annual report sets out the successful interventions undertaken in the 2020-21 period.

4.2 The key operational implications for Bridgend County Borough Council are as follows:

- Public Accountability Measures –

- *PAM 023 – Food establishments - broadly compliant (%)*. This measure provides an indication of how well a food business complies with food hygiene legislation. The food industry is responsible for producing and distributing safe food. The Shared Regulatory Service, as the enforcement agency, conducts inspections, ensuring that standards are met through a robust enforcement programme to deal with those who do not comply with standards. Additionally, the business support regimes introduced into the SRS structure play a part in promoting an increase in hygiene standards, examples of that are set out under the Council's well-being objective of supporting the local economy. Premises are deemed to be broadly compliant if specified risk scores are achieved for cleanliness, structural issues, and confidence in the management of the business.

The number of premises that are broadly compliant with food hygiene requirements, i.e. scoring 3\* or above, is consistent with the previous year and in line with the UK average of 95%. The numbers associated with this indicator do carry a “*health warning*” for the year in that many of the premises scheduled for inspection were closed for much of this reporting period and some did not open at all. The number of food businesses with a food hygiene rating of more than 3\* in Bridgend during 2020/21 were:

- Bridgend 97.24% (*from 97.49% 2019-20*)

Moving forward, it is important to note that within the SRS region there has been a significant turnover of food business operators; there are over 1000 new food business enterprises that will require inspection in 2021-22. Many of these new entrants to the market do not attract immediately a broadly compliant rating and that may affect the overall broadly compliant score for the region. Additionally, a focus upon new businesses will impact the traditional risk assessed proactive programme.

- *PAM 13, Percentage of empty private properties brought back into use and PAM 45, the number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use*. These indicators have as their core purpose the aim of indicating the reduction in the number of empty properties as a consequence of action by the Council. The current performance measure guidance sets out the categories of direct action that local authorities can take to bring a property back into use, including grants, loans or other financial assistance, enforcement action including statutory notices and dialogue between the owner and the local authority where progress to restore the use of the property is evident. Officers from the SRS contribute a dedicated resource to bring empty properties back into beneficial use within Bridgend.

- In Bridgend interventions made by SRS have led to 4 properties listed in the Bridgend Council's top 20 priority properties becoming occupied in the last financial year, with a further 2 properties being sold and new owners engaging with the authority to bring the properties back into beneficial use. One other property is also being renovated. We continue to work with and encourage the owners of empty properties to bring them back into use, through enforcement action where necessary. Following the non-compliance with a Notice served under the Town and County Planning Act, SRS successfully completed the work in default and is continuing to encourage the owner to bring the property back into use. To further improve the information available on empty homes, the opportunity was also taken to overhaul the SRS webpages to provide comprehensive information to members of the public and empty property owners with a range of information on how to bring an empty property back into beneficial use. Furthermore, all auction houses with links to South Wales and local estate agents have been contacted and provided with 'A property owner's guide to empty homes' brochure and letter from the empty property co-ordinator introducing the services that Bridgend County Borough Council offer to empty property owners.

4.3 The SRS Business Plan is also aligned to the Council Corporate Plan and in 2020-21, some of the notable activities for the borough included:

- *Working with landlords to return empty properties back into use helping to increase the availability of affordable housing for sale or rent in Bridgend and Cardiff*

Officers from SRS in conjunction with Bridgend CBC aims to identify long-term vacant properties and encourage owners and landlords to bring their properties back into use through the provision of advice, support and encouragement.

The process entails sending a series of letters to the owners to encourage them to take positive steps to bring the property back into occupation. Owners are provided with 'A property owners guide to empty homes' brochure which outlines the options available and the services on offer.

Where there is a threat to public health and/ or a lack of cooperation from the owners, consideration will be given to the use of enforcement action to improve the condition of the empty property and secure its occupation.

The service offers empty property owners the opportunity to access the following services:

- Financial assistance in the form of grants and loans
- The provision of information to access a VAT reduction on renovation costs
- The provision of information and advice on how to sell or rent the property including legal requirements

- Access to potential developers in the area seeking to purchase empty properties to renovate or re-develop
- Access to housing associations who have the potential to acquire or assist with leasing long term vacant properties.
- *Licensing*

The Gambling Policy is currently undergoing its triennial review this year and will be reported to full Council in due course. Other policy developments in this time period include the Policy on Determining the suitability of Protective Screens in Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles as a consequence of the coronavirus outbreak and changes to the conditions for private hire operators and for vehicles used as taxis.

- *Food Safety*

In food safety, the movement of Wales to alert level 2 on May 17<sup>th</sup> saw the lifting of certain restrictions for businesses and in particular the ability for indoor hospitality to reopen its doors to the public. With a large number of outstanding food inspections, the service embarked upon a day of action in the town centre whereby officers inspected a street of food businesses in one week.

Social media was used to promote to businesses that the Food Service would be recommencing inspections and highlighted what steps needed to be considered to ensure compliance with food law. 14 inspections of businesses located on Nolton Street, Bridgend, were inspected for food hygiene and also food standards where appropriate during the week of 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021. 7 of the inspections were of new businesses, but despite this only 1 business was found to be less than broadly compliant with food safety law and issued a food hygiene rating of 1 and required to voluntarily close due to evidence of a pest infestation.

- *Air Quality*

During the year, SRS ensured that Bridgend County Borough Council met its statutory obligation under the Environment Act by producing the Air Quality Annual Progress Report 2020 which was considered by Cabinet in September 2020. The 2021 report will be considered by Cabinet in the coming weeks for submission to Welsh Government.

Despite some initial delays as a result of the Covid-19 restrictions, work continued through the year to deliver a robust air quality action plan for the Park Street, Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). In order to promote local air quality management and the decision to implement the AQMA, since December 2020 the public has had access to up-to-date air quality levels on Park Street. Real-time datasets for both Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter (recorded by the

automated air quality monitoring station now installed on Park Street) can be viewed and downloaded using a link from the BCBC website, or direct at [Site Air Pollution | Air Quality In Wales \(gov.wales\)](#)

The main objective of the AQAP is to achieve compliance with the set annual average air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide. Works are now underway to examine in detail the potential benefits of a preferred package of mitigation options including possible changes in signalling and road layout. The necessary modelling is being supported by external transportation and air quality consultants, and final results from this analysis are expected in autumn 2021, meaning that the public consultation can then go ahead on the draft Action Plan.

- *Prosecutions*

Several significant rogue builder or doorstep crime investigations concluded in court during 2020-21, despite the delays in the court process arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. Sitting behind each of these cases is a story of residents being defrauded of large sums of money; often life savings. The two case summaries below provide a flavour of the impact this offending had on residents of Bridgend county borough:-

### **Case 1**

The defendant callously targeted four elderly residents, convincing them that they needed roofing and other work carried out at their properties when they did not. In addition to conning four residents out of more than £30,000, the defendant was suspected of stealing approximately £13,000 in cash from the home of one of them, something he denied at first but subsequently admitted to. In court, the defendant was sentenced to a total of 40 months in custody in respect of a number of fraud and theft offences. There is a linked Proceeds of Crime case which is being pursued in the hope that it will realise some compensation for those affected by these dreadful crimes.

### **Case 2**

The defendant in this rogue builder case had previously pleaded guilty to one count under the Fraud Act 2006 and also to six counts of engaging in misleading commercial practices under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008. The offences related to the properties of multiple complainants between 2013 and 2018 where the defendant, who trades as a roofer, took substantial deposits from consumers for work that was of a poor standard, or was left incomplete or was never even started. In total the consumers lost money to the value of £16,784.36. The defendant was sentenced to 24 months, suspended for two years, and ordered to complete a 10 day rehabilitation requirement together

with 100 hours of unpaid work. Again, there is a linked Proceeds of Crime case and it is hoped that the residents affected will finally be compensated as a result.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

- 7.1 The SRS Annual report illustrates how the Council's regulatory function contributes to the national Well-being Goals through the delivery of the well-being objectives contained in the SRS Business Plan. The SRS operates in accordance with the five ways of working which are also reflected in the content of the plan. There is a strong emphasis on collaboration as the SRS recognises the need to work with partners to deliver services and improve local well-being.
- 7.2 The Annual report reflects the importance of prevention and this has been a strong theme in much of the activities to date, but also recognises that many of the issues are longer term matters, e.g. deprivation, climate change, an ageing population and physical and mental well-being. The involvement of partners and stakeholders in the development and delivery of the SRS functions is critical to its success as is the need to work in a more integrated way, recognising the connections across Council services and with other partners.

## **8. Financial implications**

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

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet note the Shared Regulatory Services Annual Report for 2020-2021.

Kelly Watson

Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, Human Resources and Corporate Policy

15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Contact officer:** Dave Holland

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**Telephone:** 07973 436863

**Email:** [dholland@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:dholland@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

**Background documents:**

None



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Meeting of:	<b>Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Tuesday, 22 June 2021</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Homes and Safe Communities
Report Title:	Shared Regulatory Services Annual Report
Purpose of Report:	To advise members on the performance and financial position of the Shared Regulatory Service for the 2020/21 financial year.
Report Owner:	Head of Shared Regulatory Services Head of Finance, Vale of Glamorgan Council
Responsible Officer:	Director of Environment and Housing
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Advice has been sought from the partner Councils
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shared Regulatory Service (SRS) is a collaboration between Bridgend County Borough Council, the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Council that commenced on the 1st May 2015, and is charged with the provision of Regulatory Services across the Authorities.</li> <li>• The Joint Working Agreement requires the Head of SRS and the Head of Finance to produce an Annual report which, once approved, by the Committee is forwarded to the partner Councils.</li> <li>• The report illustrates that the traditional reporting regimes and delivery of some statutory duties have been impacted significantly by the coronavirus outbreak. The consequences of the coronavirus will impact on 2021/22 performance and income.</li> <li>• The SRS is reporting an overall underspend against the 2020/21 gross revenue budget. The position for 2020/21 includes the achievement of a savings target of £166k required by the Partner Authorities from the 20/21 budget. The previously forecast overspend position has been mitigated by a £493k contribution towards costs received from Welsh Government in respect of an animal welfare investigation. Covid-19 has also impacted on the income generating ability of the SRS. In 2020/21, £48k has been received from Welsh Government in respect of income loss claims submitted.</li> </ul>	

- Additionally, £343k has been received from Welsh Government in respect of claims made against the Covid-19 Hardship Grant which funded the additional activities undertaken in the Covid Compliance and Enforcement teams. Three teams were created mid-year to cover the SRS region. The service has also supported the two Health Boards that cover the SRS region in the provision of the Test, Trace and Protect service, with unbudgeted expenditure recouped from Cardiff and Bridgend Councils TTP provisions.
- Consequently, the report advises on the draft financial outturn position of the Service, and the resulting impact this has to each of the Partner Authorities, appertaining to the provisional outturn position in respect of financial year 2020/21.
- The Draft Shared Regulatory Services Statement of Accounts 2020/21 is presented to Committee, to be signed by both the Chair of the Committee and the Section 151 Officer as Treasurer of the Committee, and to formally invite Welsh Audit Office to commence their audit of the account.

## **Recommendation**

1. That the Joint Committee approves the report and authorises the Managing Director, Vale of Glamorgan Council, to forward a copy of the report to the Heads of Paid Service for the other partner Councils.

## **Reasons for Recommendation**

1. To meet the requirements set out in Clause 5.1 of the Joint Working Agreement.

## **Background**

- 1.1 Under the Joint Working Agreement, the Shared Regulatory Service (SRS) is required to produce an annual report that covers the operational and financial performance of the service for the preceding year. Clause 5 of the Joint Working Agreement states:

"The Joint Committee shall receive in each year at its annual meeting which shall be held no later than 30th June the report of the Head of Regulatory Services and the Lead Financial Officer in respect of the functions delegated to the Joint Committee relating to the twelve months ending 31st March of that year and a copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Chief Executive of each Participant.

- 1.2 The report shall include:-

- (i) *A statement showing the performance of the Regulatory Service Functions and progress in achieving the Objectives and delivering the Business Plan.*

- (ii) *a summary revenue account and statement of capital spending including the distribution or use of any revenue surpluses and the financing of any capital expenditure"*

**1.3** This is the sixth report produced under this requirement and covers the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. If the content of this report is agreed, a copy of the report must be sent to the Head of Paid Service of each of the three Councils along with the SRS Business Plan for 2021/22. The report outlines many of the actions undertaken at each partner Council to deliver the wide range of statutory functions assigned to the Service. The report provides a review of operations across the service, a summary of the financial position, and outlines performance against the 2020/21 service objectives.

### **Operating the Shared Regulatory Service**

**1.4** The Shared Regulatory Service (SRS) operates across Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The SRS delivers a range of statutory services through a collaborative model that are critical to maintaining the health, safety and economic wellbeing of local communities. The operating model delivers an integrated service for the Trading Standards, Environmental Health and Licensing functions, which has three service delivery sectors focusing upon the customer rather than the traditional professional delivery model.

