

Public Document Pack

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

Bridgend County Borough Council



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

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



Cyfarwyddiaeth y Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive's Directorate

Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 / 643147 / 643694

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Democratic Services

Ein cyf / Our ref:

Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Thursday, 13 January 2022

Dear Councillor,

COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held remotely - via Microsoft Teams on **Wednesday, 19 January 2022 at 15:00.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest from Members/Officers in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.
3. Approval of Minutes 5 - 22
To receive for approval the minutes of 15/12/2021
4. To receive announcements from:
(i) Mayor (or person presiding)
(ii) Members of the Cabinet
(iii) Chief Executive
5. To receive announcements by the Leader
6. Electoral Arrangements in Coity Higher Community Council 23 - 42
7. Capital Programme Update - Quarter 3 Report 2021-22 43 - 62
8. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022-23 63 - 70
9. Review of Political Balance - Changes to Committee Membership 71 - 76
10. Reappointments to the Standards Committee 77 - 80
11. Information Report for Noting 81 - 86

By receiving this Agenda Pack electronically you will save the Authority approx. £1.72 in printing costs

12. To receive the following Questions from:

Councillor A Hussain to Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member - Communities

Councils are the first line of support for building self-employed businesses back up after the pandemic. For many self-employed people, the pandemic has been not only a health crisis but also an income crisis. Many freelancers in Wales did not get financial support from government and IPSE research found one in four burned through all their savings.

How is the Bridgend Local Authority investing in our areas' smallest businesses and what help is there for freelancers?

Councillor T Thomas to the Cabinet Member – Future Generations and Wellbeing

Will the Cabinet Member outline the number of County Borough residents enquiries for pest and rodent control over the last individual five years?

13. Urgent Items

To consider any item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Part 4 (paragraph 4) of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Note: Please note: Due to the current requirement for social distancing this meeting will not be held at its usual location. This will be a virtual meeting and Members and Officers will be attending remotely. The meeting will be recorded for subsequent transmission via the Council's internet site which will be available as soon as practicable after the meeting. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk or tel. 01656 643147 / 643148.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

Chief Officer, Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

Councillors:

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

Councillors

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

Councillors

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

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2021

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY - VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
ON WEDNESDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2021 AT 15:00

Present

Councillor JC Spanswick – Chairperson

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

Apologies for Absence

NA Burnett, T Giffard, M Hughes, A Hussain, JH Tildesley MBE and E Venables

Officers:

Mark Galvin	Interim Democratic Services Manager
Lindsay Harvey	Corporate Director Education and Family Support
Gill Lewis	Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
Claire Marchant	Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Michael Pitman	Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Mark Shephard	Chief Executive
Kelly Watson	Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services

607. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Alex Williams – Personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda item 8. in that he lived in a property fronting an unadopted road. Councillor Williams left the meeting whilst this item was being considered.

Councillor R Stirman – Personal interest in Agenda item 8. in that she lived in a property fronting an unadopted road.

608. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of a meeting of Council dated 17 November 2021, be approved as a true and accurate record.

609. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM:

Mayor

The past month has been a relatively busy one so I will not update you on all that has taken place, but I will mention a few highlights.

The Charity Fundraising event my wife and I organised at the Heronston Hotel at the end of November was a great night out with over £1,000 raised and plenty of fun was had by all who attended. I would like to say a big thank you to all who bought tickets and for those who donated raffle prizes or made donations due to being unable to attend. Such events are not easy to organise without any support, but I am pleased to say that it was a success.

I attended the official opening of Y Nyth Education and Wellbeing centre at Bryngarw Park which is a wonderful facility for children of all ages to learn about our environment and outdoor spaces. There were a number of children present who were quite interested in the mayoral chain and I just about got away without it being broken! Partly my own fault though for starting to make plasticine imprints of the mayoral crest.

My first visit to the Ogmores valley took place with an invite to the Ogmores Valley Local Heritage and History Society annual book launch at the Mem in Nantymoel. There were performances by Ogmores Valley Male Voice Choir and also the Ogmores Valley Silver Band with a number of Christmas carols. I hope to return again soon to formally open the new miners memorial that has been placed along side where the Berwyn Centre once stood.

Finally, please note that the Citizenship Awards are open for nominations but will close on Friday 7 January 2022. My plea to you all is for each Councillor to nominate at least one individual or group from your area. With no awards being possible last year, let's make this year one of the biggest number of nominations ever, to thank those in our communities who go above and beyond day after day to help others and make a difference.

Deputy Leader

Details on Christmas and New Year recycling and waste collection arrangements have been confirmed.

With the pandemic still in effect, we are once again asking households where someone is showing coronavirus symptoms to make sure that all tissue waste, such as kitchen roll, toilet paper or wet wipes, is double-bagged and set aside for 72 hours.

After this, the bag can be placed out inside the household rubbish bag. To help keep collectors safe, on no account should such waste be included with paper recycling.

Collections this year will be carried out as normal up to and including on Christmas Eve, but not on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day.

From Monday 27 to Thursday 30 December, collections will take place one day later than the normal collection date.

Waste that is due to be collected on New Year's Eve will be picked up on Sunday, 2 January, and collections will return to normal from Monday 3 January 2022.

Residents will be able to put out one extra rubbish bag for the first scheduled refuse collection after Christmas. There will also be an additional vehicle collecting cardboard, so please note that this may be collected separately to other household recycling.

Members may want to remind residents that there is no limit on how much recycling can be put out for collection, and that the vast majority of materials can be recycled. The main items that cannot be recycled are cards that have glitter on them, wrapping paper, black plastic, cellophane wrap, bubble wrap and polystyrene.

Real Christmas trees can be disposed of at local community recycling centres based at Brynmenyn, Tythegston and Maesteg, or can be dropped off at the Waterton Depot from Tuesday 4 January onwards.

Finally, I'd like to extend my thanks to Gill Lewis, Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change in this her last meeting of Council before she leaves the Authority at the end of this week. Her services to the Authority in her role since she arrived with the Council have been immeasurable and she has been a fantastic asset. This has particularly proven to be the case since the pandemic, where she has kept the Authority's finances safe in the most turbulent of times. It has been a pleasure working alongside Gill, who I have the utmost respect for as an Officer.

I also extend a warm welcome to Gill's replacement, Carys Lord.

The Leader added his personal thanks and gratitude to Gill Lewis, on behalf of Council. He added that Gill had been the consummate professional since she joined the Council which initially was planned for just a few months even though she ended up staying for 4 years. The reason for that though he added, was because she set the bar so high not just as a Section 151 Officer, but also as the Officer in charge of Housing, Customer Care and ICT.

In terms of the latter, Gill had to support overnight through the provision of essential equipment, in the region of 2,000 – 3,000 Officers so that they could continue providing Council services through working at home, as well as providing temporary accommodation for over 200 people who were homeless and we indeed still provide support to these vulnerable people, as well as others in society. Despite this commitment, Gill had also kept an iron like grip on the Council's purse and its finances.

The Leader added that he was extremely grateful for the excellent service she had provided during the last 4 years and he warmly welcomed her replacement as Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change, Carys Lord, who was sure would provide similar excellent support in the above service areas of the Council.

These sentiments were echoed by both the Mayor and fellow Members.

The Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change thanked Members for these warm comments of appreciation.

Cabinet Member - Communities

Together with the Mayor, Leader and Cabinet colleagues, I was delighted to attend the opening of a new education and wellbeing centre recently at Bryngarw Country Park alongside Dawn Bowden, the Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport.

Called 'Y Nyth', the new centre is just one of several new improvements delivered in partnership with Awen Cultural Trust following a £750,000 investment from the Valleys Regional Park programme.

The programme has set up twelve 'discovery gateways' designed to recognise and maximise natural and cultural assets to generate social, economic and environmental benefits.

Y Nyth features a purpose-built classroom and kitchen, while the park's visitor centre has been redeveloped to offer year-round activities for families and visitors.

New outdoor natural play equipment has been installed which is designed to support children's physical and mental health, develop their creativity, imagination and critical thinking, and encourage their social interaction.

A new bike shelter has been installed with a 'green' roof to increase biodiversity, and solar panels have been fitted to the visitor centre, café, B-Leaf building and stable offices.

The park has also benefitted from new boardwalks and path upgrades, refurbished public conveniences and a new sculpture trail leading through five of the natural habitats to be found within Bryngarw.

Bryngarw Country Park truly is one of the gems within the county borough's crown, and I hope that members will visit the park and see for themselves how these improvements are delivering an enhanced visitor experience.

Finally, I would like to thank Councillor Lyn Walters for all her hard work recently, by assisting in Ravenscourt with the administering of the Covid jab booster in order to help protect individuals from the disease and particularly the new Omnicron strain.

Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help

Members may recall that it was in December 2020 when Councillor Burnett first advised Council of the extreme pressures facing our domiciliary care service, and of how this was being reflected throughout the social care sector across Wales.

One year on, I would like to pick this up by providing you with a brief overview of the current situation, and what we have been doing to mitigate it over the last twelve months.

While the situation remains difficult and our services continue to face severe challenges, we are meeting the overwhelming majority of local needs in a timely and effective way.

A comparison with pre-pandemic figures reveals an eight per cent rise in the number of care hours delivered since 2017-18, and current trends indicate that we can expect to see increasing need in order to support people to remain as healthy and independent as possible in their own homes.

I would like to start this statement by paying tribute to our frontline social care workforce who have worked tirelessly for the last two years and are caring for more people, with higher level of needs, than ever before.

I need to advise Council, however, that currently, the number of people waiting to have their assessed needs for care and support needs met is rising.

A great deal of work has taken place over the last twelve months, on both a local and a national level.