- Neighbourhood Services: activities relating to residential premises or having an impact on the local community.
- Commercial Services: activities relating to business premises (generally where national standards apply).
- Enterprise and Specialist Services: specialist areas of work and income generating services.

**1.5** As a regional organisation, providing regulatory services across three local authority areas, the SRS seeks to place the corporate priorities and stated outcomes of the three councils at the heart of all its activities. Using them as a focus, the strategic priorities for the Shared Regulatory Service:

- Safeguarding the Vulnerable
- Improving Health and wellbeing
- Protecting the Environment
- Supporting the local economy
- Maximising the use of resources

provide a robust base for achieving the outcomes identified in previous business plans and the partner Council's corporate aspirations. This reporting year however, saw much of the planned work deferred due to the impact of the coronavirus upon society

and most significantly the draw upon the SRS resource to support a massive public health response across the three Councils.

**1.6** The Joint Working Agreement, executed in April 2015, and updated in July 2017, underpins the entire service provision. The JWA contains a number of "milestones and requirements". In accordance with those requirements:

- The Wales Audit Office completed an independent financial audit of the service in September 2020; there were no recommendations for improvement.
- The service set its budget in December 2020 for the 2021/22 period. The Joint Committee recommended a standstill budget position given the coronavirus outbreak and the impact upon the service. That was agreed by the three Councils.
- The Business Plan for 2021/22 is presented for political approval in other papers to the June 2021 Committee.
- The Joint Committee will receive an audited statement of accounts for 2020/21 in September 2021.

## **2. Key Issues for Consideration**

**2.1** The 2019/20 Annual report illustrated that the SRS had delivered the requisite financial savings, and delivered the majority of the business plan actions. The Key Milestones set for 2020/21 were:

- *Delivery of the SRS Business Plan 2020-2021*
- *To review recruitment and retention processes to ensure that the SRS can attract and retain skilled officers*
- *To review the agile working arrangements for the service to ensure that technology is being exploited fully to improve service delivery.*
- *To monitor the implementation of new legislation and any requirements imposed by such legislation upon the Service. Generally new requirements can be planned for and effectively resourced, for example the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 the Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Act 2018, the Renting Homes Act 2019. However, it is not always easy to predict the impact that new legislation may have on resources. The uncertainty on membership of the EU has the potential to exacerbate such matters. The great uncertainty is the quantum of change and the unknown time scales within which that change must take place.*

**2.2** As the Business Plan was being drafted in 2020, coronavirus infections began to rise and the uncertainty around what would happen next was evident world-wide. Subsequently, the word unprecedented has appeared many times in the media and in

the quarterly reports to the Joint Committee in the last 12 months on the impact of the virus. This Annual report will address firstly the matters required by the Joint Working Agreement and then reflect upon the SRS activity during 2020/21 to challenge the spread of the coronavirus.

## **Human Resources**

- 2.3** There have been two significant HR matters to report in the last 12 months. The first has been the reassignment of officers into a range of different regulatory functions to support the public health initiatives. This included the Test Trace and Protect service (TTP), enhanced surveillance around care homes and schools, investigation of workplace clusters and more generally monitoring public health provisions in the workplace. The second has been the recruitment of almost 20 environmental health students using additional Welsh Government funding to bolster the SRS resource. Some of those students have now joined the permanent workforce and we are keen to offer as many of those students positions in the future. Their input has been impressive and they have played an active role in protecting the community.
- 2.4** The SRS Staff Survey undertaken in early 2020 identified the area of people development as an opportunity for improvement. The coronavirus has restricted the opportunities for face to face learning, but officers who enrolled on a range of courses in late 2019 have continued their studies remotely and a number have achieved examination success. This year, we will ensure that personal development is actively encouraged through the performance review process and through the provision of suitable development opportunities linked to SRS business objectives. We know that the majority of our officers are content with their employment within the SRS, and the challenge is now to retain and refresh the high calibre workforce we have for the years ahead
- 2.5** Sickness absence levels for 2020/21 were 6.32 days per FTE person. This is a decrease on the previous year where absence rates were recorded as 10.13 per FTE person. It is evident that the coronavirus has affected the sickness absence data in a number of ways. While the virus may have led to additional sickness absence, measures such as social distancing, shielding and increased homeworking appear to have helped reduce other causes of absence. Individuals who were advised to "shield" during the pandemic, together with government asking people to social distance and self-isolate may have led to less exposure to germs and minimised some of the usual sickness absences. Homeworking could also allow people to work when they were a little unwell; they might not have travelled to a workplace to work, but felt well enough to work from home.

## Operational Performance

**2.6** Operational performance throughout 2020/21 has been reported both to the Joint Committee and to each partner Council through the legacy systems. Performance is gauged normally against the targets set out in the Business Plan. Unfortunately, a number of the targets and actions identified in the plan were not achieved. While all the statutory documents were published on time, the service did not complete many of the proactive programmes. Some of this was due to partner organisations being unable to progress matters, but the primary cause was the realignment of resource toward coronavirus work. The following paragraphs reference the key performance criteria and thereafter some commentary on the activities undertaken to control and reduce the spread of the virus.

**2.7** The SRS has a role in two of the Council Public Accountability Measures; PAM 023 and PAM 013 and 045 for Cardiff and Bridgend.

- PAM 023 – Food establishments - broadly compliant (%). This measure provides an indication of how well a food business complies with food hygiene legislation. The food industry is responsible for producing and distributing safe food. The Shared Regulatory Service, as the enforcement agency, conducts inspections, ensuring that standards are met through a robust enforcement programme to deal with those who do not comply with standards. Additionally, the business support regimes introduced into the SRS structure play a part in promoting an increase in hygiene standards, examples of that are set out under the priority heading supporting the local economy. Premises are deemed to be broadly compliant if specified risk scores are achieved for cleanliness, structural issues, and confidence in the management of the business.

The number of premises that are broadly compliant with food hygiene requirements, i.e. scoring 3\* or above, are consistent with the previous year and in line with the UK average of 95%. The numbers associated with this indicator do carry a “*health warning*” for the year in that many of the premises scheduled for inspection were closed for much of this reporting period and some did not open at all. The number of food businesses with a food hygiene rating of more than 3\* in each authority area during 2020/21 were:

- Bridgend 97.24% (*from 97.49% 2019/20*)
- Cardiff 95.41% (*from 94.84 % 2019/20*)
- Vale of Glamorgan 97.53% (*from 97.37%% 2019/20*)

Moving forward, it is important to note that within the SRS region there has been a significant turnover of food business operators; there are over 1000 new food business enterprises that will require inspection in 2021/22. Many of these new entrants to the market do not attract immediately a broadly compliant rating and that may affect the overall broadly compliant score for the region. Additionally, a focus upon new businesses will impact the traditional risk assessed proactive programme.

- PAM 13, Percentage of empty private properties brought back into use and PAM 45, the number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use. These indicators have as their core purpose the aim of indicating the reduction in the number of empty properties as a consequence of action by the Council. The current performance measure guidance sets out the categories of direct action that local authorities can take to bring a property back into use, including, Grants, loans or other financial assistance, enforcement action including statutory notices and dialogue between the owner and the local authority where progress to restore the use of the property is evident. Officers from the SRS contribute a dedicated resource to bring empty properties back into beneficial use within Cardiff and Bridgend.

In Bridgend interventions made by SRS have led to 4 properties listed in the Bridgend Council's top 20 priority properties becoming occupied in the last financial year, with a further 2 properties being sold and new owners engaging with the authority to bring the properties back into beneficial use. One other property is also being renovated. We continue to work with and encourage the owners of empty properties to bring them back into use, through enforcement action where necessary. Following the non-compliance with a Notice served under the Town and County Planning Act, SRS successfully completed the work in default and is continuing to encourage the owner to bring the property back into use. To further improve the information available on empty homes, the opportunity was also taken to overhaul the SRS webpages to provide comprehensive information to members of the public and empty property owners with a range of information on how to bring an empty property back into beneficial use. Furthermore all auction houses with links to South Wales and local estate agents have been contacted and provided with 'A property owner's guide to empty homes' brochure and letter from the empty property co-ordinator introducing the services that Bridgend County Borough Council offer to empty property owners.

In Cardiff 63 properties were returned to use or new units created as a result of empty homes work. This is a result of a combination of both proactive and reactive work involving informal negotiation and formal enforcement in order to assist owners in bringing their properties back into use or to require improvements to eradicate associated nuisances. Lockdown restrictions and the difficulties that these imposed on sale and repairs during the year has had an impact on results for 2020-21 but during the last quarter an increase in qualifying completions and an improvement in results was observed. Looking ahead, we are hopeful that the expected easing of lockdown measures will result in anticipated works that may lead to increased levels of occupation being progressed in a more timely manner. Due to the problematic nature of the work and the many reasons properties become and remain empty, casework is fairly bespoke depending how receptive an owner is. That said, the work does follow a general process in order to open a dialogue with owners and where that fails, formal enforcement in the form of statutory notices, as mentioned above, in addition to such measures as compulsory purchase and enforced sale are available. During 2020/21 two Compulsory Purchase Orders commenced in the previous year are now vested with the Council while further details are resolved prior to their disposal on the open



market. This year the overall target in Cardiff of 81 properties returned to use or new units created as a result of empty homes work was exceeded (82 properties).

- 2.8** The detail of performance against all the agreed indicators is set out in **Appendix 1**. The COVID 19 pandemic, associated lockdown, reopening, lockdown and reopening of the economy over the last 12 months and the changing enforcement demands of the Coronavirus Restrictions Regulations meant that our traditional inspection programme has been severely impacted. Accordingly, an additional set of performance indicators has been created, set out at **Appendix 2**, to give elected members a flavour of the broad range of COVID related enforcement and advice work carried out by SRS. This is presented in an infograph format. To support this data and provide wider context, the Joint Committee will receive a brief presentation at its Annual General Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.
- 2.9** The SRS may, through the relevant participative Council, prosecute breaches of legislation, particularly in respect of those who flout the law or who act irresponsibly, or where there is an immediate risk to health and safety. In the period, the service has been successful in challenging a range of unfair practices, many of which attracted significant media attention. The time and work required investigating these matters, and the consequences of officers' ability to carry out day to day work whilst these matters are ongoing, is significant. The details of all the prosecutions concluded in the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 are set out in **Appendix 3**.
- 2.10** The SRS has continued to support relevant corporate challenges at each Council. The uncertainty surrounding the UK's departure from the EU required increased interaction with civil servants in Westminster and Cardiff on a range of public protection matters. Other examples of providing corporate support include officers playing a key role in assisting the Councils to deal with the requirements to improve air quality, participating in a range of audits and supporting the Welsh Government on a range of issues pertaining to public health.
- 2.11** SRS officers have supported all three Councils' statutory Licensing and Public Protection Committees through the year. The Committees have agreed a number of policy documents on Taxi conditions to protect the vulnerable in the community.

## **Significant Service achievements**

- 2.12** Paragraph 1.5 above, highlights the priorities for the SRS; there have been a number of achievements in 2020/21 that demonstrate progress toward delivering the outcomes associated with those priorities. These actions can be found in Section 6 of the SRS Business Plan for 2021/22. Set out below are some examples of the work undertaken in the previous 12 months.

## **Improving Health and Wellbeing**

- 2.13** Improving health and wellbeing is a key priority for Shared Regulatory Services. Work undertaken to ensure that food is safe, that infectious disease, noise and air emissions are controlled, that risks in the workplace are managed properly, allows people to live in healthy environments. Add to this our activities to ensure the quality of private rented property, the promotion of a safe trading environment and our regulation of licensed premises to ensure they operate responsibly and it is evident that the work undertaken by the SRS is hugely important to the health and wellbeing of the region.
- 2.14** When the UK was put into lockdown on 23rd March 2020, the government put into place an unprecedented set of controls to limit the spread of the virus; we were advised that we faced a pandemic, a word that has become familiar to many people. For clarity, the World Health Organization defines a pandemic as ‘the worldwide spread of a new disease.’
- 2.15** Coronaviruses are not new, but this strain had a devastating impact on society, spreading quickly around the world and infected large numbers of people. All pandemics will be slightly different in how they spread across the world, but all have the potential to have a significant impact on all parts of society. The following paragraphs provide a SRS perspective on the impact of the virus in the region.
- 2.16** As a consequence of the new public health controls, many businesses had to close; people were required to work from home where possible, and social interaction was curtailed. It became the responsibility of SRS to enforce the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations. One of the immediate demands of this legislation was ensuring that a wide range of businesses falling into the non-essential category across the SRS region closed, and remained closed. Since March 2020, those Regulations have changed many times and applying those controls has been a challenge both for the SRS and the businesses affected by them. Narrating our activities across 2020/21 would take many hours and many pages of text. At the AGM, Committee members will receive a short presentation on those activities. For the purpose of this Annual Report, some of the notable events that members might recall include:
- 2.17** In April 2020, only “essential” businesses such as food stores were able to remain open. There was an onus upon maintaining social distancing between customers and staff both within the premises and while queueing outside prior to entry. Long queues became a familiar sight. During this time, SRS became aware of incidents of ‘price

gouging’ or profiteering whereby the price of essential commodities fluctuated depending on demand, this being at a time when supply chain issues coupled with panic buying left some shelves bare in retail outlets.