Cabinet yesterday approved new commissioning arrangements for care and support at home which will enable all providers to pay their workforce the real living wage.

We have significantly supported the sector through the social care recovery fund to ensure providers are in a position to pay their staff at that level in advance of the new contracts coming into effect in 2022 – 23.

As you know, we set up a project group with the aim of developing an action plan capable of meeting needs in a different way. We are looking at ways of supporting staff in the social care sector and have been supporting providers through the social care recovery fund.

If people are waiting for care and support at home, risks to their well-being are being managed by the proactive review and assessment of each individual's circumstances. We are directly involving people themselves, their families and informal carers with this.

Where continued waiting is not an option, alternative provision such as day opportunities, residential care, residential reablement and respite short breaks are being explored and offered.

We are also using fast-track direct payments and the carer's grant to meet people's assessed needs and are liaising closely with families on how much support they may be able to offer.

The situation remains difficult and has not been helped by the fact that three independent providers have given notice on some packages of care, meaning it has created additional demand around 39 people and more than 400 service hours.

In terms of our domiciliary action plan, the project group is aiming to increase capacity by 20 additional members of staff by 1 April next year, while a Reablement Service has been reintroduced at Bryn y Cae to support people with reablement needs.

Various marketing strategies have been introduced to publicise job vacancies as widely as possible, and we have both participated in and benefitted from the national 'We Care' recruitment programme, including taking part in recruitment roadshows.

We are currently recruiting casual staff to build capacity for our internal services, while Human Resources are reviewing long-term absence cases and are supporting staff to return to work as soon as is practicable.

In terms of actions that are currently being prepared, community recruitment roadshows have taken place in Porthcawl and Ogmore Vale are being planned for Maesteg and Bridgend, and we are actively promoting career pathways to market options available within the social care sector.

A concerted publicity campaign is being planned which will include a series of adverts on Bridge FM starring existing carers talking about their roles, and staff have also been offered the opportunity to increase their contracted hours.

Plans are in development for the best deployment for staff who are non-drivers, and an alternative transport proposal is currently at the options appraisal stage.

If successful, this could see the launch of all-new pool cars, electric bikes, scooters and more as a way of ensuring staff who do not have access to a car can still make their rounds.

We are also developing an early warning system which will recognise signs that the independent sector is struggling to deliver packages of care and are working closely with the Social Care Development Workforce Programme to create an induction program which supports independent providers who are struggling to retain staff.

Finally, a pilot scheme to utilise health care support workers has been agreed and is in the process of being implemented, and a review of day services is underway.

This is exploring a wide range of options for extending opening times, adjusting care timeframe schedules, analysing staffing and transportation issues, and much more.

So, in summary, we are doing more than ever before. With both short, medium and longer term plans in place, terms and conditions are being addressed through recovery funds and recommissioning. We are working to ensure that we meet our responsibilities under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, and that needs can be met in alternative ways where necessary.

I would also like to add that all parts of Wales and indeed the UK are in the same position and are facing the same types of challenge.

Cabinet Member – Future Generations and Wellbeing

Members may want to advise their constituents that people who rent privately but who have fallen behind due to Covid-19 can apply for a Tenancy Hardship Grant, an initiative introduced by Welsh Government.

To be eligible, they must have at least eight weeks of unpaid rent built up between 1 March 2020 and 30 June 2021, and tenants must not have received housing benefit whilst the unpaid rent was building up.

The grant is specifically designed for private rent sector tenants who may have been furloughed, experienced a drastic reduction in hours, or even lost their jobs due to the pandemic.

It is paid directly to the landlord or agent to reduce the likelihood of losing the tenancy and it does not have to be paid back.

More information on how to apply is available at both the council and Welsh Government websites.

Cabinet Member – Education and Regeneration

Following on from last month's similar good news with Plasnewydd Primary School, Maesteg, Ogmores Vale Primary School has now also received an early Christmas present with the same news, ie that it has been moved out of special measures. So there are presently no BCB schools in special measures.

Inspectors from Estyn have confirmed that they are satisfied the school has made sufficient progress on a series of recommendations.

This is excellent news for the school. I know that Council Officers and colleagues from the Central South Consortium have been working closely with the teachers and headteacher at the school in order to achieve the necessary progress that has now been made and I would like to congratulate them all for their efforts.

Chris Elmore MP has introduced a Xmas Card this year, with some lovely designs on them put together by some school children from the County Borough. I would therefore like to thank Dylan Simmonds, Bettws Primary, Layla Roll-Jones, Ysgol Cynwyd Sant Primary, and Lucy Evans, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Primary Schools, for their flair and imagination here with the card design.

Finally, the Porthcawl Community Orchestra will be playing Xmas Carols in John Street, Porthcawl, this coming Saturday, between 11am – 1pm, so any donations from the public for charity here, would be greatly welcomed.

Chief Executive

Members may have seen media coverage or posts on social media concerning temporary restrictions that we have been forced to impose over the use of drop-off zones at three local schools.

For the sake of clarity, I'd like to briefly confirm why we have been forced to put these restrictions in place.

The affected drop-off zones are located at Brynmenyn Primary, Pencoed Primary and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen where, if used correctly, they offer a safe, convenient facility.

Unfortunately, parents and carers at the schools were advised that an assessment of the drop-off zones had revealed some quite serious concerns over their misuse which, if it continued, could result in their withdrawal.

Despite this, multiple incidents continued to be observed of vehicles making dangerous manoeuvres, travelling at speed, blocking or not using the drop-off bays correctly, ignoring instructions from officers on site and more, and included several near-miss incidents.

Clearly, we cannot compromise where pupil safety is concerned. A decision was made to make the drop-off zones available only to staff working at the school, parents and carers who are Blue Badge holders, and home-to-school transport vehicles provided by the local authority.

As you might expect, this has not proven to be popular with a number of parents and carers, but I hope that members will appreciate how the urgency of the closure reflects just how seriously the authority and the schools are taking the issue.

Officers are already looking at options that could provide a safe alternative that prioritises the safety of pupils and pedestrians attending or visiting these schools, but until then, the temporary restrictions must remain in place.

I hope this brief clarification serves to explain some of the background surrounding the decision.

In other news, as Members have already confirmed, today marks the last time that our Head of Finance, Gill Lewis, will be attending Council.

You normally earn time off for good behaviour, but Members may recall that Gill originally signed up for six months and ended up staying for more than four years!

This was largely because we tried many times to recruit someone of her calibre, but failed to do so.

Gill's tenure coincided with some of the harshest financial circumstances this Council has ever had to face, and on top of that, we have had the Coronavirus pandemic to contend with, too.

Throughout all of this, Gill's grasp of the issues at hand has been second to none, and she has demonstrated invaluable wisdom and strong leadership.

She has done an outstanding job in steering the Council's finances through some very difficult and uncertain times, initially during austerity and then latterly through the pandemic and all of the challenges that has brought in, not just for finance and the delivery of multiple grants, but also in areas such as homelessness, ICT, digital transformation, customer care and more.

It is no secret that acting as a Council Section 151 officer will never help anyone to win a popularity contest. This is the post where you often find yourself having to say 'no' as you manage issues of affordability and compliance with numerous accounting codes, the principles of our Medium Term Financial Plan and more.

The good news is that Gill has played this role of 'pantomime villain' really well. Our financial management is regarded extremely well by regulators and auditors alike, and Gill's experience and expertise continues to be held in the highest regard by the likes of the Audit Committee, her CMB colleagues and members in general.

While Gill intends to spend more time playing golf and travelling when pandemic conditions allow, I understand that she intends to carry on working initially with colleagues in health, and that she has also picked up some work in Jersey and no doubt, that will make it easier for accessing all her offshore accounts!

I and her CMB colleagues also suspect that Gill will be pestering her butler, who doubles as her husband, for more cups of tea.

I thank Gill on behalf of Council, for everything she has done while she has been at the Authority and wish her all the very best for the future.

610. **TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER**

Members will have seen the change that has been made on Cabinet and I am extremely grateful to Councillor Nicole Burnett for her dedication and professionalism as Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help.

I would also like to offer a warm welcome to Councillor Jane Gebbie as the new Cabinet Member who is very energetic, passionate and experienced.

Urgent changes to the way in which people receive their Covid-19 booster vaccinations are being introduced as national efforts to fight the spread of the new Omicron variant get underway.

The move follows the recent announcement from Welsh Government confirming that all eligible adults in Wales will be offered a Covid-19 vaccination booster shot by the end of the month.

To achieve this, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board now needs to deliver 166,000 boosters across the region by 31 December 2021.

The Chief Executive and I together with the Leaders and Chief Executives of RCT and Merthyr Councils met with the Chief Executive of Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board to discuss and progress the rapid acceleration of the vaccination programme, to achieve these targets.

For Bridgend, it means that a number of important changes need to be introduced at the Ravens Court vaccination centre.

To accommodate more appointments, opening hours are being extended to cover 7am-10pm. The only exceptions will be on Christmas Eve (7am-2pm) and New Year's Eve (7am-4pm).

The centre will also remain operative every day of the week, including bank holidays, apart from on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Because the centre will be open earlier in the morning and later at night, additional external lighting and shelters are being installed.

Inside the centre, boosters and standard vaccinations will be carried out alongside one another. New vaccination lanes are being set up to accommodate this, and extra staff are being brought in to ensure the process can run smoothly. We have seconded 5 extra staff to assist in the operation of this.

While walk-in appointments for booster vaccinations are not currently available, walk-in slots will continue to be offered to eligible people who need to receive a first or second dose of the vaccine.

Once they have had their jab, the amount of time people will need to wait before leaving the premises is being reduced to five minutes.

The appointments are being arranged now and will be automatically offered to every eligible adult within the county borough.

People will not need to contact the health board or local GP, but should expect to receive an appointment via a text message. Only those who have not provided a telephone contact number will receive an appointment via post, which is different to that which applied for the two previous doses.

Even if it is on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve, I cannot emphasise strongly enough how important it will be for people to accept the offered appointment.

It remains essential for people to ensure they receive the booster. This remains vital for improving our levels of protection against the fast-moving Omicron strain, and we need to do all that we can to keep ourselves, our friends, family, workmates and neighbours safe.

The appointments will start to come through very soon, and we will be issuing further information on the booster roll-out.

In other news, I'm sure members will be pleased to know that a new contractor has been appointed for the construction of the Welsh medium childcare facility planned at land off the Isfryn Industrial Estate in Blackmill.

After the previous contractor went into administration, Stafford Construction Ltd a local and experienced firm, has been awarded the contract for the work. A new schedule is currently being finalised, and construction is expected to begin in the New Year.

The hub will be one of four all-new Welsh medium childcare facilities planned for Bridgend County Borough.

Designed to serve the Ogmore Valley, the settings will provide 16 sessional Welsh-medium childcare places, together with six places for children up to two, and wraparound or out-of-school provision for 52 weeks of the year.

Once completed, it will feature new play space, quiet rooms, storage facilities, offices and a car parking area with room for up to seven vehicles. With new landscaping to the front and side of the hub, soft play facilities will be installed as well as a canopy capable of providing children with shelter and shade outdoors.

At the same time, Stafford Construction have also started work on the new Welsh-medium childcare facility based at Bettws.

Based at the site of the former Boys and Girls Club, this will serve the Garw Valley and surrounding valleys gateway area and features similar facilities to its Blackmill counterpart.

With two further hubs still to come in Porthcawl and Bridgend, this represents a significant £2.8m investment into Welsh language facilities and services, and also underlines the council's ongoing commitment towards childcare and promoting the Welsh Language.

I am sure that members will welcome this good news, and that like me, you are looking forward to seeing the hubs take shape.

611. **GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF LICENSING PRINCIPLES 2022-2025**

The Head of Shared Regulatory Services presented a report, the purpose of which, was to seek Council approval of the publication of the Council's Statement of Licensing Principles for the next triennial period 2022 to 2025.

He advised that the Council as a local authority, has strategy functions under the Gambling Act and it therefore had to effectively discharge these.

The report outlined the response to the consultation carried out in respect of the above and made recommendations for revisions to the Statement of Licensing Principles. The proposed amendments were shown highlighted in red within the document at Appendix A to the report.

The proposed review had also taken into account the unprecedented impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on businesses which provided gambling facilities.

Paragraph 3.5 of the report set out the three licensing objectives which were central to regulating gambling and the principles upon which the Council is required to operate in accordance with these.

The Head of Shared Regulatory Services stressed, that the Council did not have responsibility for online gambling. The Council was only responsible for licensed premises based licensable activities and some examples of these, were shown in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

He added that the Council has to publish the Policy, which had to be agreed every three years.

The Head of Shared Regulatory Services advised Members that the Council's Licensing Committee had previously approved the report and recommended that it then be

presented to Council for ratification. The Committee further recommended that Council approves the current set of principles, to take forward for the next three-year period.

Though he made the point that the local authority does not have responsibility for online gambling, this did impact upon our local communities quite significantly, and it therefore integrated with some of the Council's policies, such as looking after individual's well-being and/or mental health.

Therefore, he assured Members that local authority officers did engage regularly with the Gambling Commission, Welsh Government and perhaps most importantly, with the Chief Medical Officer, who all recognised how gambling impacts detrimentally upon local communities and were looking at steps to control this.

So, the Head of Shared Regulatory Services concluded, that whilst the Policy could control online gambling, the service was trying to use as many levers as possibly, to protect members of the public out in the community. It was easy through online gambling to lose hundreds of pounds in a matter of minutes, without someone having to leave their living room. Therefore, the challenge to prevent, stop or reduce it, was a difficult one.

As this was the Head of Shared Regulatory Services final Council meeting before retiring, the Mayor together with other Members wished him the very best in his retirement and emphasised what an excellent Officer he had been in looking after the interests of the constituents of three local authorities, which was a challenge in itself that had been made far worse, due to the extra work the service had taken on during the pandemic.

The Leader echoed these sentiments adding that Dave Holland and his colleagues had literally saved 1,000's of peoples lives during the pandemic through hard work that at times had been overbearing on staff within the service. Members also wished his successor Helen Picton the very best, as his successor.

The Head of Shared Regulatory Services thanked Members for their kind words on behalf of himself and his Officers, who had greatly appreciated the support Members had given them, particularly during the period of Covid-19.

RESOLVED: That Council approved the Statement of Licensing Principles, incorporating the amendments highlighted within Appendix A of the report, together with the additional amendment in paragraph 4.6 and to approve publication in accordance with the appropriate regulations.

612. **PRESENTATION BY CWM TAF MORGANNWG UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD AND PROGRAMME OF FUTURE PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL**

The Chief Executive presented the above report, part of which introduced the representatives present from the above University Health Board (CTF UHB).

In attendance from the Health Board were Paul Mears, Chief Executive, Emrys Elias, Chairperson and Anthony Gibson, Group Director, Bridgend ILG.

Mr. Mears, Chief Executive expressed how pleased he was to be able to attend today and give Members an update on work ongoing presently in the Health Board. As Council would appreciate, work had been constant with staff under extreme pressure throughout the course of the pandemic to the present time.

The presentation today would obviously cover COVID-19 and planning around our recovery of elective surgical work and planning for winter work that we're doing in partnership working with Council colleagues locally in Bridgend. The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf, also intended give an update on maternity and neonatal services, the Community Hospital, Maesteg and CAMHS.

There was now a peak phase once more being experienced in relation to COVID, in the form of the omicron variant which was beginning to take hold in Wales. It had presently not had such a significant impact in terms of hospital admissions as of yet here in CTM, and indeed the community transmission rates of omicron in our area was still relatively low. However, as with other variants of the illness the Health Service had to look at its capacity over the next few weeks and months to make sure that there was adequate cover to cope with any implications that the strain may bring, ie admittance to hospital and bed capacity etc. This strain of the illness, will probably take off very quickly as it is doing already in parts of England, he added.

Obviously, a key part of the response to COVID is the testing regime. There we have had a very big demand for our PCR testing. That's pretty stable at the moment, and the plan is to carry on obviously with the testing capacity that we have across our health border area, to ensure that we are giving access as quickly as possible to people who may suspect they have symptoms, to be able to get them tested. And backing up that is obviously the contact tracing that comes behind the testing.

It was also important to make sure that we are able to track and trace people who have come in contact with individuals who have tested positive for COVID.

In terms of vaccination, the Chief Executive of Cwm Taf stated that across its areas, 159,000 booster jabs had been given, which represented 49.59% of the eligible population that comprised the Health Board. Welsh Government though had given a directive in the past couple of days, that we should be offering the jab to all eligible people across Wales.

So by the end of December, the aim is to have everyone offered a jab in the Cwm Taf location, and the Chief Executive felt that it was important to distinguish between offering the jab, against actually getting one in people's arms, which was the aim.

Obviously, the rationale behind ramping up the vaccination booster campaign is to try and tackle the rise of the Omicron variant. We know that the vaccine does provide additional protection against the variant, and clearly, we're trying to vaccinate as many people as possible to minimise the impact on health services, of people's illness. He said that many Members will be aware from the media, that we are not yet completely sure what the impact on hospital admissions will be from the new variant. There is though a possibility that the new variant may result in a significant strain once more in terms of resource on the Health Service.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf, explained that additional vaccination centres were now operating from the end of this week. These would be operating from 7:00 AM till 10:00 PM, seven days a week. This, however, was also requiring Cwm Taf to increase its staffing capacity quite significantly, to be able to provide a service at a time when such staff are also obviously very weary due to there being no significant let-up in the pandemic and illness to members of society. He added that the military would also help support this booster vaccination programme.

The only exception being to the opening of further vaccination centres, would be Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Due to these extra opening hours and further Centres

opening, we were able to add an additional 10,000 appointments last week and we've had further increases this week, as we have been able to get more staff on hand to be able to help expand the vaccination workforce.

The Chief Executive Cwm Taf thanked BCBC for their assistance in providing much administrative support to the efforts surrounding vaccination, by providing staff to assist here. He also urged Councillors to engage with their constituents, to get as many in the community vaccinated, as soon as possible, across all age bands. Hopefully, through this joined-up approach, everyone over 18 years of age will have been offered the booster jab by end of December.

Due to the ongoing pressures of Covid-19 and the challenges the illness had brought about, sadly there was now a significant backlog of patients waiting for planned procedures and operations.

With support from Welsh Government, efforts were under way to try and cover this backlog. This year, Cwm Taf had received an additional £16 m from Welsh Government to support this.

However, the Health Service were confronted continually with a significant challenge in terms of trying to juggle the competing demands of managing urgent support for Covid patients, against supporting patients with other illnesses and disease, which had been a massive issue since the inception of the illness.

There remained the problem of people having dates for major surgery, with these having to be cancelled last minute due to an influx into hospital of Covid patients due to new strains of variants emerging, with this being on top of the challenges relating to patients that required primary care; people getting appointment with their GP for other more general illnesses and people feeling the mental strain brought about by the illness, such as those living alone and experiencing isolation, particularly in periods where there had been lockdowns.