- 2.18** The suspension of economic activity saw people experiencing difficulty in obtaining refunds for bookings cancelled as a result of the pandemic and lockdown restrictions. Scammers and rogue traders began to exploit the “opportunities” presented by the pandemic. Complaints included, driveway cleaning services marketed as preventing the spread of the virus, the door to door sale of ‘COVID testing kits’, texts sent to residents notifying them that they had been seen outdoors and as a result they must pay a fixed penalty notice charge. These complaints became too common.
- 2.19** The early days of lockdown saw huge demands being placed on supply chains for items essential to the pandemic response such as hand sanitisers, masks and gloves. This saw many alcohol producers switch to the manufacture of hand sanitiser, while at the same time, suppliers sourced hand sanitiser from across the UK and beyond, often outside of their normal areas of expertise. In this maelstrom, it was inevitable that substandard product would reach the marketplace. SRS impounded over 15,000 litres of hand gel and many thousands of face masks.
- 2.20** At the start of the lockdown, hotels were not allowed to open their doors to guests in the traditional sense. However, at the request of, or with the permission of the local authority, they could accommodate key workers, so that they could be located closer to their place of work. SRS facilitated this process to ensure that this exemption was not abused and was only used for bona fide circumstances.
- 2.21** Just as SRS was at the forefront of the initial business closure work, it played a crucial role in supporting businesses as they reopened to the public. SRS provided tailored guidance to a number of shopping centres and sporting venues to assist the management with the necessary risk assessments.
- 2.22** In the Summer of 2020, society began to relax, people went on holiday and began to see loved ones again. However, the virus hadn’t gone away and new variants began to emerge. A firebreak was introduced in October 2020 and the wider economy went on hold again. In December 2020, the supply of alcohol in hospitality premises was prohibited and early closure times imposed. Later that month, the Welsh Government indicated that a second lockdown would be introduced after Christmas 2020. This meant a return to the closure of non-essential retail premises, tighter restrictions on household mixing, and restrictions on travel. However, the rapid growth in the number of infections and hospital admissions saw the Welsh Government implement lockdown earlier and introduce a status of Alert Level 4 from December 20th 2020.
- 2.23** This period saw the creation of the SRS Joint Enforcement Teams (JET) with South Wales Police. The teams played a huge role in ensuring the goals set out in the national plan were achieved through:

- Investigating quarantine and self-isolation referrals from contact tracers; this work has gained greater import with the arrival in the UK of the different variants of coronavirus.
- Monitoring gatherings at different visitor locations, beaches, country parks, etc.
- Disrupting illegal house parties and the issuing of fixed penalty notices to those in attendance.
- Restricting the opening of non-essential businesses and issuing compliance notices where rules are ignored.

**2.24** Perhaps the biggest commitment made by SRS during lockdown was its participation in the Test, Trace and Protect scheme (TTP). Senior officers have been at the heart of the TTP initiative from the outset. Across the two health boards almost 30 officers have been involved in the tracing of people who have tested positive for coronavirus. Linking with health professionals to identify trends and incidents and restrict the spread of the disease allowed SRS to monitor and address upsurges in case numbers effectively and promptly. Notable areas of work relate to care homes, schools and the Universities/Colleges, where SRS officers have been integral in reducing infection rates and saving lives.

**2.25** Through the first part of 2021, the Welsh Government reviewed the Health Protection controls at regular intervals cautiously making small changes to try once again to relax the health protection measures and allow a return to a more “normal” way of life. That return is now backed by the vaccination programme. All partners in the public health network are reflecting upon what has happened in the last 15 months. The Chief Medical Officer for Wales (CMO) has published a special report on the issues arising from the Covid 19 pandemic. The report makes a number of key observations noting in particular that responding to the coronavirus crisis has meant major changes to the lives of all across Wales and has meant making difficult decisions in order to save lives and protect the NHS. The CMO notes that:

- “The Public Health system will continue to face significant challenges as we deal with the number of cases and demand on healthcare services, as well as balancing the direct and indirect harms from COVID-19. From a local authority standpoint, maintaining and strengthening the Test, Trace and Protect (TTP) programme is an essential part of protecting the people of Wales as we continue to learn about the disease, its transmission and risk factors, as well as understanding the wider harms associated with the crisis”.
- “The pandemic has shown the importance of having in place strong and resilient health protection arrangements at a local, national and international level. The Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, health boards and local authorities should review and enhance investment in health protection services, working together to ensure a robust and integrated system of health protection and surveillance of health threats is in place and able to respond to future threats”.

- 2.26** The preceding paragraphs are a snapshot of the coronavirus related work undertaken by the service in the last 12 months. The commitment of officers has been immense and continues to be an important aspect of curbing the spread of the virus. However, other important elements of work did continue as part of the efforts to improve and protect public health. Appendix 3 above has listed many of the enforcement actions taken, but other matters have required a different approach.
- 2.27** In January 2021, the Welsh Government issued a White Paper setting out its proposals for a comprehensive reform of legislation that contributes to building safety in Wales. It focuses on legislative change across the lifecycle of buildings as well as setting out aspirations for a change in the way buildings are designed, constructed and managed. It should be noted however that the regime will not be retrospective and does not provide an immediate solution for leaseholders and occupiers in buildings which are currently defective due to cladding or compartmentation issues.
- 2.28** To understand fully the scope of the non-compliances, Welsh Government propose to fund in 2021 a Joint Inspection Team (JIT) to work alongside local authorities to help them enforce against landlords / responsible parties using existing powers. The JIT would be a multi-disciplinary team representing expertise from the existing enforcement bodies. SRS has been in discussion with WG surrounding the establishment of the JIT and its composition in Wales. SRS has also maintained dialogue with elected members and residents to encourage developers to take responsibility for building defects and the appearance of scaffolding on a number of tall buildings in Cardiff are a sign of progress. Yet, the number of affected buildings and the pace of rectifying those faults could see works of this nature ongoing for another decade.

### **Safeguarding the Vulnerable**

- 2.29** SRS contributes toward the safeguarding agendas of the partner Councils by seeking to ensure that children are protected from harmful substances and products, that older and vulnerable people are protected from unscrupulous individuals and traders, that illegal money lending activities across Wales, are challenged robustly and that the public feel safe when using taxis as public transport.
- 2.30** During the 2020 /2021, a number of significant rogue builder or doorstep crime prosecution cases concluded in court. Sitting behind each of these cases is a story of residents being defrauded of large sums of money; often life savings. The cases show a pattern of little, or no, work being done. Where work was carried out, it was to a very poor standard. In one case a home was left on the verge of collapse as a result of the incompetence of one rogue builder. The impact of the COVID pandemic on the court system meant cases took longer to conclude, but the 7 concluded cases generated:
- A combined total of nearly 6 years in custodial sentences
  - A further combined total of just over 5 years in suspended sentences

- A number of Proceeds of Crime cases from which it is hoped compensation for the victims will be forthcoming.

**2.31** Across Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale, new conditions for Private Hire Operators were introduced that build upon the recommendations of the Department of Transport placing public safety squarely at the forefront of the agenda. The new conditions enhance checks to ensure that Operators are fit and proper and do not pose any threat to public safety. The conditions include general operating processes and complaint reporting systems, DBS checks on staff involved in the handling of personal and sensitive data, checks on working hours of drivers and notification of convictions.

## **Protecting the Environment**

**2.32** Protecting the environment is a core strategic priority of SRS. Many of the activities such as water sampling, monitoring air quality, and remediating contaminated land contribute toward promoting a better environment. This in turn means better long term prospects for the health and wellbeing of our communities. The SRS has a key role to play in ensuring society makes best use of existing resources and bringing back redundant/derelict properties into use is an important contributor to both the environment and local community development. SRS has a key role to play in the wider climate change and future generations agendas through its enforcement role on energy efficiency controls on properties and products. The impact of these activities is less apparent in the short term for communities, but has an important role for future generations. In the more immediate term, SRS ensures communities are protected from nuisance and are safer by investigating noise complaints, dealing with stray dogs and horses.

## **Animal Welfare**

**2.33** In the early part of 2020, it became apparent that the land used in the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend County Borough by a local horse breeder had become severely overstocked. This, coupled with some atrocious weather conditions resulted in hundreds of animals being kept in unsuitable conditions and without access to appropriate feed or clean fresh water.

**2.34** Officers had sought to work with the breeder over many months in order to secure improvements in the keeping of the animals but to no avail, and monitoring visits to the sites left the Service with no option than to rescue some 240 horses from across three locations. This huge undertaking involved significant officer and veterinary time in processing the horses prior to seizure, with horses having to be rounded up, examined and checked for microchips. A range of offences was identified with regard to the unsuitable environments, but also with regard to unnecessary suffering in the case of a number of horses being in poor body condition, or the presence of open wounds or other injury.

- 2.35** COVID related delays in the court system meant that the matter took just over a year to come to trial, and this placed a significant financial burden on the Service. The horse welfare matters were finally heard together with earlier animal welfare charges relating to cruelty to sheep. The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to 26 weeks in prison. He was also banned for life from keeping any animals after a history of prosecutions for mistreatment that had previously seen him receive a five-year disqualification from the keeping of horses. The co-defendant in the case had previously pleaded guilty to all the animal welfare charges and was given a 12 week suspended sentence and required to wear an electronic tag for the duration of this time. A disqualification order under the Animal Welfare Act from keeping any animals (other than some specified pets) was also obtained.

Much of the success of the case stems from partnership working across a range of agencies such as the RSPCA, South Wales Police, a number of equine charities, and in particular officers from the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service for bringing in emergency flood lighting when darkness fell during one of the seizure operations.

## **Air Quality**

- 2.36** In Bridgend, work has continued to deliver a robust air quality action plan (AQAP) for Bridgend's designated Park Street, Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). To promote local air quality management and the decision to implement the Park Street AQMA, a dedicated webpage has been published on the Bridgend County Borough Council website (Bridgend Air Quality Management Area - Bridgend CBC).
- 2.37** In order to support the development of the AQAP and provide the public with access to up-to-date air quality levels on Park Street, real-time datasets (Nitrogen Dioxide NO<sub>2</sub> & Particulate Matter PM<sub>10</sub>) recorded by the automated air quality monitoring station now installed on Park Street can be viewed and downloaded using the link [Site Air Pollution | Air Quality In Wales \(gov.wales\)](#)
- 2.38** The main objective of the AQAP is to achieve compliance with the set annual average air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). Works are now underway to examine in detail the potential benefits of a preferred package of mitigation options including possible changes in signally and road layout. The necessary modelling is being supported by external transportation and air quality consultants, and final results from this analysis are expected in Summer 2021, meaning that the public consultation can then go ahead on the draft AQAP.
- 2.39** As a result of the delays caused by COVID 19, Welsh Government has agreed to extend further the submission deadline for the AQAP, and this now coincides with the Annual Air Quality Progress Report DRAFT submission deadline of 30th September 2021. During the year, SRS ensured that the Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils met their statutory obligations under the Environment Act by producing air quality reports for each area and reporting to the respective Cabinets. Air Quality monitoring has continued throughout the period of the pandemic.

- 2.40** In **Bridgend**, work has continued to deliver a robust air quality action plan (AQAP) for Bridgend's designated Park Street, Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). To promote local air quality management and the decision to implement the Park Street AQMA, a dedicated webpage has been published on the Bridgend County Borough Council website (Bridgend Air Quality Management Area - Bridgend CBC).

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- 2.41** In **Cardiff**, following the legal direction from Welsh Government, work continues to deliver the package of approved, preferred options. A priority measure being implemented over the Summer and managed by the Clean Air Team is the delivery of the Clean Bus Retrofit Scheme for two major bus operators in Cardiff. This project will see emissions technology fitted to 49 buses allowing the NO<sub>x</sub> emissions to be improved by up to 95%. Work has also continued to develop a taxi incentive scheme for licensed taxi drivers and operators in Cardiff. Following further legal advice, the scheme is being finalised and it is anticipated that it will be launched later this summer.

As a result of the effects of the COVID pandemic and the need to realign the needs of the city moving forward, the original Castle Street Clean Air scheme has been revisited and further designs suggested. The Clean Air Team has been overseeing further transportation and air quality analysis given the variance of the suggested new designs. This has also required work to ensure Welsh Government is content with the considered proposals to assess any impacts on the level of compliance on Castle Street and ensuring that Cabinet Members are kept informed throughout the process. These additional options/ amendments have been discussed through a public consultation, whereby Cardiff's Cabinet Members will consider which option to progress during June's Cabinet meeting. It is intended that the installation of the preferred option will begin later this year.