In some areas, such as in the Rhondda, Primary Care Centres had been introduced, in order to take some of the strain that had been imposed upon the Health Service by the pandemic. It had been difficult for patients also to actually see a GP for an appointment, with them first having to be assessed over the telephone. What had assisted here however, was the fact that the GP Out of Hours services that was formerly just in Bridgend, had now been extended right across the Cwm Taf area. It was therefore easier to get an appointment to see a GP, though patients may have to travel for this as opposed to seeing their own GP at their local practice. Though this service had also been extended and was now a 24-hour service

Added to this explained the Chief Executive, Cwm Taf, was the support of our Acute Care team in the community who were a home-based service. So if you were a patient, that had been assessed by a GP as needing some additional support such as, for example, input from a geriatrician or needed to be supervised whilst at home, specialist nurses were available in the community to visit patients (at their homes) and actually look after them there, so as to avoid bringing them into hospital. These were of course patients, who could be adequately treated at home without needing to come into a care establishment/environment.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf also commended the partnership work that continued to be developed between themselves and the 3 local authorities of Merthyr, RCT and BCBC. This had built upon the work achieved in recent times, concentrating upon further integration of services for the local population and bringing together health and social

care in a much more joined up manner across the 3 localities. Work was ongoing here, he was pleased to confirm, including as a future joint workstream, tackling together the decarbonisation agenda, combined management arrangements between Health and Social Care and health inequalities, such as those experienced in more deprived areas.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf, then touched upon some of the improvement work that has been taking place in maternity services, including within the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Further training and development of staff undertaken had helped to achieve this, he added

Further work was also ongoing in our neonatal services, which was due to be reported on in the spring. This was an area where Cwm Taf had significant effort and increased support from clinicians across the Health Board, to look at how it could further improve the neonatal services for our most vulnerable. This was initially being looked at in the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr, with improvements then being extended to the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf advised that the work that had been carried in neonatal services would be the subject of a review, which would be published in January next year.

A program of work was currently underway in the Community Hospital in Maesteg. Work had been required to the roof, as that was in a poor state of repair. These works had now been completed. Invitations to tender would soon be initiated, for work on the inpatient beds and issues regarding capacity.

Cwm Taf had been in consultation with Welsh government for a further funding resource in respect of the above, because the original envelope of funding that was allocated for this work was now not going to be sufficient, given cost inflation that has taken place over the past year or so.

Cwm Taf would be updating the local community, including Ward Members and other stakeholders to ensure that they are kept abreast of developments and the progress here, including the outcome of conversations with Welsh Government.

Finally, the Chief Executive shared some information with Members on CAMHS, which was an NHS service that assesses and treats young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties. CAMHS support covers depression, problems with food and eating, self-harm, abuse, violence or anger, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and anxiety, among other difficulties.

This service was primarily hosted in the Bridgend locality, where there had been a significant increase in demand in recent times, both prior to and since the pandemic. Areas of growth now had to be created to better support these young people and their problems due to this increase in demand, which had not shown any sign of reducing. The impact of the pandemic had obviously not helped them with their problems, but more predictably had exacerbated them. There had been a noticeable spike, the Chief Executive advised, in young people with eating disorders not just in terms of numbers, but also in the acuteness of their problems here. A special service had now been established in order to provide increased support to this particular category of patient.

Work was ongoing with local colleges, in order to try and make sure that children and young people experiencing problems such as those listed above, were provided with counselling support and safeguarding arrangements through the local authority, where this was considered necessary.

At the Prince of Wales Hospital site in Bridgend, there was a specialist Tier 4 centre that provided support for young people with CAMHS issues, including eating disorders.

The Mayor thanked the representatives from Cwm Taf for their submission and then opened up the floor for questions to the Invitees.

A Member referred to Maesteg Community Hospital and his concern that there was a delay there in terms of moving things forward with regards to the works that were being proposed there. He was also concerned with the fact that there were rumours circulating to the effect that the hospital was going to be closed. He therefore asked for an update on this.

He was also aware that there was a proposal to develop a dialysis service in the Bridgend County Borough and he asked if this was intended to be Consultant or Nurse Practitioner led.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf assured the Member, that there was a commitment to the continued operation of the Maesteg Community Hospital and a range of health care services it provides there. These would be services that best serve the interests of both the Llynfi population as well as that of the needs of some of the wider County Borough residents.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf advised that discussions were ongoing with Swansea Bay Health Board who were providing dialysis support to people who required this in the Bridgend area through specialist health services. A number of options were presently on the table for Bridgend moving forward, namely an off-site Dialysis Unit separate to the Princess of Wales Hospital, as well as an Outpatients facility. The Unit would be nurse led but also be supported by a daily Consultant input, so basically a mixed model. AS this would be built by a private contractor, there was no firm information as of yet where this would be placed in the County Borough.

A Member noted that the Ty Llydiard CAMHS support service was a Tier 4. She asked what Tier 4 signified.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf confirmed that Tier 4 was the highest level of CAMHS patient in-care support and Ty Llydiard provided support for young people in South Wales to the edge of South West Wales, so it was therefore classed as a cross-regional high level support centre.

A Member confirmed that in 2019 he had met with the then Chairperson of Cwm Taf regarding the lack of primary care provision in the Valleys Gateway area (off Junction 36). He had confirmed that consultation would take place regarding a possible proposal to extend Tyn-y-Coed Surgery in Sarn, to take account of the lack of this provision and in view of the fact that this area of the County Borough had increased in terms of its growth in population.

In view of the fact that the Member had contacted Cwm Taf directly on this matter, the Chief Executive of Cwm Taf confirmed that he would speak to the Councillor on this issue, outside of the meeting.

A Member asked if people who were classed as housebound would have their Covid booster jab administered at home by a Nurse Practitioner.

The Chief Executive, Cwm Taf advised that all housebound people in the County Borough would receive their booster jab by the end of December, through home visits, either from GP's or Nurse Practitioners. However, priority would be given to those that were actually housebound in the true sense of the word, as in some cases individuals

who claimed to be housebound, were in fact able through the support of others, to visit their GP practice or centres such as the one in Ravenscourt for the booster.

The Leader concluded debate on this important topic, by thanking the Chief Executive and his colleagues for accepting the invite to today's meeting and providing such an informative and comprehensive update on the work of Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. These sentiments were echoed by the Mayor, prior to the guests retiring from the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Chief Executive and the presentation given by representatives of Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, be noted.

613. **TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING QUESTION FROM: COUNCILLOR T THOMAS TO THE CABINET MEMBER COMMUNITIES**

What percentage of local roads and highways are unadopted?

Response

Based on the calculation of the total length of unadopted roads as compared to the overall Highway network linear measurement the percentage of unadopted roads in Bridgend is less than 1% (0.08%).

Please bear in mind that this figure is based on data compiled in 2018 and is a very high-level calculation, however, what is clear is that in comparison to the overall highway network is very low.

Supplementary Question by Councillor T Thomas

There does remain a small percentage of unadopted roads that give rise to certain issues for residents living in these areas. I'm aware that in the Pencoed location of the Valleys Gateway area, there are roads that have been unadopted for decades. Therefore, what is the Strategy of the Council for adopting these long term unadopted roads, especially in areas where site developers are no longer trading, due to perhaps having gone into liquidation or possibly for other reasons.

Response

The Cabinet Member – Communities advised that he had been working with our two MP's and the local Member for Bryncoch, looking at the issue of unadopted roads, including in the Valleys Gateway areas. However, it remains a requirement of the site developer to ensure roads are brought up to an adoptable standard, as if this falls onto the BCBC, then the stretch of road in question, becomes the liability of the local authority. Welsh Government have introduced an Unadopted Road Fund and BCBC have been successful in bidding for an apportionment of these monies, resulting in works being carried out at a street in Porthcawl, to bring this up to an adoptable standard then subsequently being adopted by the Council. Unfortunately, the level of funding that is available is not going to be able to financially support the adoption of the number of unadopted roads that there are in the BCB, nor Wales as a whole, so the Council are going to have to consider how best to address the issue of unadopted roads in its overall area. Should Members have any queries with regards to unadopted roads within their Wards, he urged them to approach him personally with regards to these.

The Corporate Director – Communities made the point that there were only a small number of classed highways in the County Borough that had not been brought up to an adoptable standard. There did remain quite a number of unadopted roads, however,

these were in the main areas that did not front housing developments, but were more side or rear lanes etc, as opposed to main roads, where there was not any significant flow of vehicular traffic. She reiterated the fact that we do have Welsh Government funding to adopt unadopted roads and to introduce these areas into the main highway network and trials have begun in respect of this. There were instances where site developers were developing housing estates within different areas of the County Borough, however, the roads serving these developments could not be brought forward for adopting, until such time that the developments were fully completed with the roads serving them being of an adoptable standard. She wished to stress however, that these areas were small when compared to the overall length collectively of roads that linked up all areas within Bridgend and its wider areas, which were regarded as maintainable. It was not a large percentage in comparison. It was important to ensure that all roads that served a high level of traffic were adopted, in order to ensure a smooth and effective flow of vehicles travelling throughout the County Borough. The Council would also continue she added, to bring up to adoption some residential streets, out of the Welsh Government funding allocation.

614. **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

The meeting closed at 17:00

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To advise Members of the conclusion of the consultation exercise in relation to the review of electoral arrangements in the Coity Higher Community Council (CHCC) following a formal request during the recent Boundary Review, to seek approval of the final proposals and to authorise the Chief Executive to submit final proposals to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

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

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:-
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 On the 24 November 2021, the council published its draft proposals in respect of the electoral arrangements of CHCC and wrote to all interested parties as set out in the Terms of Reference to consider the current arrangements and submit any comments by letter or email by 05 January 2022.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 Following the closure of the consultation period, the submissions have now been reviewed and guidance sought from the Boundary Commission for Wales in drawing up the final proposal.
- 4.2 The draft proposal has been amended, taken into account the responses received and guidance from the Boundary Commission for Wales, to provide for better levels of electoral parity, which is one of the Boundary Commission's key principals. The Final Proposal report, attached at Appendix 1 is summarised below in the table.