- 2.42** In the Vale of Glamorgan, the Windsor Road, Penarth AQMA was revoked after agreement by Cabinet and notification to Welsh Government. Air quality will continue to be monitored at that location and others in the Vale of Glamorgan, and appropriate action taken should there be any cause for concern.

### **Supporting the Local economy**

- 2.43** A strong local economy is a key component in the quality of life experienced by local people. The work of SRS has a significant, but often unseen, impact upon the local economy. The provision of timely advice and guidance on regulation can benefit the economic viability of businesses resulting in improved business practice. Much of the market surveillance activity focuses upon maintaining balance in the “marketplace”; the equitable enforcement of regulations helps businesses to compete on equal terms thus ensuring a fairer trading environment. The SRS role as regulator also extends to providing information to support consumers to enable them to become better informed and confident. In an age where people can purchase goods and services without leaving home, the importance of the principle of “caveat emptor” has never been more relevant.
- 2.44** Members of the Joint Committee will recall a number of significant interventions carried out by the Service in respect of the supply of jewellery in recent years. The business owners each received a 14 month prison sentence, suspended for 18 months, and a Proceeds of Crime investigation undertaken. That investigation concluded that the business owners had benefitted from the unlawful activity in the order of £130,000. That money must be paid into the Government scheme and SRS will in due course receive a portion of that money which will be used to support professional training.
- 2.45** SRS has maintained its 27 Primary Authority partnerships over the course of a year in which the trading environment for many businesses has been challenging. Of particular interest over the course of the year has been the consolidation of the four Primary Authority partnerships SRS holds with supermarket chains. One of these is a local chain while the other three are national retailers for whom SRS is the Primary Authority for matters relating to devolved Welsh Government policy areas.
- 2.46** Supermarkets have been the mainstay of the retail sector throughout the pandemic, keeping the nation supplied with food and other essentials while other retailers had to remain closed. This has been achieved against the backdrop of quickly evolving coronavirus restrictions and associated amendments to the legislation. Through its Primary Authority partnerships, SRS was able to help its supermarket partners to navigate this fast changing landscape, and in particular some of the more challenging areas of compliance, around for example what is and isn’t to be classed as ‘essential’ items, the wearing of face coverings by customers and store layout. This assistance was particularly valuable in the case of the national retailers as they needed to ensure compliance against the legislation prevailing in any of the four nations at any given time. Using the Primary Authority principle in this way, SRS was able to work both

reactively (fielding enquiries from other authorities) and proactively (updating regulatory services across Wales on changes in store policy)

- 2.47** In February, this approach was recognised and promoted by both the Westminster and Welsh Governments as a means of achieving consistency and fairness in enforcement across the retail sector in Wales.

### **Maximising the use of resources**

- 2.48** Maximising the use of resources was the original catalyst for creating SRS, and work in this area continues. By reducing “triplication” of effort, introducing better processes, making systems work without constant intervention, improving access into the service, our business improves and customer satisfaction increases. Income generating activities like marketing our metrology laboratory, offering paid for advice services, building Primary Authority partnerships and extending our training provision to business are examples of our move to a more “commercial” culture.

- 2.49** Our income levels in 2020/21 were impacted by the coronavirus shutdowns. Licence income fell and income associated with training also reduced. This reduction, at present seems likely to continue until the business community is able to begin functioning fully again.

- 2.50** Crucial to the success of SRS are the people who work within the service. SRS officers are engaged fully in the development of the service and encouraged to think, lead and innovate to improve the way we work. The service has been recognised by different organisations for our efforts over the last 12 months including a High Sheriff award for exemplary service in the field of public health.

- 2.51** 2020-21 was a transformative year for SRS. Already a nimble workforce, since its creation, Officers have adapted well to working from different locations. The need to work from home as far as possible since March 2020 has further enhanced this position, but has also forced changes to the way our Business Support is provided. Prior to the first lockdown, the Business Support team, like many other administrative support regimes, was still largely office based. Very quickly, solutions were put in place to minimise the need for an office presence, and with the now routine use of systems such as hybrid mail, nearly all support services can be provided by colleagues working from home, and the only tasks requiring an office presence are those relating to scanning, outgoing mail (having physical attachments) and of course in-coming mail.

- 2.52** The Welsh Government coronavirus restrictions legislation placed a duty on local authorities to publicise details of all Premises Improvement Notices and all Premises Closure Notices served on businesses in their areas. The SRS website ([www.srs.wales](http://www.srs.wales)) proved the ideal space to display these notices served across the SRS region, and they were placed there until such time as they were terminated and no longer in force. As well as being of interest to the public, this area of the SRS website proved particularly

popular with sections of the press and over the months, many media articles have been based on this information. The website is supplemented by our social media offerings, SRS Twitter (@SRS\_cymru) and the LinkedIn account. These channels in particular have proved to be a highly effective way of getting information to a large number of businesses and residents.

- 2.53** An audit review of Wales Illegal Money Lending (IML) Grant and the Rent Smart Wales Funding was undertaken as part of the 2020/21 Annual Internal Audit Plan. No key issues were identified during either audit. The reports indicate conclude that the internal control environment is considered to be sound and therefore substantial assurance can be placed upon the management of risks. This overall opinion is supported by the identification of a well-controlled system

## Financial Performance

- 2.54** The Gross Revenue Budget and provisional outturn position for 2020/21 are shown in the tables below, with the position in respect of each of the partners detailed to include both the Core and Authority Specific expenditure positions. The service is reporting an unaudited outturn position of a £250k underspend against a gross revenue budget of £8.209m, as illustrated in the following table:

	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Outturn</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Authority</b>	<b>£'000's</b>	<b>£'000's</b>	<b>£'000's</b>
Bridgend	1,738	1,624	114
Cardiff	4,782	4,705	77
Vale	1,689	1,630	59
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>8,209</b>	<b>7,959</b>	<b>250</b>

- 2.55** Multiple recruitment drives have been undertaken, however, the Service continues to experience significant issues in attracting appropriate candidates to particular disciplines within the service, which may in part be due to a national scarcity of resource being available. This issue may also be compounded by restrictions in movement relating to national Covid-19 restrictions surrounding travel and infection control being put in place. The Service did recruit 4 apprentices from the Welsh Government Apprentice Scheme, who have been supported to progress within disciplines managed by the Service. The contracts of employment are fixed at 18 months, which enables the apprentice to access relevant external training in Business Administration/Legal Services.
- 2.56** Where possible, the Service has continued to work with local universities in the practical support of students who are enrolled on degree courses relevant to areas within the SRS where there are vacancies. However, due to the impact of Covid-19, this initiative has been greatly reduced towards the end of March 2020. However, from late September onwards, a number of newly qualified Environmental Health Officers have been employed to assist with Covid-19 Enforcement issues throughout the region, with this initiative being funded by the Welsh Government Covid-19 Enforcement Grant. This provides the students with appropriate practical experience to aid their formal qualification, whilst actively contributing to the success and performance of the SRS.
- 2.57** Where possible, staff have worked from home since the outbreak of Covid-19, with only skeleton staffing levels at the hubs, therefore achieving compliance with the social distancing guidance. Due to qualifications and specific skills held by SRS employees, some staff were temporarily seconded out of the service to support the delivery of PPE, supporting patients being discharged from local hospitals, hotel authorisation to house key workers plus inclusion within the Test, Trace and Protect (TTP) teams across the SRS area. This has placed additional pressure on residual staffing levels and workflows.

- 2.58** A full breakdown of the projected gross revenue outturn position is shown in **Appendix 4**.

### Core Services

- 2.59** The approved gross Core Services Budget for 2020/21 is £5.832m and has an overall outturn underspend position of £184k. The Core service's budget is allocated in line with the population split across the participating authorities, as illustrated in the following table:

		Gross	Forecast	Outturn
		Budget	Outturn	Variance
Authority	%	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Bridgend	22.45%	1,310	1,267	43
Cardiff	57.24%	3,338	3,236	102
Vale	20.31%	1,184	1,145	39
<b>Total Core</b>		<b>5,832</b>	<b>5,648</b>	<b>184</b>

- 2.60** As a direct result of Animal Services receiving £493k from Welsh Government towards the unbudgeted costs relating to the January 2020 horse seizure, this service has achieved a greatly reduced overspend of £685k. The overspend reflects the financial impact of the multiple court delays resulting in increased ongoing unbudgeted accommodation and security costs borne by the service throughout the period.
- 2.61** Environmental Services have achieved a £39k underspend, which is predominantly the result of an air quality officer seconded to Cardiff to assist in the City's Air Quality Initiative, with the post left unfilled. The shortfall in budgeted income was offset by £8k received from the Welsh Government grant for loss of income 2020/21. Two previously designated Air Quality Management Areas have been revoked due to air quality improvements at both sites, and are in the process of being decommissioned. As a direct result of Covid-19, no new radon monitoring stations have been installed in the region.
- 2.62** Food Services have achieved a £358k underspend, which is the result of on-going issues in attracting suitably qualified applicants that meet the specific skill set required by this discipline. Moreover, numerous staff have been seconded to the support of the TTP teams, therefore temporarily reducing the staff complement within this discipline further. The team continues to undertake numerous workplace assessments where clusters of Covid-19 have been identified. A backlog of food inspections has built up due to the national lockdowns when many businesses were forced to close, with officers being deployed to other essential council work. Since lockdown measures were eased, there has been an increase in new food businesses opening. Prioritisation of resource to target the highest risk has become even more essential than before.

- 2.63** Housing Services has achieved an overspend of £12k which is made up of smaller variances across the headings. The position includes £19k received from the Welsh Government income loss grant in the period, relating to the SRS support of the Welsh Government backed NEST scheme. The Covid-19 pandemic has curtailed the ability of officers to carry out inspections in residential properties - other than cases of emergency. Residential properties and in particular Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) plus student houses have been areas of high Covid-19 risk, resulting in the cessation of face to face meetings and inspections, in order to protect both officers and the public. Inspections are now being undertaken remotely via photographs and social media platforms - with site visits only occurring at the most serious of cases. The lockdown has caused a backlog of HMO licensing cases, with the burden of re-inspections anticipated to remain for at least 18 months past Covid-19.
- 2.64** Health & Safety and Communicable Disease Service have achieved an underspend of £193k, which correlates directly with the level of support provided to the regional TTP teams for both the Cardiff & Vale plus Cwm Taf Health Boards throughout the period. TTP staffing predominantly came from this specialism, with additional support provided from other SRS teams. The £541k cost of provision was 100% recovered from the government backed initiative. £2k has been received from the Welsh Government income loss grant in respect of cancelled training courses. During the final quarter, the team investigated 137 outbreaks and dealt with 1,553 escalated referrals relating to confirmed Covid-19 cases in the care and educational sectors. There has been a steady increase in reactive Health & Safety in the period as lockdown measures are eased.
- 2.65** Pollution Services are reporting a £10k underspend which is predominantly due to Covid-19 restrictions on staff travel. The travel restrictions have resulted in difficulty in progressing noise nuisance complaints as site visits are not a viable option. There has been a 17% increase in the number of noise and air complaints when compared to the previous period. Closure of refuse tips has led to an increased number of complaints regarding fly tipping and smoke from bonfires which have been used as an alternative means of disposal. It is also anticipated that there will be an increase in issues arising from the lifting of social restrictions and the impact of hospitality re-opening.
- 2.66** Trading Standards are reporting an underspend of £281k, which is the result of the shortage of suitable candidates to fill vacant posts, maternity leave which has not been covered, plus temporary vacancies where staff have been temporarily seconded to the Cardiff Food team and to the TTP teams. £19k has been received in 2020/21 from the Welsh Government grant for lost income in respect of paid for services within the unit.
- 2.67** The Trading Standards teams have been extremely busy, with Covid-19 related service requests being received to cover areas such as non-compliance with social distancing and premises that were trading in breach of the Regulations. Covid-19 advice and support has been provided to Primary Authority business such as supermarkets and hospitality businesses. Safeguarding has identified an increase in the number of scams and frauds attempted in the period.
- 2.68** Covid-19 related additional expenditure incurred by the service has been recovered directly from WG via claims made against the Local Government Hardship Fund Grant,

with £343k being received to date in respect of Enforcement and Compliance activities. The Enforcement teams have been very busy across the region receiving a significant number of service requests to be investigated. As a result 100+ businesses have been closed with multiple fines issued, where appropriate officers have also issued advice to be actioned to enable businesses to remain trading. The teams have also worked with many accommodation suppliers in the provision of accommodation to both key workers and the homeless.