Coity Higher Community Council Electoral Arrangements										
Wards	Existing				Draft Recommended			Final Recommended		
	Electors	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance
Coity	3,566	2	1783	161%	5	713	23%	6	594	3%
Litchard	2,172	5	434	-36%	4	543	-6%	4	543	-6%
Pendre	1,777	4	444	-35%	4	444	-23%	3	592	2%
Total	7515	11	683		13	578		13	578	

4.3 Following approval, the report will be submitted to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales for scrutiny. The Commission will then review the proposals and, if minded, will approve an Order to be made to implement the final proposed electoral arrangement alteration. The Order must be made prior to the Notice of Election on the 21 March 2022 in order for it to be implemented for the Local Elections in May 2022.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no direct effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules in respect of this information report. There will subsequently be amendments to the Constitution which will be presented to Council at a later date.

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. An Equality Impact assessment has been undertaken in the production of this report and identified that there are 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.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this review for the Council; any work will be undertaken within existing budgets.

9. Recommendation

9.1 To note and approve the final proposals arising from the Coity Higher Community Council electoral arrangements review and authorise the Chief Executive to submit the final proposals (as outlined in Appendix 1) to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

Mark Shephard
Chief Executive Officer
January 2022

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Background documents

Letter from Coity Higher Community Council
Terms of Reference for CHCC Electoral Arrangements Review

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Bridgend County Borough Council



Coity Higher Community Council

Electoral Arrangement Review

Final Proposals

January 2022

Introduction

Bridgend County Borough Council has a duty under Section 55(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 to keep under review the boundaries and electoral arrangements of the communities within Bridgend. To ensure compliance with the legislation, following a formal request from Coity Higher Community Council (CHCC), Bridgend County Borough Council agreed at its Council meeting on 17 November 2021 to commence a review of the CHCC electoral arrangements.

Public notice of the intention to commence a review of CHCC was given on the 17 November 2021 with the publication of the Terms of Reference for the review and the draft proposal from the CHCC who had submitted the proposal following a Community Council meeting.

A 6-week consultation commenced on the 24 November 2021 inviting initial comments from stakeholders to be submitted by post or email to the Electoral Office. The consultation period ended on the 5 January 2022.

In formulating the final proposals, the draft proposals were reviewed taking into consideration representations received at the draft consultation stage, as well as guidance received from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

The final proposals for the community electoral review need to be agreed by Full Council before being submitted to Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales will consider any further comments from councilors and stakeholders, who must respond directly to the Commission with their comments on the final proposals. The Commission will consider any representations made when deciding on the final proposals before an order can be prepared.

It is anticipated the changes will come into force in time for the Local Elections in May 2022.

Summary of Proposal

Coity Higher Community Council currently has three wards: Coity, Litchard and Pendre. This consultation does not change these wards or consider any boundary changes as these will be considered as part of a wider County Borough review of all Town & Community Councils that will be Implemented for the 2027 Local Elections.

The current and draft proposed electoral arrangements, submitted by Coity Higher Community Council, for each ward is shown below: -

Coity Higher Community Council	Council Electorate	No. Of Cllrs at present	Cllr/Elector Ratio	Proposed number of Cllrs	Cllr/Elector Ratio
Coity Ward	3,566	2	1,783	5	713
Litchard Ward	2,172	5	434	4	543
Pendre Ward	1,777	4	444	4	444

The Council accepted the draft proposal from the Community Council as the higher ratio in the Coity ward is reflective of the density of the population within the large housing development site at Parc Derwen, which is mainly responsible for the increase in the electoral population within the Coity ward

Representations Received Prior to Final Proposals

There were 4 responses received; 2 from the existing Coity ward members of the Community Council, 1 from the County Borough Member for Coity and one from the Leader of the Independents Alliance within Bridgend County Borough Council.

All were in agreement to the change from 11 to 13 Members for the Community Council but all objected to the distribution of Community Council seats between the Wards. All respondents preferred a more equal Member / Elector ratio between the wards giving a split of Coity – 6, Litchard -4, and Pendre – 3.

The Coity representatives in particular objected to the view that the Parc Derwen Housing Estate should be used to skew the representation figures given that the Coity ward also has a large rural area. There was also a view that the vote on the draft proposals put forward by the Community Councils was heavily skewed by councillors from Litchard and Pendre, who currently have the majority on the Council.

Final Proposal

One of the key Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales key principles is to provide for better levels of electoral parity within Councils across Wales.

In view of the representations received from key stakeholders and the key principle of electoral parity from the key Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales, the final proposal is to create parity between the wards whilst maintaining the number of seats at 13.

The allocation of seats will therefore be Coity – 6, Litchard 4, Pendre 3.

The Table below summarizes the Final Proposal: -

Coity Higher Community Council Electoral Arrangements										
Wards	Existing				Draft Proposal			Final Proposal		
	Electors	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance	Town Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Variance
Coity	3,566	2	1783	161%	5	713	23%	6	594	3%
Litchard	2,172	5	434	-36%	4	543	-6%	4	543	-6%
Pendre	1,777	4	444	-35%	4	444	-23%	3	592	2%
Total	7515	11	683		13	578		13	578	

Responding to the Final Proposals

The County Borough Council will not conduct any consultation into its final proposals. Whilst it has undertaken consultation on the draft proposals, once Full Council have approved the final proposals, they will be passed to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales who will consider any further comments made direct to them within 6 weeks before confirming the making of Order to implement the changes.

Appendix A

Bridgend County Borough Council



Coity Higher Community Council

Electoral Arrangement Review

Representations received

January 2022

Email from Cllr Alex Williams – Group Leader, Independent Alliance

My view is that this means that Coity is still under-represented under this draft proposal and that the new ratio should be 6 (Coity), 4 (Litchard) and 3 (Pendre) which results in a far more equal Cllr/Elector ratio.

Best wishes

Alex

Y Cyng | Cllr Alex Williams
(Penprysg)
Arweinydd Grwp, Cynghrai Annibynnol
| Group Leader, Independent Alliance

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar
Ogwr | Bridgend County Borough
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Ffôn/Phone: 07880 988358

E-bost/E-

Mail: cllr.alex.williams1@bridgend.gov.uk

Gwefan/Website: www.bridgend.gov.uk

Email From Cllr Amanda Williams – County Borough Councillor - Coity Ward

I am happy that the review is being undertaken but unhappy with the split!

If a split of 6,4,3 was made then the ratio would be

Coity 592.6

Litchard 543

Pendre 592.3

Which is much fairer. If you look at bcbc council referral rates then you will see that there are far more in coity despite the density of houses in parc derwen. I always group similar issues together fit referrals too and they do not include the numerous referrals to persimmon. In addition there are densely populated areas in both Litchard and pendre. Plus coity and Litchard also have schools and a community governor needs to come from the coity councillors and Litchard councillors whereas pendre do not have a school or this requirement.

The purpose of this review is because the numbers are not currently fair. This suggestion again isn't fair and the numbers do not reflect the whole purpose of the exercise. The numbers were put forward by the community council as a vote was undertaken heavily skewed by councillors from Litchard and pendre, which is again the reason why the current numbers are unfair.

I will support a split of 6,4,3 as outlined above as I know would the electorate in coity, which represents 47% of the electorate!

Amanda

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Email From Martin Williams - Community Councillor Coity Ward

Firstly, I fully support the review and am grateful to BCBC for undertaking it at short notice.

However, I would like to highlight the fact that although the community council has expressed its opinion that was not entirely shared by the two Coity ward community councillors.

I agree that the council should be increased to 13 members. Not only does this recognise the increase in overall population within the community but it is more easily divisible according to relative populations.

This is where I fundamentally disagree with my community council colleagues.

I am of the firm view that the council seats should be divided according to the relative populations within each ward. From the chart attached it is therefore clear that the split should be 6 - Coity, 4 - Litchard and 3 - Pendre.

It would be perverse to seek to rectify the current mathematical imbalance by ignoring the maths in the new arrangements.

The 6,4,4 split proposed by the council has no basis in terms of the population split. It leave Pendre unchanged and over represented, Litchard reduced and Coity increased yet still under represented. Given that this proposal is arbitrary it will be difficult to defend to residents when Pendre has half the population of Coity yet would have 80% of the seats.

It is worthy of note that the community council's decision was reached as a result of a (rare) vote during which the two Coity ward councillors were outvoted. This in itself is an argument for equal representation based on relative population split.

I have heard the argument that the 6,4,4 proposal can be justified on the spurious basis that Parc Derwen in particular is more densely populated than Litchard or Pendre. Not only do I reject this but if you consider the Coity ward as a whole the large rural aspect more than dilutes the density of Parc Derwen.

In summary, whilst I support the increase to 13 councillors I am strongly opposed to the 6,4,4 split and believe that it should be in line with relative populations as outlined above.

Kind regards

Martin Williams
Community Councillor - Coity Ward

Attachment: -

Ward	Est Population	Percentage	Seats							
			Current	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Coity	3556	47.38%	2	5.21	5.69	6.16	6.63	7.11	7.58	8.05
Litchard	2172	28.94%	5	3.18	3.47	3.76	4.05	4.34	4.63	4.92
Pendre	1777	23.68%	4	2.60	2.84	3.08	3.31	3.55	3.79	4.03
Total	7505		11							

Email From Alison Hughes - Community Councillor Coity Ward

I refer to the recent review of the electoral arrangements for the above Community Council.