- 2.69** Six members of staff continue to be on secondments out of the service, the cost of these secondments being recovered from Cardiff Council, Monmouthshire County Council, Welsh Local Government Association and Welsh Government.
- 2.70** The 2020/21 Welsh Government Rentsmart Grants of £66k are built into the SRS budget. The grant forms an element of the Housing Support Grant received directly by the partner Authorities, therefore, as with previous years, the SRS costs will be recouped directly from the partners at year end.

### Authority Specific Services

- 2.71** The approved gross budget of £2.377m in respect of Authority Specific (AS) Services has an outturn underspend of £66k, as detailed in the following table:

	<b>Gross Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Outturn</b>	<b>Outturn Variance</b>
<b>Authority</b>	<b>£'000's</b>	<b>£'000's</b>	<b>£'000's</b>
Bridgend	428	357	71
Cardiff	1,444	1,469	(25)
Vale	505	485	20
<b>Total AS Services</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>66</b>

- 2.72** The £71k underspend at Bridgend, relates directly to underspends within the Kennelling & Vets Service plus the Licensing section. Kennelling and Vets has an underspend of £29k, with activity continuing to perform below target, and is consistent with activity levels realised in previous periods. Despite a notable uptake in dog ownership during the Covid-19 restriction period, the number of dogs being presented as homeless has continued to decline. The £43k underspend within the Bridgend Licensing section is the result of carrying a temporary vacancy, where the post holder has been seconded to a higher graded post within the Cardiff Licensing team. The underspends are then marginally offset by Bridgend Empty Homes which has a £1k overspend.
- 2.73** The £25k overspend at Cardiff predominantly relates to the £77k overspend within the Taxi Licensing Section, where there continues to be expenditure in excess of budget

within both the Employee and Supplies and Services elements of the budget, and is consistent with performance achieved in previous years. High volumes of calls have been received in respect of premises licenses, plus the team has provided advice to the trade in respect of compliance with Covid-19 guidelines. The Licensing team worked as part of the task and finish team to draft policies on retro fitting screens inside taxis.

- 2.74** Officers also assisted in the setting up of pedestrian zones in the City, advising on variations to their licenses that may be required. The Licensing Enforcement officers have carried out a significant number of licensed premises visits, ensuring compliance with Covid-19 legislation offering guidance where appropriate. From September onwards, there has been an excessive volume of taxi licenses being renewed, which has put additional pressure on staff resources. The Cardiff's 2020/21 Licensing income budget has been partially adjusted to reflect the budget shortfall held by the SRS.
- 2.75** HMO Cathays and HMO Plasnewydd have a combined £8k underspend. The Student Liaison Officer are reporting a £1k underspend. The officer has worked together with the Universities, Public Health Wales, Welsh Government and the Police to develop and disseminate guidance for students in respect of Covid-19 restrictions. As a direct result of commercial and licensed premises in Cardiff being closed for a high proportion of the year, activity levels within the Night Time Noise team have been at a minimal level, which has resulted in a £32k underspend on this heading. Cardiff Port Health Authority has an £11k underspend, which is the result of staff seconded to support the TTP initiatives.
- 2.76** Overall, the Vale has an underspend of £20k. The Licensing Service has a £12k underspend, which is the result of a part time vacant post not being filled in the year. The £13k overspend within the Burial section reflects a higher than average number of public health funerals undertaken this year. There is no indication that any of the funerals have been Covid-19 related. The Pest Control Service has a £4k underspend. The Kennelling and Vets Service continues to emulate the reduction in pressures experienced at Bridgend, and as a result has a £17k underspend.



## Net Position

- 2.77** In accordance with the Joint Working Agreement (JWA), income budgets remain the responsibility of each Partner Authority and are shown in this report for completeness. The following table illustrates the provisional outturn underspend of £411k, against a net budget of £6.083m.

	Gross	Unaudited	Outturn
	Budget	Outturn	Variance
Authority	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Bridgend	1,271	1,213	58
Cardiff	3,464	3,215	249
Vale	1,348	1,279	69
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>5,707</b>	<b>376</b>

- 2.78** A full breakdown of the projected net outturn position is illustrated in **Appendix 4**.
- 2.79** The forecast net position for Bridgend is an underspend of £58k against a net budget of £1.271m, which is the result the £114k gross expenditure underspend being partially offset by a £56k shortfall in income received. Core income has under achieved the budget by £2k. Licensing income has under achieved the budget by £54k, which may be partially due to the vehicle licenses being extended in line the Government's extension of MOT's to August 2020. Due to a reduction in taxi activity levels, the license sales are performing below budgeted activity levels. Bridgend have confirmed that they have submitted claims to WG in respect of the Covid-19 income loss grant.
- 2.80** The net position for Cardiff is an underspend of £249k against a net budget of £3.464m. The 2020/21 income budgets held by Cardiff have been reduced by £260k, when compared to the 2019/20 income budgets. This has resulted in a £172k over recovery of income being achieved in the year. Cardiff have confirmed that claims were submitted to WG in respect of the Covid-19 income losses grant. Core has exceeded the income budget by £14k. HMO Cathays and HMO Plasnewydd have exceeded their combined income budget by £17k. The Licensing Section has exceeded the £850k income budget by £108k. Cardiff Port Health Authority is funded by precepts and has therefore fully achieved the budget. The Student Liaison Initiative has exceeded the £17k income budget by £33k.
- 2.81** The net outturn position for the Vale of Glamorgan is a net overall underspend of £69k, against a net budget of £1.348m. Core and Licensing have both exceeded the income budgets by £5k each, resulting in an overall £10k income in excess of budget. Included within this position are £22k received within Licensing and £8k received by Pest Control in respect of the Welsh Government income loss grant. Pest Control met the income budget.

## Challenges moving forward

**2.82** Over the last six years, the SRS has consolidated service delivery in accord with the agreed standards. The service has engaged with a wider range of partners to play a significant role in tackling the spread of coronavirus. At the time of writing this report, infection rates have dropped, but the country is now having to consider how it deals with new variants of the virus and its impact on society. Consequently, the Key Milestones for 2021/22 include:

- *Delivery of the SRS Business Plan 2020-2021 and the associated corporate priorities assigned to the SRS by the partner councils*
- *To support the partner councils and other agencies to manage the impact of Covid-19*
- *To monitor the implementation of new legislation and any requirements imposed by such legislation upon the Service*
- *To review the impact of the coronavirus on service delivery mechanisms and the achievement of targets against the established performance metrics.*

## **3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?**

**3.1** The Annual report demonstrates the partner Councils' commitment to improving social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and promoting sustainable development in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Equalities, Sustainability and safeguarding issues have all been taken into account when drafting this plan. Our work with stakeholders seeking to ensure that our early intervention and prevention activities maintain wellbeing in the SRS region is a crucial element of our approach to protect local people and the environment.

**3.2** The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires the SRS to underpin decision making by contributing to the seven well-being goals of the Act, following the five ways of working, and consequently undertaking actions that will have a positive impact on people living in the future as well as those living today. The SRS Business Plan contains a number of initiatives that contribute to the well being objectives. Section 6 of the Business Plan illustrates how the SRS priorities interface with the well being goals on matters such as safeguarding the vulnerable and protecting the environment and forms the basis for the Annual report.

**3.3** Aligning the Well-being Goals of the Act enables us to evidence our contribution to the National Well-being Goals. Promoting the five ways of working is reflected in our

approach to integrated business planning. Setting consistently challenging yet realistic steps and performance improvement targets, the SRS is able to clearly demonstrate progress towards achieving the national goals by the production of the Annual report.

#### **4. Resources and Legal Considerations**

##### **Financial**

- 4.1** The implications are set out in the body of the report.

##### **Employment**

- 4.2** The implications of the budget reductions undertaken in 2020/21 are set out in the body of the report.

##### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

- 4.3** The partner Councils have a duty to improve under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. The report outlines achievements in 2020/21 for the matters assigned to the Shared Regulatory Service. The Joint Working Agreement executed on 10 April 2015 and amended July 2017 sets out the obligations placed upon the partner Councils in delivery of the Shared Regulatory Service.

#### **5. Background Papers**

- Appendix 1 – SRS Performance Measures 2020/ 2021
- Appendix 2 – SRS Covid activities 2020/21
- Appendix 3 – SRS Prosecution Statistics 2020 / 2021
- Appendix 4 – Projected Gross Revenue Outturn Position and Projected Net Outturn Position



# Shared Regulatory Services

## Quarterly Performance Report 2020-21

### Quarter 4



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# High Risk Food Hygiene Inspections

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Food Combined	Bridgend	SRS/FH/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat A & B) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	30	61	49.18%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 112 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	100%
2020-21	Food Combined	Cardiff	SRS/FH/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat A & B) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	102	194	52.58%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 410 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	100%
2020-21	Food Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/FH/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat A & B) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	18	60	30.00%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 131 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	100%
2020-21	Food Combined	SRS	SRS/FH/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat A & B) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	150	315	47.62%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 653 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	100%



# High Risk Food Hygiene Inspections

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Food Combined	Bridgend	SRS/FH/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat C) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	62	435	14.25%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 112 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	Cardiff	SRS/FH/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat C) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	201	812	24.75%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 410 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/FH/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat C) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	40	394	10.15%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 131 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	SRS	SRS/FH/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses (Cat C) that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected for food hygiene.	303	1641	18.46%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 653 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%

New Businesses—Food Hygiene

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Food Combined	Bridgend	SRS/FH/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment during the year for food hygiene.	29	254	11.42%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 112 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	Cardiff	SRS/FH/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment during the year for food hygiene.	117	667	17.54%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 410 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/FH/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment during the year for food hygiene.	44	247	17.81%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 131 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%
2020-21	Food Combined	SRS	SRS/FH/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment during the year for food hygiene.	190	1168	16.27%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the food hygiene inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers and managing the risks in care homes and schools. A significant number of officers have also directed their attention to dealing with clusters identified at business premises. In addition the service received 653 service requests in relation to food safety. The service continued enhanced surveillance measures at ports of entry with 120 flights and 79 vessels arriving that required checks to be made together with investigations to establish contacts of a positive case travelling during their infectious period and ensuring suitable arrangements were made for a returning traveller who had been in South Africa and needed to self isolate.	90%

# Broadly Compliant Food Premises

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Food	Bridgend	PAM/23	Qtr 4	Percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards.	1233	1268	97.24%	Green	Target exceeded.	94%
2020-21	Food	Cardiff	PAM/23	Qtr 4	Percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards.	2909	3049	95.41%	Green	Target exceeded.	94%
2020-21	Food	Vale of Glam	PAM/23	Qtr 4	Percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards.	1183	1213	97.53%	Green	Target exceeded.	94%
2020-21	Food	SRS	PAM/23	Qtr 4	Percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards.	5325	5530	96.29%	Green	Target exceeded.	94%



# High Risk Trading Standards Inspections

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	TS combined	Bridgend	SRS/TS/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for trading standards.	14	16	87.50%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 552 TS service requests, 306 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	100%
2020-21	TS Combined	Cardiff	SRS/TS/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for trading standards.	25	36	69.44%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 813 TS service requests, 323 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	100%
2020-21	TS Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/TS/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for trading standards.	3	4	75.00%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 460 TS service requests, 260 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	100%
2020-21	TS Combined	SRS	SRS/TS/001	Qtr 4	The percentage of high risk businesses that were liable to a programmed inspection that were inspected, for trading standards.	42	56	75.00%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 1825 TS service requests, 889 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	100%

New business—Trading Standards

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Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	TS combined	Bridgend	SRS/TS/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year, for trading standards.	39	352	11.08%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 552 TS service requests, 306 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	80%
2020-21	TS Combined	Cardiff	SRS/TS/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year, for trading standards.	174	903	19.27%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 813 TS service requests, 323 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	80%
2020-21	TS Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/TS/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year, for trading standards.	38	356	10.67%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 460 TS service requests, 260 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	80%
2020-21	TS Combined	SRS	SRS/TS/003	Qtr 4	The percentage of new businesses identified which were subject to a risk assessment visit or returned a self-assessment questionnaire during the year, for trading standards.	251	1611	15.58%	Red	The fluctuating restrictions experienced throughout the last year, saw Qtr 4 being largely locked down with only permitted retailers and businesses being authorised to open. This inevitably prevented the service returning fully to its “business as usual” activities, severely impacting the delivery of the trading standards inspection programme. Notwithstanding this, the service has continued to be at the forefront of the enforcement of the Coronavirus Regulations, and continued to support Test, Trace and Protect through the secondment of officers. In addition the service received 1825 TS service requests, 889 of which were covid related seeking advice or making complaint.	80%

# Significant Breaches—Trading Standards

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Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. carried out	No. due	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	TS combined	Bridgend	SRS/TS/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for: Trading Standards	25	26	96.15%	N/A	This measure relates to premises/businesses that are subject to ongoing investigations. The conclusion of such investigations may not always be possible within the financial year, however all cases are in within time for legal processing.	N/A
2020-21	TS Combined	Cardiff	SRS/TS/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for: Trading Standards	115	116	99.14%	N/A	This measure relates to premises/businesses that are subject to ongoing investigations. The conclusion of such investigations may not always be possible within the financial year, however all cases are in within time for legal processing.	N/A
2020-21	TS Combined	Vale of Glam	SRS/TS/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for: Trading Standards	32	32	100.00%	N/A	This measure relates to premises/businesses that are subject to ongoing investigations. The conclusion of such investigations may not always be possible within the financial year, however all cases are in within time for legal processing.	N/A
2020-21	TS Combined	SRS	SRS/TS/002	Qtr 4	The percentage of significant breaches that were rectified by intervention during the year for: Trading Standards	172	174	98.85%	N/A	This measure relates to premises/businesses that are subject to ongoing investigations. The conclusion of such investigations may not always be possible within the financial year, however all cases are in within time for legal processing.	N/A

# Noise and Air Pollution

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. responded to	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/008	Qtr 4	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	165	184	89.67%	Amber	The result is fractionally off target. Had the service responded to one more complaint within the deadline, the target would have been met. Notwithstanding this, the annual result of 94.20% has exceeded the annual target.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/008	Annual Result	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	909	965	94.20%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/008	Qtr 4	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	480	531	90.40%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/008	Annual Result	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	2661	2889	92.11%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/008	Qtr 4	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	130	135	96.30%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/008	Annual Result	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	597	652	91.56%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/008	Qtr 4	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	775	850	91.18%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/008	Annual Result	Percentage of domestic noise and air complaints responded to within 3 working days.	4167	4506	92.48%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%

# Noise and Air Pollution

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. responded to	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/009	Qtr 4	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	40	50	80.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/009	Annual Result	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	236	294	80.27%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/009	Qtr 4	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	108	130	83.08%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/009	Annual Result	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	529	690	76.67%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/009	Qtr 4	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	41	45	91.11%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/009	Annual Result	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	189	259	72.97%	Amber		75%
2020-21	Pollution	SRS	SRS/LC/009	Qtr 4	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	189	225	84.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	75%
2020-21	Pollution	SRS	SRS/LC/009	Annual Result	Percentage of commercial and industrial noise and air complaints responded to within one working day.	954	1243	76.75%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%

# Noise and Air Pollution

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No. responded to	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/010	Qtr 4	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	7	7	100.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Bridgend	SRS/LC/010	Annual Result	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	24	24	100.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/010	Qtr 4	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	16	17	94.12%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Cardiff	SRS/LC/010	Annual Result	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	104	113	92.04%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/010	Qtr 4	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	1	1	100.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/010	Annual Result	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	6	6	100.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	SRS	SRS/LC/010	Qtr 4	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	24	25	96.00%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%
2020-21	Pollution	SRS	SRS/LC/010	Annual Result	Percentage of alarm complaints responded to within one day.	134	143	93.71%	Green	Target exceeded.	90%



# Licensing

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No determine d	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/004	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	24	24	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/004	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	86	86	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/004	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	80	80	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/004	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	392	393	99.75%	Amber	The result is fractionally off target and this is due to one application that was not determined within the target time.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/004	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	45	45	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/004	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	139	139	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/004	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	149	149	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/004	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	617	618	99.84%	Amber	The end of year is result is fractionally off target and this is due to one application that was not determined within the target time.	100%

Licensing

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No determine d	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/005	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	7	7	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/005	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	34	34	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/005	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	34	34	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/005	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	166	166	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/005	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	12	12	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/005	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	45	45	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/005	Qtr 4	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	53	53	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/005	Annual Result	Percentage of licensed personal applications received and determined within 2 months.	245	245	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%



Licensing

Year	Team	Authority	Ref	Quarter	Title	No determine d	No. received	Percentage achieved	RAG Status	Comment	Target
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/006	Qtr 4	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	1	1	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Bridgend	SRS/LC/006	Annual Result	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	1	1	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/006	Qtr 4	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	0	0	0.00%	Green	No applications received.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Cardiff	SRS/LC/006	Annual Result	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	0	0	0.00%	Green	No applications received.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/006	Qtr 4	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	1	1	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	Vale of Glam	SRS/LC/006	Annual Result	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	1	1	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/006	Qtr 4	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	2	2	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%
2020-21	Licensing	SRS	SRS/LC/006	Annual Result	Percentage of Gambling Premises applications received and determined within 2 months.	2	2	100.00%	Green	Target achieved.	100%



Shared  
**Regulatory**  
Services

Gwasanaethau  
**Rheoliadol**  
a Rennir

# Covid-19 Response 2020/21

**3850**

Service requests received  
making complaint or  
seeking advice on Covid-19  
related matters



**4508**



Visits made to businesses to check  
compliance with regulations in respect of  
social distancing and business closures

**43602**

Confirmed and suspected  
cases of Covid 19 reported  
to SRS



**197**

Care settings that received  
Infection Prevention and  
Control Assessments

**636**

Outbreaks of new cases in  
care homes, schools, and  
nurseries managed

**419**

Statutory Notices issued for non-compliance incl. 30  
Fixed Penalty, 42 Prohibition, 248 Improvement, 29  
Closure & 70 Compliance Notices



**3**

JET (Joint Enforcement  
Teams) Teams formed

**145**

Warning letters issued and 2  
prosecutions initiated

**119**

Permits granted to  
hotels, and overnight  
accommodation to house  
key workers and the  
homeless



**28**

Officers seconded to Test,  
Trace and Protect

**29**

Profiteering incidents or  
Covid-19 related scams  
reported

**4550**

Confirmed cases of Covid-  
19 relating to care home  
staff/residents, schools,  
early years settings and  
the domiciliary care sector  
escalated to the regional  
team

**5892**

Noise and Air complaints received.  
839 more than last year



**Test · Trace · Protect**

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## Appendix - Summary of cases concluding in the 2020- 2021 financial year

The following prosecution cases arising from investigations conducted across the Shared Service, have been concluded recently.

Case	Court date	Offence(s)	Outcome
1	28.5.20	This doorstep crime case involved the two elderly residents affected losing well over £20,000. The defendant did little or no work on the properties other than demolition and made a bad situation even worse for the residents as a result of his fraudulent and deceitful practices which led his customers to believe they had contracted with a bona fide business	<p>The defendant received a 2 year sentence, suspended for 2 year, with 300 hours unpaid work and 10 days Rehabilitation Activity Requirement. It is hoped that the linked Proceeds of Crime case which is still ongoing will enable some compensation to be paid to the victims.</p> <p><i>Note – further offences have since been committed by the defendant, and again the detriment to the residents involved is significant. Joint Committee will be updated as and when this second case (which is already in the court system), concludes.</i></p>
2	12.6.20	Another doorstep crime case in which the defendant callously targeted four elderly residents, convincing them that they needed roofing and other work carried out at their properties. In addition to conning four residents out of more than £30,000, the defendant was suspected of stealing approximately £13,000 in cash from the home of one of them, something he denied at first but subsequently admitted to.	<p>The defendant was sentenced to a total of 40 months in custody for respect of the fraud and theft charges.</p> <p>There is a linked Proceeds of Crime case which is being pursued in the hope that it will realise some compensation for those affected by these dreadful crimes.</p>
3	3.7.20	The defendant in this case was breeding bulldogs illegally as a result of not obtaining the necessary licence. A warrant was executed at his property involving SRS officers as well as the Police and RSPCA and the scale of the business was soon established. The defendant was charged with a range	He was sentenced to 32 weeks in custody suspended for 18 months with 20 days rehabilitation activities and a 16 week tagged curfew. Forfeiture and destruction for a number of dog passports was granted and costs of £350 awarded.

		of offences under a number of different pieces of legislation, including the Animal Welfare Act and the Fraud Act.	
4	9.7.20	In this illegal money lending case, the defendant loaned significant sums of money to an individual who unfortunately fell on hard times losing both his job and his home. Nevertheless, even while the victim was in a vulnerable situation and living at a hostel, the defendant pursued him for payment. Adopting the typical loan shark tactics of not giving paperwork, causing confusion over the amount owed, and threats of revenge for non-payment, the defendant was left with nowhere to turn and the matter was investigated by the Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit.	The defendant pleaded guilty to charges under the Consumer Credit Act and was fined £200. In addition, a contribution towards costs of £450 was ordered.
5	10.7.20	This food hygiene case arose after SRS Officers visited a café and takeaway with seating for twenty customers. During the visit, it became apparent that there was a cockroach infestation and the kitchen was found to be unclean. The defendants in the case were husband and wife, one being the legal food business operator (FBO) and the other the natural food business operator. The cockroach infestation was on some longstanding and the FBOs were clearly aware of it as traps had been laid during the previous week. Despite knowing of the infestation they chose to continue preparing and serving food and did not bring in a specialist Pest Control contractor.	The legal FBO was fined £1000 and ordered to pay costs of £300 together with a victim surcharge of £100, while the natural FBO was fined £500 and ordered to pay costs of £150 together with a victim surcharge of £50.
6	27.7.20	The two individual defendants in this case and their	Both individuals were fined £100 for each of the five offences

		company were before the Court for sentencing after the matter was adjourned due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The court was told that the business was no longer operating since lock down and would not be reopening.	making a total of £500, ordered to pay £500 costs and a victim surcharge of £50. In addition, the company was fined £1000 for the first offence £500 for the second offence and £500 for the third offence. There were no separate penalties for offences four and five.
7	6.8.20	Following a complaint that out of date food was on sale at a convenience store, an SRS officer visited and found several items on display after the 'use by' date relating to them. The matter was investigated and two defendants were charged with offences under the General Food Regulations	Each defendant was fined £59.00 for each of the seven charges making a total of £413 each. Both were ordered to pay costs in the amount of £150 and a victim surcharge of £41.99.
8	7.8.20	<p>The defendant, a rogue builder, had previously pleaded guilty to two charges under the Fraud Act 2006. The investigation followed numerous complaints from residents who had contracted with the defendant, parting with significant sums of money for building work to their properties. Each had been lured in by the defendant's web of lies and the promise of excellent craftsmanship.</p> <p>What the victims ended up with was goods such as kitchens paid for but not received and work done to a very poor, even dangerous standard, or not done at all. So grave was the offending in this case that the combined detriment to the residents affected was around half a million pounds coupled with months of worry and misery.</p> <p>The Judge noted that the defendant had used his two businesses fraudulently as vehicles to obtain money.</p>	The defendant was given an immediate custodial sentence at Cardiff Crown Court of 2 years and 3 months. A Proceeds of Crime Act timetable was accepted by the Judge, and this aspect of the case will be concluded in due course.

		<p>He had made false representations throughout his dealings with the victims and that they had all been misled by him. In particular the defendant's business had been a badge of dishonesty right from the very start with the worst aspects of his behaviour being the taking of monies and then moving on leaving the victims in a mess and significantly out of pocket.</p> <p>In sentencing, the Judge took into account the defendant's family circumstances and the fact that he had changed his plea to guilty.</p>	
9	11.8.20	<p>The defendant, a taxi driver, had originally pleaded not guilty to an offence under the Equality Act 2010 arising from his refusal to carry out a booking made by the taxi operator. The couple wishing to travel were blind and were accompanied by two assistance dogs, and the defendant claimed that his refusal to take the fare was a result of his being allergic to dogs.</p> <p>On the morning of the trial, the plea was changed to guilty and the defendant acknowledged that he should have applied for an exemption certificate on the grounds of his allergy and regrets that he had not.</p>	<p>The defendant was fined £190 and ordered to pay costs of £200 together with a victim surcharge of £30. The District Judge told him that he had taken his explanation into account in sentencing, but that refusing to take the couple had an impact and left them feeling discriminated against. The defendant was fined £190, ordered to pay costs of £200 and a victim surcharge of £30.</p>
10	14.8.20	<p>The defendant in this case was charged with offences under the Environmental Protection Act in respect of loud music and shouting. They failed to appear in court and so the case was proved in their absence, with the result that they were found guilty of two offences.</p>	<p>The defendant was fined £440 for the first allegation with no separate penalty on the other. They were ordered to pay costs of £180 and a victim surcharge of £44.</p>

11	14.8.20	The defendant, a property landlord pleaded guilty to failing to comply with two improvement notices served under the Housing Act 2004. The notices had been served following SRS involvement after a tenant was found to be exposed to a number of hazards. Despite attempting to persuade the landlord to complete the necessary work, he failed to do so and the case was commenced when the formal improvement notice was not complied with.	The defendant was fined £292, and ordered to pay costs of £180 together with a victim surcharge of £32.
12	20.8.20	The two defendants in this case pleaded guilty to two offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, after they breached two noise abatement notices for loud amplified music and shouting.	Each was given a conditional discharge for 12 months and ordered to pay costs of £180.
13	20.8.20	<p>The defendant in this case had been selling tobacco that was counterfeit or that was not intended for the UK market. He would arrange to meet customers in supermarket car parks to hand over the illegal tobacco and a substantial amount of tobacco was procured by officers following a number of test purchases and the execution of a warrant.</p> <p>The defendant pleaded guilty to seven offences under the Trade Marks Act 1994 and one offence under the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016.</p>	The defendant was sentenced to a 12 month community order, ordered to carry out 50 hours of unpaid work and undertake a 10 day rehabilitation requirement. Costs were ordered for £175 and a Forfeiture Order was granted.
14	27.8.20	Following food hygiene failures at a takeaway premises, the defendant company and its two	The company was fined £2600, and ordered to pay costs of £1843 and victim surcharge of £200. In addition, each director