I am aware that you have been contacted by my co-councillor Martin Williams, and, rather than repeat his concerns about the imbalance that would occur if the current proposed split of councillors of 6,4,4 was implemented, I would confirm that I concur with his calculations that a 6 (Coity), 4 (Litchard) and 3 (Pendre) split of community councillors would be a much fairer representation of the wards. I believe that this would allow for each ward to have a more equal representation based on population numbers which in my opinion is the fairest way to calculate the number of councillors required.

Kind regards

Alison Hughes
Community Councillor Coity Ward

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL WARDS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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Introduction

Bridgend County Borough Council is conducting a review of electoral arrangements to consider a request received from Coity Higher Community Council to revise the parity between the number of Community Councillors in one of their Community Wards, namely Coity due to the significant expansion in new homes. The current wards in Coity Higher are Coity with 2 members (3,566 electorate), Litchard with 5 members (2,172 electorate) and Pendre with 4 members (1,777 electorate)

The first stage of the review is to ask all interested parties to consider this proposal and submit their views of support or objection for this change. All submissions will then be considered and final proposals drawn up and made available for further public consultation. If there are no objections, then the final proposals will be drawn up, published and adopted.

The review will start on 17th November 2021 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled to be submitted for adoption in March 2022

Why are we undertaking this review?

Bridgend County Borough Council has received an official request from Coity Higher Community Council to review the Community Councillor ratio for the Coity ward with the aim to revise the disparity between the wards.

What is the aim of the review?

Bridgend County Borough Council aims to ensure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and that it is both effective and convenient.

What can be considered under this review?

This review will only look at the number of Community Councillors in the Coity ward. This is due to timescales as Local Election will take place in May 2022 and has to be finalised by the publication of Notice of Election.

Who will undertake this review?

Bridgend County Borough Council is responsible for undertaking the review within its area. It will consider all representations made at each stage of the review process. The review will be conducted under Section 31 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013. On completion of the review the Council may propose and make changes to the number of Councillors representing the Coity Ward.

Public Consultation and Submissions

When undertaking the review Bridgend County Borough Council is required to undertake such steps as it thinks fit to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of the proposal to conduct it and are informed of any draft proposals or recommendations. Bridgend County Borough Council undertakes to meet these duties by writing to:

- The Community Council, namely Coity Higher Community Council
- The Councillors representing the Coity, Litchard and Pendre Electoral Divisions
- The Senedd Member representing Bridgend Constituency,
- The Regional Senedd Members for South Wales West region,
- The Member of Parliament representing the Bridgend Parliamentary Constituency, and
- Local branches of political parties.

Bridgend County Borough Council will also give official notice at different stages of the review, deposit copies of reports and documents at the Council's Election Office and place appropriate documents on the Council's corporate website.

Comments and submissions may be made at two stages of the review, the draft proposals and then final proposals and recommendations.

All comments and submissions will be given due consideration in the review if the following criteria are met: -

- Comments shall be received on the pro-forma submissions form or a form to like effect.
- Comments are received by midnight of the timetabled deadline.
- All comments are received with a name and address identifying the sender. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted, though personal details of members of the public will not be made public. Submissions from representative bodies and persons such as Councillors and Members of the Senedd etc will be named within the report.
- Where an organisation or an individual is making submissions concerning the proposal, they shall show how either maintaining the status-quo or making changes are desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.
- Bridgend County Borough Council will publish its recommendations as soon as practicable and take such steps as it considers sufficient to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review, including all persons that made a valid submission, are informed of the recommendations and the reasons behind them.

Timetable for the Review

The review will start on 17th November 2021 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled prior to the Local Elections in May 2022. Any changes that occur as a result of the review process would then come into effect for the Local Government Elections which are scheduled for May 2022.

Action	Period	Date
Start of Review		17 November 2021
Draft Proposal Consultation / Publication	6 Weeks	24 November 2021 to 5 th January 2021
Consideration of submissions received		6 th January 2022 to 13 th January 2022
Final Proposal Consultation / Publication	6 Weeks	20 th January 2022 to 03 rd March 2022

Supporting Information

Further information relating to the review, including electorate figures, are available at the Council's Elections Office and the Council's Electoral Service Website.

Elections Office
Bridgend County Borough Council
Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB
www.bridgend.gov.uk

Appendix A

Electorate Summary

Community Council	Council Electorate	No. Of Cllrs at present	Cllr/Elector Ratio	Proposed number of Cllrs	Cllr/Elector Ratio
Coity Higher – Coity Ward	3,566	2	1,783	5	713
Coity Higher – Litchard Ward	2,172	5	434	4	543
Coity Higher – Pendre Ward	1,777	4	444	4	444



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Councillor Alan Wathan
Vice-Chair: Councillor Martin Williams

PO Box 357
Bridgend
CF319NT

Tel/Ffôn: 07949451690

E-mail/E-bost: clerkcoityhighercc@hotmail.co.uk

Website/Gwefan:

www.coityhighercommunitycouncil.co.uk

20th November 2020

Mr G Ennis
Group Manager - Business Support
BCBC Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB

Dear Gary

I'm writing on behalf of the Members of Coity Higher Community Council in respect of the Local Boundary Review and in particular its impact on our council. We've been advised that the community boundaries are a matter for BCBC, not the local government boundary review panel.

The council expressed its concerns during the consultation period and directly to the Minister, following the final report. Although we had several concerns regarding the BCBC boundaries, our primary concern was, and still is, regarding the community boundaries and the disparity between each one.

At present Coity, Litchard and Pendre have 2, 5 & 4 Councillors respectively, despite Coity now being the most populous ward. We are concerned that this was not addressed within the boundary review. We are further concerned that any delay to implementation due to COVID-19 may result in the status quo being maintained into the 2022 Local Government elections. This would be unfair and leave the residents of the Coity ward under-represented.

It is the council's view that regardless of what happens at BCBC level, where the proposal is to create a single Coity Higher ward, the 3 community wards should be maintained, but re-balanced to reflect the population as it is projected to be in May 2022.

The council is also of the view that due to the considerable development that's taken place in Coity Higher, that this is a unique case within BCBC that requires particular attention.

I look forward to receiving your response on this matter so that I can report back to our Members at our next meeting on 10th December 2020.

Yours sincerely



Ann C. ~~Harris~~
Clerk to the Council/
Clerc y Cyngor

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE

CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE - QUARTER 3 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 31 December 2021 (**Appendix A**)
- seek 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 to 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 20 October 2021. This report provides an update on the following:

- Capital Programme monitoring quarter 3 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 3 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 £49.603 million, of which £28.495 million is met from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) resources, including capital receipts and revenue contributions from earmarked reserves, with the remaining £21.108 million coming from external resources, including Welsh Government General Capital Grant. Table 1 below shows the capital programme for each Directorate from the October 2021 (quarter 2) approved Council position to quarter 3:

Table 1 – Capital Programme per Directorate 2021-22

Directorate	Approved Council October 2021 £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virements £'000	Slippage to future years £'000	Revised Budget 2021- 22 £'000
Education & Family Support	15,436	2,436	0	(6,984)	10,888
Social Services and Well-being	1,575	0	1	0	1,576
Communities	52,594	596	(1)	(23,045)	30,144
Chief Executive's	6,291	0	27	0	6,318
Council Wide	704	0	(27)	0	677
Total	76,600	3,032	0	(30,029)	49,603

- 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
<i>BCBC Resources:</i>	
Capital Receipts	4,643
Earmarked Reserves	8,632
Unsupported Borrowing	1,513
Supported Borrowing	3,953
Other Loans	8,660
Revenue Contribution	1,094
Total BCBC Resources	28,495
<i>External Resources:</i>	
Grants	21,108
Total External Resources	21,108
TOTAL RESOURCES	49,603

4.3 **Appendix A** provides details of the individual schemes within the capital programme, showing any new approvals, virements and slippage to the revised budget 2021-22.

4.4 A number of schemes have already been identified as requiring slippage of budget to future years (2022-23 and beyond). At quarter 3 the total requested slippage is £30.029 million, which comprises the following schemes:

Highways Schemes Band B Schools (£3.400 million)

The highways budget in relation to Band B schemes will be expended once works have been designed and commissioned. It is anticipated that costs will be incurred in future years of the programme. Therefore £3.400 million is being slipped for use in 2022-23.

Schools Capital Maintenance (£2.436 million)

Welsh Government has awarded the Council with £2.436 million capital funding grant towards improving ventilation, supporting decarbonisation and reducing backlog maintenance in schools. As a result of this the existing funding for school maintenance across a number of schemes has been slipped and will now be utilised in 2022-23.

Fleet Vehicles (£1.376 million)

Due to delays in procuring vehicles and a global shortage of electronic components, there is no more spend anticipated in 2021-22. Therefore the £1.376 million budget is being slipped for use in 2022-23.

Cosy Corner (£1.965 million)

The project is still currently in the design stages with a planning decision due in January 2022. It is anticipated that the construction works and landscaping elements of the scheme will then take place during summer 2022, upon successful appointment of a suitable contractor. Therefore £1.965 million is being slipped into 2022-23.

Porthcawl Regeneration (£2.441 million)

Development work is still ongoing. It is anticipated that enabling works in relation to the scheme will commence in 2022-23 therefore £2.441 million is being slipped for future use.

Coastal Risk Management Programme (£2.000 million)

The scheme tender process was completed in November 2020. As this was a Welsh Government part funded scheme there was a need to gain an award letter from Welsh Government. This, coupled with the standard procurement award process being followed, meant that the scheme was unable to start until March 2021, and at this stage it was only minor setup costs that were incurred. The scheme was anticipated to take 18 months, however the delay in the start of physical works on site has pushed the completion date into October 2022. This has resulted in £2.000 million slipping into 2022-23.

Maesteg Town Hall (£2.976 million)

Project progress for this financial year is less than anticipated due to Covid-19 and the associated re-programming to accommodate safe working conditions in line with social distancing and to mitigate against labour shortages due to positive covid cases. Clock tower works and the requirement to delay other repair works due to the associated scaffolding required for the clock tower has also had an impact. These have resulted in the construction works now programmed to be completed by August 2022 with the town hall reopening in November 2022. Therefore £2.976 million is being slipped for use in 2022-23.

Capital Asset Management Fund (£0.820 million)

This is a one-off fund that was established in 2019-20 to meet the costs of works to comply with any health and safety or other legislative requirements in respect of the Council's assets, taking into account the results of condition surveys. Any allocations from this budget are agreed by Corporate Management Board. No spend is planned on the fund during this financial year. Therefore £0.820 million has been slipped into 2022-23.

Enterprise Hub Innovation centre (£1.802 million)

A limited and significantly over-budget response to the tender invitation has led to delays as the project team reviews procurement options. Further new units are currently in the planning process and a review is underway in relation to highway implications. Revisions to the programme timetable will be based on the outcome of these pieces of work and therefore £1.802 million is being slipped into 2022-23 leaving a budget of £0.100 million to cover fees likely to be incurred this year.

Waterton Upgrade (£8.144 million)

The progression of the scheme is dependent on the inclusion of a capital receipt from the sale of land at Waterton (£3.5 million estimated). As a result there is no capital spend anticipated in the current financial year although there is likely to be survey fees. A cabinet report is being prepared to identify the alternative options for the highways depot, following which, the capital budget will need to be reviewed and any proposed changes brought back to cabinet and council. £8.144 million has therefore been slipped to 2022-23.

The balance of £2.669 million is made up of various other schemes with individual slippages under £0.5 million.

Capital Programme 2021-22 Onwards

- 4.5 Since the last capital report approved by Council in October 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:

Schools Capital maintenance Grant (£2.436 million)

As noted above, Welsh Government has awarded the Council £2.436 million to be used towards improving ventilation, supporting decarbonisation and reducing backlog maintenance in schools. A condition of this grant was that it

had to be used by 31 March 2022 and it was therefore utilised against schemes originally funded by the Council. The Council funding was slipped into 2022-23.

Fleet Transition Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (£0.300 million)

Welsh Government set the ambition for all cars and light vans to be net zero by 2025 and all fleet vehicles to be ultra-low carbon by 2030 and have awarded funds via the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) to support this transition for the public sector in Wales. The Council has been awarded £0.300 million in 2021-22. The fund can be used for: Optimising Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) fleet vehicles and data analysis, linked to the development of a ULEV Infrastructure Fleet and Workplace Strategy. The fund also supports early ULEV installations at operational depots, including heavier fleet charging infrastructure and trials, enablement of district network operators (DNO) to upgrade power supplies, support solar-to-battery power installations where applicable, and programme management and specialist support costs for design and implementation.

Metro Plus Local Transport Fund (£0.330 million)

Local Transport Funding has been awarded to the Council of up to £0.180 million for the Porthcawl Bus Interchange (Pyle Park and Ride Metro) and £0.150 million for the Pencoed Rail Crossing scheme (Penprysg Road Bridge) from the Metro Plus programme for 2021-22.

Bryncethin Depot Facilities (£0.161 million)

Electrical Infrastructure works of £0.246 million are needed for Bryncethin Depot Facilities. A Salix loan of £0.161 million has been secured to fund these works and the balance of the project would be met from the existing £0.370 million capital funding for Bryncethin Depot. The works are focused on the replacement of the existing light fittings (offices ground and first floor) for LED lighting. Some light fittings will also have automatic lighting controls. It is also planned to install a 60kwp solar PV system on the roof of the barn as well as a set of batteries that will provide a significant degree of self-sufficiency from the grid.

- 4.6 There are a number of other schemes within the Capital Programme that are awaiting confirmation of external funding over the winter 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 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 Council:

- notes the Council's Capital Programme 2021-22 Quarter 3 update to 31 December 2021 (**Appendix A**)
- approves the revised Capital Programme (**Appendix B**)
- notes the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2021-22 (**Appendix C**)

Carys Lord
Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
January 2022

Contact Officer: Eilish Thomas
Finance Manager – Financial Control and Closing

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CF31 4AP

Background documents: None

Page 49	Budget 21-22 (Council October 21) £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virement £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000	Total Expenditure To Date £'000	Projected Spend £'000

Education & Family Support

21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS BAND B	400	-	-	(300)	100	-	100
CCYD CLASSROOMS	30	-	-	-	30	2	30
HIGHWAYS SCHEMES BAND B	3,400	-	-	(3,400)	-	-	-
YSGOL BRYN CASTELL SPECIAL SCHOOL	22	70	70	(70)	92	62	92
BRYNMENYN PRIMARY	44	-	-	-	44	-	44
LAND PURCHASE BAND B SCHOOLS	4,910	-	-	-	4,910	1	4,910
YSGOL GYFUN GYMRAEG LLANGYNWYD	50	-	-	(50)	-	-	-
GATEWAY TO THE VALLEYS SECONDARY SCHOOL	135	-	-	-	135	93	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	300	105	-	(105)	300	1	300
BRYNTEG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL ALL WEATHER PITCH	324	162	-	(162)	324	-	324
BRYNMENYN SCHOOL HIGHWAYS WORK	12	-	-	-	12	-	12
REDUCTION OF INFANT CLASS SIZES	15	-	-	-	15	5	15
SCHOOLS CAPITAL MINOR WORKS	361	-	-	(325)	36	10	36
SCHOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY	208	-	-	-	208	89	208
SCHOOL MODERNISATION	573	-	-	(473)	100	-	100
CEFN CRIBWR PRIMARY ALN	-	-	-	-	-	(6)	-
EDUCATION S106 SCHEMES	169	-	-	-	169	-	169
MYNYDD CYNFFIG PRIMARY SCHOOL MOBILES	98	12	-	(12)	98	(8)	98
SCHOOLS' CAPITAL MAINTENANCE GRANT	2,189	2,087	(70)	(2,087)	2,119	467	2,119
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - BETTWS	747	-	(50)	-	697	15	697
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - BRIDGEND	53	-	-	-	53	-	53
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - OGMORE	807	-	50	-	857	28	857
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - PORTHCAWL	53	-	-	-	53	-	53
WELSH MEDIUM CHILDCARE PROVISION - HIGHWAYS	100	-	-	-	100	-	100
EAST HUB - BRYNTEG COMPREHENSIVE	-	-	-	-	-	(27)	-
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	15,436	2,436	-	(6,984)	10,888	764	10,888

Social Services and Wellbeing

COMMUNITY CENTRES	280	-	-	-	280	52	280
BRYNGARW PARK - ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS	49	-	-	-	49	2	49
BRYN Y CAE - HFE'S	40	-	-	-	40	-	40
TY CWM OGWR	340	-	-	-	340	6	340
WELLBEING MINOR WORKS	163	-	-	-	163	-	163
TREM Y MOR - ACCOMODATION	175	-	-	-	175	155	175
BAKERS WAY MINOR WORKS	10	-	-	-	10	-	10
GLAN YR AFON CARE HOME	51	-	-	-	51	-	51
CHILDRENS RESIDENTIAL HUB	100	-	-	-	100	39	100
HARTSHORN HOUSE	67	-	1	-	68	68	68
BRIDGEND RECREATION	150	-	-	-	150	76	150
HALO AND AWEN ACCESSIBILITY	150	-	-	-	150	-	150

	Budget 21-22 (Council October 21) £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virement £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000	Total Expenditure To Date £'000	Projected Spend £'000
TOTAL Social Services & Wellbeing	1,575	-	1	-	1,576	399	1,576