		<p>directors each pleaded guilty to 5 offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006. Among the problems found at the premises was a failure to adequately control pests.</p> <p>In mitigation, the court was told that a Pest Control contractor had been brought in, and that upon re-inspection, the premises was given a Food Hygiene rating Scheme score of 4.</p>	<p>was fined £600, ordered to pay costs of £250 and a victim surcharge of £40.</p>
15	27.8.20	<p>The defendant was charged with carry on a licensing activity without authorisation on three separate occasions where he sold hot food after the hours his takeaway was permitted to trade. He did not attend court and was found guilty in his absence.</p>	<p>The defendant was fined £660 in respect of each of the three charges, making a total fine of £1980. He was ordered to pay £150 prosecution costs together with a £181 Victim Surcharge.</p>
16	2.9.20	<p>The defendant attended court and pleaded guilty to 2 offences under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 for failing to ensure so far as was reasonably practicable, that the health and safety of persons not in their employment were not exposed to risk associated with falling trees, falling tree limbs and branches between May 2016 and October 2017 whilst trading as an outdoor paintball leisure activity. In October 2017 the SRS were notified of an incident whereby a tree branch had fallen in high winds in the gun rack area of the site, striking two teenagers whilst</p>	<p>The District Judge agreed that this was a case of high culpability. The company was fined £4000 with costs of £10,000.</p>

		they participated in a paintballing day.	
17	2.9.20	The defendant attended court and pleaded guilty to 7 offences under the Trade Marks Act 1994 and 1 offence under the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016. He had been trading on Facebook under a pseudonym and was selling counterfeit and illicit tobacco. He would arrange to meet customers in supermarkets car parks to hand over the tobacco. A substantial amount of tobacco was procured by SRS officers following a number of test purchases and the execution of a warrant.	The defendant was sentenced to a 12 month community order, ordered to carry out 50 hours of unpaid work and a 10 day rehabilitation requirement. Costs were ordered for £175 and a Forfeiture Order was granted.
18	3.9.20	The defendant in this case, a taxi company, did not attend court and was found guilty on 11 counts of failing to produce insurance.	The company was fined £200 per offence making a total of £2,200, they were also ordered to pay £150 Prosecution costs and a £32 Victim Surcharge
19	3.9.20	The defendant did not attend Court and a case of unlawful street trading was proved in his absence.	The Magistrates imposed a fine of £1,000 on the defendant and ordered him to pay £150 prosecution costs together with a £100 Victim Surcharge.
20	7.9.20	The defendant in this rogue builder case had previously pleaded guilty to one count under the Fraud Act 2006 and also to six counts of engaging in misleading commercial practices under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008. The offences related to the properties of multiple complainants between 2013 and 2018 where the defendant, who trades as a roofer, took substantial deposits from consumers for work that was of a poor standard, or was left incomplete or was never even started. In total, the consumers lost money to the	<p>The defendant was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment, suspended for 24 months. She ordered him to complete a 10 day rehabilitation requirement and to carry out 100 hours of unpaid work as he needed to repay back to the local community.</p> <p>A timetable was set under the Proceeds of Crime act 2002 and directions were given for the respective filing of statements and responses by the prosecution and defence before the end of 2020. Compensation for the complainants will be dealt with as</p>

		<p>value of £16,784.36.</p> <p>In sentencing, the Judge indicated that the case had passed the custody threshold. The defendant had taken monies for work which was not carried out or carried out badly and had sometimes lead to more problems than were there to start with, including in one case, where the property was flooded after works were not completed. However, she accepted that he had never intended to defraud these people but in the cold light of day there was clearly no chance he was going to complete the works. She accepted that he had shown genuine remorse and that imprisonment would have a substantial effect on his children. She considered that he was capable of rehabilitation.</p>	<p>part of these proceedings.</p>
21	18.9.20	<p>The defendant had previously pleaded guilty to one count under the Fraud Act 2006 of participating in a fraudulent business between August 2016 and July 2019 and to 2 counts under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 of transferring criminal property between June 2016 and February 2019. On a number of occasions since 2017 officers from the Shared Regulatory Services had conducted checks and test purchases at the defendant's retail premises and discovered on sale both counterfeit tobacco and tobacco which did not carry the required health warnings. The defendant had been given a Simple Caution and later prosecuted but had nonetheless continued with his criminal</p>	<p>The defendant was sentenced to a total of 25 months imprisonment of which he will serve half in custody and the remainder on licence. A forfeiture order was granted for all the items seized.</p>

		<p>activities culminating in the current prosecution. Officers had discovered that since 2016 the defendant had traded in significant quantities of counterfeit and illicit tobacco amounting to approximately £200,000 in trade value and a subsequent financial investigation discovered that the defendant had illegally gained and transferred from his and his wife's bank accounts over £90,000 to bank accounts abroad.</p> <p>In sentencing, the Judge stated that this was intentional and prolonged offending and the defendant had acted in deliberate contravention of the law. It was not highly sophisticated but it was blatant. It was clear from the pre-sentence report and his behaviour to the authorities that he did not appreciate the seriousness of what he had done. By selling illegal tobacco he had made it difficult to control the sale of items which are considered a public health issue, contributed to organised criminal gangs which distribute these products and gained an advantage over reputable traders. She accepted that he did not have a 'high living' and there was a real risk of financial harm to his family as a result of his actions together with a risk of loss of employment to others. She accepted that he had at last accepted reality and had been trading correctly since last year. However, his offending was such that only an immediate custodial sentence was appropriate.</p>	
22	18.09.20	The defendant appeared at Cardiff Crown Court having pleaded guilty to offences under the Consumer	The defendant was sentenced to 16 months custody suspended for 2 years, 200 hours community service and 8

		Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008. The offences had occurred whilst the defendant was trading as a roofer. He had inflated prices for the work he had carried out when he charged a consumer £9500 for work valued at only £1700. He had completed works without consulting the consumer, demanded payment for those unauthorised works and he had contravened the requirements of professional diligence.	days rehabilitation. The victim in this case was also awarded compensation.
23	17.09.20	The defendant failed to attend court and was found guilty in her absence of 5 offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 for failing between September 2019 and December 2019 to comply with a noise abatement notice.	The defendant was fined £660 and ordered to pay costs of £200 together a victim surcharge of £32.00
24	2.10.20	<p>The defendant had previously pleaded guilty to three offences under the Health and Safety at Work etc., Act 1974 for failing, without reasonable excuse, to comply with the requirements of a Prohibition Notice.</p> <p>In October 2019 Shared Regulatory Services received a referral from South Wales Fire and Rescue about carbon monoxide fumes emanating from the defendant's commercial food business and into a residential property directly above. The Fire Authority confirmed that they had been called out by one of the residents and they had detected elevated readings of carbon monoxide in the flat, in addition to the adjoining property. In their professional opinion the</p>	The defendant was sentenced to 12 weeks imprisonment to run concurrent on all the charges.

		<p>high readings of carbon monoxide were as a direct result of the use of the charcoal grill which was situated in the rear kitchen of the restaurant.</p> <p>Although the defendant agreed not to use the charcoal grill when speaking to the Fire Authority, when SRS officers attended, the charcoal grill was lit and in use so a Prohibition Notice was served, instructing him not to use the charcoal grill until he could evidence via a suitably competent engineer that the installation was safe to use. Considerable assistance was provided SRS officers to find a competent engineer who could assess the existing extract ventilation system and carry out all necessary modifications. Nevertheless, during subsequent visits the defendant was discovered using the grill, in breach of the Prohibition Notice.</p> <p>In sentencing, the District Judge accepted culpability was very high and harm was a Category 2. The defendant knew what his legal obligations were and deliberately and repeatedly floated the law. He put profits above the safety of the residents.</p>	
25	01.10.20	<p>The defendant attended Court and entered guilty pleas to both charges in relation to plying for hire and as a result having no Insurance.</p> <p>In mitigation, he claimed that he forgot he was driving a private hire vehicle as he usually drives a hackney</p>	<p>The Magistrates fined the defendant £80 for the plying for hire and £120 for the no insurance charge. His licence was endorsed with 8 penalty points and he was ordered to pay £150 prosecution costs together with a £32 Victim Surcharge.</p>

		carriage.	
26	02.10.20	<p>This case involved a company and its two directors who operated a food business premises. Between April and May 2019 SRS officers inspected the premises and discovered a cockroach infestation and a number of food hygiene breaches.</p> <p>The company pleaded guilty to 10 offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006, the first director pleaded guilty to 2 offences and the second director pleaded guilty to 6 offences.</p>	The company was fined £50 with costs of £250 and a victim surcharge of £30.00. Both directors were given a 3 year conditional discharge with costs of £250 and a victim surcharge of £20.
27	05.10.20	This case concerned an application for forfeiture under the Trade Marks Act 1994 in respect of counterfeit tobacco and an application under the Consumer Protection Act 1987 in respect of tobacco which did not carry the required health warnings found at the defendant's premises in February 2020	The magistrates granted both applications and the goods were forfeited.
28	07.10.20	The defendant was found guilty following a trial of an offence under the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013. In August 2019 officers visited the defendant food premises and found that the food hygiene rating sticker awarded to the business namely a rating of 1 – Major Improvement Necessary - was not being displayed.	The defendant was fined £200 with £300 costs and a £32 victim surcharge.
29	16.10.20	The defendant, a taxi driver, pleaded not guilty to plying for hire without a licence or insurance.	He was found guilty and was fined £120 with 6 penalty points for the insurance offence with no separate penalty on the

			plying for hire. He was also ordered to pay £350 in prosecution costs and a £34 Victim Surcharge
30	20.10.20	The defendant was found guilty following a trial for offences under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 in respect of an incident in December 2019 while driving a taxi when he overcharged passengers and failed to use his meter.	The Magistrates imposed a Universal Credit level Band B fine of £120 in respect of each offence, they also ordered him to pay £600 Prosecution costs and £34 Victim Surcharge
31	20.10.20	Both defendants attended court and pleaded guilty to 11 offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006 in respect of breaches occurring at their food business premises between August 2019 and February 2020. Inspections by officers from the SRS discovered a significant infestation of cockroaches which caused the business to close for 37 days.	The District Judge considered committing to the Crown Court for sentence due to the seriousness of the offences. However he kept jurisdiction and he sentenced the first defendant to a fine of £3000 and the second defendant to a fine of £4000. Both defendants were ordered to pay costs of £350 each and a victim surcharge of £181 each.  He told them that if it closed their business then “so be it”
32	22.10.20	The defendant attended Court and entered guilty pleas to one offence of plying for hire and one offence of having no insurance.  In mitigation, he stated that he was quiet and took the fare even though he knew he shouldn't have.	The Magistrates fined the defendant £120 for the plying for hire and £120 for the no insurance charge. His licence was endorsed with 8 points and he was ordered to pay £150 Prosecution costs and a £32 Victim Surcharge.
33	22.10.20	This case concerned an application for forfeiture under the Trade Marks Act 1994 in respect of counterfeit tobacco and an application under the Consumer Protection Act 1987 in respect of tobacco which did not carry the required health warnings found	Both applications were granted by the Magistrates and the goods were forfeited.



		at the defendant's premises between August 2019 and March 2020.	
34	26.10.20	The defendant failed to appear at court in respect of an application for forfeiture under the Trade Marks Act 1994 for counterfeit tobacco found at the defendant's premises in August 2019.	The application for forfeiture and destruction granted by the court.
35	02.11.20	<p>The defendant pleaded guilty to 4 offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006 in respect of food hygiene breaches and breaches of Remedial Action Notices at her food business premises.</p> <p>During a visit by SRS officers, a mouse and insect infestation was discovered throughout the ground floor and basement but there was no pest control contractor. No food hygiene safety management system was in place and Remedial Action Notices were served for the repackaging of food in the basement. In May 2019 the defendant admitted in interview to breaching the Remedial Action Notice. A visit in June 2019 discovered more evidence of repackaging of food and an infestation of insects. Further visits discovered more repackaged food.</p> <p>The matter was committed to the Crown Court for sentence and the judge considered the defendant's culpability in respect of each offence was very high. She had intentionally breached/flagrantly disregarded the law. It was considered a Category 1 harm case due to a high risk of having an adverse effect on customers. The judge took into account that the defendant was no longer trading, her age and her previous good character. He stated that it was a shame to see a lady of the defendant's age in court.</p>	The judge ordered that the defendant be sentenced to 6 months imprisonment for the food hygiene offences and 8 months imprisonment for the breaches of the Remedial Action Notices to run concurrently. He then suspended the sentence for 2 years. Costs of £500 were awarded and a victim surcharge was applied of £140.

		He considered that the offences were so serious that they passed the custody threshold.	
36	5.11.20	<p>The defendant is licensed by Rentsmart Wales and is known to manage a total of four rented properties. SRS Officers visited one of the properties, comprising two storeys and six bedrooms, and was occupied by seven people.</p> <p>It was established that amongst other things, the property had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No adequate fire alarm system</li> <li>• inadequate structural fire protection</li> <li>• rodent and cockroach infestations</li> <li>• unsafe guarding to the stairs and landing</li> <li>• an unprotected electrical consumer unit</li> <li>• an inaccessible emergency gas shut off valve</li> </ul> <p>The failures presented significant risks to the health, safety and welfare of the tenants. The defendant pleaded guilty to 18 charges relating to his failure to comply with the Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation (Wales) Regulations.</p>	The Magistrates fined the defendant a total of £1,440 and ordered him to pay costs of £300 and a victim surcharge of £32.
37	15.11.20	In this case, a local retailer of a variety of household goods sold a craft knife to a 15 year old volunteer	The defendant pleaded guilty to an offence under the Criminal Justice Act 1988 and was fined £2000 and ordered to pay

		during an underage test purchase.	costs of £1290 together with a victim surcharge of £170
38	26.11.20	This case concerned the sale and supply of unsafe squishy toys which were being imported and supplied locally. An inspection in February 2019 by officers of the SRS at the defendant's cash and carry business discovered a number of squishy toys on display for sale which were not labelled in accordance with toy safety legislation. Subsequent testing by the public analyst also confirmed that the toys failed the tension and small parts cylinder tests set out in the British Standard for Toy Safety.	All three defendants pleaded guilty to offences under the Toys (Safety) Regulations 2011. Each was fined £2000 and ordered to pay costs of £250 together with a victim surcharge of £100
39	26.11.20	The defendants in this case took thousands of pounds for building work yet left work unfinished or to a very poor standard using substandard materials, and in one case walking off site leaving the resident's house in a dangerous state. Monies from a business account were also transferred into personal accounts.	The first defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008, the Fraud Act 2006 and to money laundering charges. He was sentenced to 18 weeks imprisonment, and ordered to pay compensation of £138.50, costs of £2403.50 and a VS of £122.  The second defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations and was fined £480. He was also ordered to pay compensation of £988.50 and a victim surcharge of £48
40	2.12.20	Following a number of complaints about their trading practices officers from the SRS visited the defendant's car sales premises in early 2019 to provide guidance and advice. Subsequently in June 2019 an inspection was carried out by the officers together with a vehicle examiner. A number of breaches were identified with regard to the descriptions applied and material information was omitted from adverts. As a result of	Both defendants pleaded guilty to offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 and the General Product Safety Regulations 2005. The first defendant (the company) was fined £2000 and ordered to pay costs of £500; while the second defendant was fined £800 and ordered to pay costs of £500.

		the checks by the vehicle examiner, six vehicles were deemed to have been exposed for sale in an unsafe condition and suspension notices under the General Product Safety Regulations 2005 were issued.	
41	14.11.20	This case concerned complaints received by the SRS with regard to work carried out by a builder, namely removing and rebuilding a back wall and laying a patio, between April and May 2019 at a residence in Cardiff. Investigations discovered that the defendant had failed to disclose his correct address and overcharged for poor standard work	The defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 and was ordered to pay compensation of £1600 to the consumer and costs of £250.
42	5.1.21	On visiting a restaurant in April 2019, SRS officers found a number of food hygiene breaches including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a failure to ensure that adequate procedures were in place to control pests,</li> <li>• a failure to ensure the premises were kept clean and maintained in good repair and condition,</li> <li>• a failure to ensure the layout and construction of the premises permitted good hygiene practices including protection against contamination and pest control and</li> </ul> a failure to ensure that at all stages of production, food was protected against contamination likely to render the food unfit for human consumption.	The company pleaded guilty to offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006. They were fined £2000, ordered to pay costs of £1397 and a victim surcharge of £170
43	5.1.21	This case concerned complaints from tenants of a	The defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Licensing

		<p>ground floor flat. A visit by officers of the SRS discovered a number of failures on behalf of the landlord including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• failures to supply an adequate fire alarm system</li> <li>• a failure to provide adequate structural fire protection and satisfactory means of escape</li> <li>• a failure to provide evidence of maintenance of gas and electrical installations and</li> <li>• a failure to eliminate and prevent damp.</li> </ul> <p>The landlord had also failed to provide information requested by officers and failed to obtain the necessary licences for managing and renting property.</p>	<p>and Management of HMOs (Additional Provisions) Regulations 2007 and the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. He was fined £4100, and ordered to pay costs of £1400 together with a victim surcharge of £181.</p>
44	5.1.21	<p>The defendant in this case was the managing agent of a rental property. When SRS officers visited the property in October 2019 and again in February 2020, they discovered a number of failings including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• failure to supply an adequate fire alarm system</li> <li>• a failure to provide adequate structural fire protection and to keep the common escape route clear</li> <li>• a failure to maintain the electrical installation, and</li> </ul>	<p>The defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Housing Act 2004 and the Management of HMO (Wales) Regulations 2006. They were fined £4000, were ordered to pay costs of £350 and a victim surcharge of £181.</p>

		a failure to eliminate and prevent damp.	
45	19.2.21	<p>In November 2019, SRS officers visiting a restaurant discovered a number of food hygiene breaches including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a failure to ensure that adequate procedures were in place to control pests</li> <li>• a failure to ensure the premises were kept clean and maintained in good repair and condition</li> <li>• a failure to keep food in such a way as to prevent the growth of pathogenic micro-organisms</li> <li>• a failure to ensure the layout and construction of the premises permitted good hygiene practices including protection against contamination and pest control</li> <li>• a failure to implement a food safety management based on HACCP principles, and</li> <li>• a failure to ensure that at all stages of production food was protected against contamination likely to render the food unfit for human consumption.</li> </ul>	<p>The defendant company and one of its directors both pleaded guilty to offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006. The company was fined £2000 and ordered to pay costs of £1000 with a victim surcharge of £181. In addition, the company director was fined £600 and ordered to pay costs of £500 as well as a victim surcharge of £60.</p>
46	4.3.21	<p>This case concerned a private landlord who owns a portfolio of properties and also manages other properties on behalf of other family members. The defendant applied for a number of his properties to be</p>	<p>The defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 for failing to disclose information when requested to do so. He was fined a total of £5040, ordered to pay costs of £8000 and a victim</p>

		<p>licensed by the SRS as Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) and as such these properties had to be inspected to ensure they complied with current legislation under the Housing Act 2004. To enable officers to conduct the necessary inspections, certain information is required to be provided by the landlords/owners of the properties. The defendant was not voluntarily forthcoming with the required information so a number of formal notices were served on him, requiring him to provide the necessary information for each property within the stipulated time in order that properties could be licensed in a timely manner.</p>	<p>surcharge of £181</p>
47	10.3.21	<p>In June 2019, an inspection by SRS officers of a pizza takeaway business identified a number of food hygiene breaches including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a failure to ensure that adequate procedures were in place to control pests</li> <li>• a failure to maintain the premises in a clean condition</li> <li>• a failure to ensure that materials used for packaging food were not exposed to a risk of contamination, and</li> </ul> <p>a failure to implement a food safety management based on HACCP principles</p>	<p>The defendant pleaded guilty to offences under the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006. He was fined £1665 and ordered to pay costs of £450 together with a victim surcharge of £166</p>

**Authority Specific**

	Bridgend 2020/21			Cardiff 2020/21			Vale 2020/21			Total Gross Expenditure 2020/21		
	Budget	Outturn	Variance	Budget	Outturn	Variance	Budget	Outturn	Variance	Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Bridgend Licensing	343	300	43							343	300	43
Bridgend Empty Homes	38	39	(1)							38	39	(1)
Kennelling & Vets Fees (Bridgend)	47	18	29							47	18	29
Cardiff Licencing				700	777	(77)				700	777	(77)
HMO Cathays				201	195	6				201	195	6
HMO Plasnewydd				275	273	2				275	273	2
Student Liaison				64	63	1				64	63	1
Night Time Noise				62	30	32				62	30	32
Cardiff Port Health				142	131	11				142	131	11
Vale Licensing							380	368	12	380	368	12
Burials (Vale)							1	14	(13)	1	14	(13)
Pest Control Service (Vale)							104	100	4	104	100	4
Vets & Kennelling Fees (Vale)							20	3	17	20	3	17
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>(25)</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Core Services</b>												
Animal Services	86	240	(154)	219	611	(392)	78	217	(139)	383	1,068	(685)
Environmental	49	40	9	124	103	21	44	35	9	217	178	39
Food Services	329	248	81	837	633	204	297	224	73	1,463	1,105	358
Housing Services	142	144	(2)	364	372	(8)	128	130	(2)	634	646	(12)
Health & Safety & Communicable Disease	139	95	44	353	243	110	125	86	39	617	424	193
Pollution Services	194	192	2	495	489	6	176	174	2	865	855	10
Trading Standards	371	308	63	946	785	161	336	279	57	1,653	1,372	281
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>3,236</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>1,184</b>	<b>1,145</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5,832</b>	<b>5,648</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>Gross Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>1,624</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>8,209</b>	<b>7,959</b>	<b>250</b>



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BridgendCore  
Authority SpecificLicensing  
Empty Homes  
Kenneling & Vets

	2020/21 Expenditure Budget £000's	2020/21 Income Budget £000's	2020/21 Net Budget £000's	Mar-21 Profiled Net Budget £000's	Mar-21 Actual Expenditure £000's	Mar-21 Actual Income £000's	Mar-21 Net Position £000's	Net Variance To Date £000's	Projected £000's	Year End Variance Favour/(Adverse) £000's
	A	B	C = A - B	D	E	F	G = E - F	H = D - G	I	J = C - I
<b>Core</b>	1,310	(60)	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,250</b>	1,267	(58)	<b>1,209</b>	41	1,209	<b>41</b>
<b>Authority Specific</b>										
Licensing	343	(407)	<b>(64)</b>	<b>(64)</b>	300	(353)	<b>(53)</b>	(11)	(53)	<b>(11)</b>
Empty Homes	38	0	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	39	0	<b>39</b>	(1)	39	<b>(1)</b>
Kenneling & Vets	47	0	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	18	0	<b>18</b>	29	18	<b>29</b>
	<b>1,738</b>	<b>(467)</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>1,624</b>	<b>(411)</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Cardiff</b>										
<b>Core</b>	3,338	(183)	3,155	<b>3,155</b>	3,236	(197)	<b>3,039</b>	116	3,039	<b>116</b>
<b>Authority Specific</b>										
Cardiff Licencing	700	(850)	(150)	<b>(150)</b>	777	(958)	<b>(181)</b>	31	(181)	<b>31</b>
HMO Cathays	201	(55)	146	<b>146</b>	195	(129)	<b>66</b>	80	66	<b>80</b>
HMO Plasnewydd	275	(87)	188	<b>188</b>	273	(30)	<b>243</b>	(55)	243	<b>(55)</b>
Student Liaison	64	(17)	47	<b>47</b>	63	(50)	<b>13</b>	34	13	<b>34</b>
Night Time Noise	62	0	62	<b>62</b>	30	0	<b>30</b>	32	30	<b>32</b>
Cardiff Port Health	142	(126)	16	<b>16</b>	131	(126)	<b>5</b>	11	5	<b>11</b>
	<b>4,782</b>	<b>(1,318)</b>	<b>3,464</b>	<b>3,464</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>(1,490)</b>	<b>3,215</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>3,215</b>	<b>249</b>
<b>Vale of Glamorgan</b>										
<b>Core</b>	1,184	(11)	1,173	<b>1,173</b>	1,145	(16)	<b>1,129</b>	44	1,129	<b>44</b>
<b>Authority Specific</b>										
Vale Licensing	380	(290)	90	<b>90</b>	368	(295)	<b>73</b>	17	73	<b>17</b>
Burials (Vale)	1	0	1	<b>1</b>	14	0	<b>14</b>	(13)	14	<b>(13)</b>
Pest Control Service (Vale)	104	(40)	64	<b>64</b>	100	(40)	<b>60</b>	4	60	<b>4</b>
Vets & Kennelling Fees (Vale)	20	0	20	<b>20</b>	3	0	<b>3</b>	17	3	<b>17</b>
	<b>1,689</b>	<b>(341)</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>(351)</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8,209</b>	<b>(2,126)</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>7,959</b>	<b>(2,252)</b>	<b>5,707</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>5,707</b>	<b>376</b>

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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