**Communities
Street Scene**

COMMUNITY PLAY AREAS	100	-	-	-	100	10	100
PARKS/PAVILIONS/COMMUNITY CENTRES CAT	580	-	-	-	580	188	580
ABERFIELDS PLAYFIELDS	11	-	-	-	11	-	11
PORTHCAWL TOWN SEA DEFENCE	27	-	-	-	27	-	27
ACCESSIBILITY & SAFETY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	148	-	-	-	148	1	148
COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM	815	-	-	(465)	350	239	350
REMEDIAL MEASURES - CAR PARKS	135	-	-	(135)	-	-	-
CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT	38	-	-	(30)	8	-	8
ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES	336	-	-	(136)	200	102	200
PYLE TO PORTHCAWL PHASE 1	348	-	-	-	348	32	348
ACTIVE TRAVEL- BRIDGEND TO PENCOED PHASE 2	1,841	-	-	-	1,841	1,106	1,841
HIGHWAYS STRUCTURAL WORKS	344	-	81	-	425	98	425
CARRIAGEWAY CAPITAL WORKS	255	-	-	-	255	193	255
ACTIVE TRAVEL - BRIDGEND TO BRACKLA	-	-	-	-	-	(14)	-
ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	229	-	-	-	229	3	229
PROW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT STRUCTURES	181	-	-	-	181	4	181
HIGHWAYS REFURBISHMENT GRANT	810	-	-	-	810	153	810
CARRIAGEWAY & FOOTWAYS RENEWAL	1,560	-	-	-	1,560	1,426	1,560
NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK PHASE 2	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	-
REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHTING	388	-	-	-	388	173	388
BRIDGE STRENGTHENING A4061	51	-	-	-	51	27	51
COMMUNITIES MINOR WORKS	461	-	-	-	461	26	461
RIVER PROTECTION MEASURES	161	-	(81)	-	80	-	80
RESILIENT ROADS FUND	475	-	-	-	475	139	475
ULTRA LOW EMISSIONS VEHICLE TRANSFORMATION FUND	462	-	-	-	462	-	462
FLEET TRANSITION-ULEV	-	300	-	-	300	-	300
PYLE PARK AND RIDE METRO	-	180	-	-	180	105	180
LOCAL TRANSPORT FUND - PENPRYSG ROAD BRIDGE	-	150	-	-	150	47	150
SAFE ROUTES	174	-	-	-	174	34	174
RESIDENTS PARKING BRIDGEND TC	128	-	-	(100)	28	4	28
FLEET VEHICLES	1,376	-	-	(1,376)	-	-	-
RELOCATE RECYCLING CENTRE	798	-	-	-	798	723	798
AHP WASTE	207	-	-	-	207	183	207
HEOL MOSTYN JUNCTION	540	-	-	-	540	300	540
EXTENSION TO CORNELLY CEMETERY	301	-	-	(235)	66	11	66
EXTENSION TO PORTHCAWL CEMETERY	199	-	-	(180)	19	7	19
STREET LIGHTING ENERGY SALIX	629	-	-	-	629	250	629
HIGHWAYS S106 MINOR SCHEMES	60	-	-	-	60	15	60
TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT	250	-	-	-	250	-	250
FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM TONDU WASTE DEPOT	140	-	-	-	140	-	140
TOTAL Streetscene	14,558	630	-	(2,657)	12,531	5,582	12,531

Regeneration & Development

BRIDGEND BUS SUP NETWORK	135	-	-	-	135	122	135
PORTHCAWL RESORT INVESTMENT FOCUS (PRIF)	70	-	-	-	70	42	70
COSY CORNER PRIF	1,885	-	230	(1,965)	150	72	150
EU CONVERGANCE SRF BUDGET	880	-	(425)	-	455	-	455
VRP - BRYNGARW PARK	151	-	13	-	164	164	164
VRP - PARC SLIP	88	-	(13)	-	75	56	75
TRI THEMATIC PROJECTS (UCPE AND UCLG)	687	-	-	-	687	287	687

	Budget 21-22 (Council October 21) £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virement £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000	Total Expenditure To Date £'000	Projected Spend £'000
PORTHCAWL REGENERATION PROJECT	2,541	-	-	(2,441)	100	2	100
BORWYN CENTRE AND OGMORE VALE WASHERIES	183	-	-	-	183	133	183
COVID RECOVERY FOR TOWN CENTRES	334	-	-	-	334	81	334
TRANSFORMING TOWNS BRIDGEND POLICE STATION	650	(195)	195	-	650	-	650
ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROJECT	831	-	-	-	831	201	831
COASTAL RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME	6,309	-	-	(2,000)	4,309	2,949	4,309
LLYNFI DEVELOPMENT SITE	2,260	-	-	-	2,260	-	2,260
BRIDGEND HEAT SCHEME	390	-	-	-	390	40	390
MAESTEG TOWN HALL CULTURAL HUB	5,671	-	-	(2,976)	2,695	1,287	2,695
TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND	224	-	-	(150)	74	32	74
PORTHCAWL THI	15	-	-	-	15	-	15
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ENHANCEMENT FUND	150	-	-	(90)	60	31	60
TOTAL Regeneration & Development	23,454	(195)	-	(9,622)	13,637	5,498	13,637

Corporate Landlord

CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT FUND	820	-	-	(820)	-	-	-
CORPORATE LANDLORD ENERGY EFFICIENCY SAVINGS	1,279	-	-	-	1,279	471	1,279
ENTERPRISE HUB	1,902	-	-	(1,802)	100	45	100
RAVEN'S COURT MINOR WORKS	447	-	-	-	447	1	447
BRIDGEND/MAESTEG MARKET MINOR WORKS	10	-	-	-	10	10	10
DDA WORKS	408	-	-	-	408	256	408
MINOR WORKS	296	-	(1)	-	295	25	295
FIRE PRECAUTIONS MINOR WORKS	249	-	-	-	249	67	249
BRYNCETHIN DEPOT FACILITIES	370	161	-	-	531	20	531
NON OPERATIONAL ASSETS	480	-	-	-	480	-	480
WATERTON UPGRADE	8,144	-	-	(8,144)	-	-	-
EVERGREEN HALL	130	-	-	-	130	12	130
INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES	47	-	-	-	47	-	47
TOTAL Corporate Landlord	14,582	161	(1)	(10,766)	3,976	907	3,976

TOTAL Communities	52,594	596	(1)	(23,045)	30,144	11,987	30,144
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Chief Executive

DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS (DFG)	2,039	-	(47)	-	1,992	945	1,992
TARGET HARDENING GRANTS	11	-	8	-	19	19	19
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	-	78	78	78
ENABLE SUPPORT GRANT	198	-	-	-	198	93	198
HEALTH AND WELLBEING VILLAGE	480	-	-	-	480	-	480
TOTAL Housing/Homelessness	3,649	-	-	-	3,649	1,147	3,649

ICT INFRA SUPPORT	423	-	27	-	450	125	450
WCCIS HARDWARE REFRESH	1,352	-	-	-	1,352	797	1,352
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	200	-	-	-	200	-	200
REPLACEMENT CCTV	667	-	-	-	667	-	667
TOTAL ICT	2,642	-	27	-	2,669	923	2,669

TOTAL Chief Executive	6,291	-	27	-	6,318	2,070	6,318
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	Budget 21-22 (Council October 21) £'000	New Approvals £'000	Virement £'000	Slippage £'000	Revised Budget 2021-22 £'000	Total Expenditure To Date £'000	Projected Spend £'000
Council Wide Capital Budgets							
CORPORATE CAPITAL FUND	200	-	(27)	-	173	-	173
UNALLOCATED	504	-		-	504	-	504
	704	-	(27)	-	677	-	677
GRAND TOTAL	76,600	3,032	-	(30,029)	49,603	15,221	49,603

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 credit balances shown

PRUDENTIAL AND OTHER INDICATORS 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

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Council Fund services	23.461	61.883	49.123
Investment Properties	-	0.480	0.480
TOTAL	23.461	62.363	49.603

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

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
External sources	15.583	16.563	21.108
Own resources	1.511	30.939	14.369
Net Financing Requirement	6.367	14.861	14.126
TOTAL	23.461	62.363	49.603

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	1.832
Total MRP & VRP	4.429	4.922	4.801
Other MRP on Long term Liabilities	0.743	0.801	0.801
Total Own Resources	5.172	5.723	5.602

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 3:

Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Capital Financing Requirement			
Opening CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	155.466	157.405	157.405
Opening PFI CFR	16.310	15.566	15.566
Total opening CFR	171.776	172.971	172.971
Movement in CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	1.938	9.939	9.325
Movement in PFI CFR	(0.743)	(0.801)	(0.801)
Total movement in CFR	1.195	9.138	8.524
Closing CFR	172.971	182.109	181.495
Movement in CFR represented by:			
Net financing need for year (Table 2 above)	6.367	14.861	14.126
Minimum and voluntary revenue provisions	(4.429)	(4.922)	(4.801)
MRP on PFI and other long term leases (Table 3)	(0.743)	(0.801)	(0.801)
Total movement	1.195	9.138	8.524

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

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Debt (incl. PFI & leases)	113.670	120.545	114.200
Capital Financing Requirement	172.971	182.109	181.495

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 guidance.

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

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Authorised limit – borrowing	170.000	170.000	170.000
Authorised limit – other long term liabilities	30.000	30.000	30.000
Authorised Limit Total	200.00	200.000	200.000
Operational boundary – borrowing	120.000	130.000	130.000
Operational boundary – other long term liabilities	25.000	25.000	25.000
Operational Boundary Limit Total	145.000	155.000	155.000
Total Borrowing and Long Term Liabilities	113.670	120.545	114.200

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

	2020-21 Actual £m	2021-22 Estimate (Council Feb 21) £m	2021-22 Projection £m
Capital Financing Central	6.623	6.707	6.597
Other Financing costs	3.448	3.872	3.779
TOTAL FINANCING COSTS	10.072	10.579	10.376
Proportion of net revenue stream	3.71%	3.89%	3.81%

This shows that in 2021-22, 3.81% of our net revenue income will be spent paying back the costs of capital expenditure.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE

COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2022-23

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding the implementation of the 2022-23 Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTR), and to set out the requirement for the Council to adopt a CTR scheme by 31 January 2022, together with the funding implications.

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**:-
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.
- 2.2 The Housing Benefits Service, which administers the CTR, is a statutory service which supports our disadvantaged citizens.

3. Background

- 3.1 CTR provides assistance for those on low incomes with a liability to pay Council Tax.
- 3.2 Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (chapter 3, regulation 33) abolished Council Tax Benefit (CTB) with the intention to localise the allocation and administration of Council Tax Benefit (CTB) from 2013-14.
- 3.3 The UK Government devolved to Welsh Government the establishment of localised schemes in Wales, and stated the intention to reduce expenditure on CTB by the equivalent of 10%.
- 3.4 The Welsh Government decided to develop a single nationally defined scheme set out in regulations for the provision of Council Tax support in Wales. The scheme also provided for a small number of discretionary elements which individual councils can choose to adopt; any additional associated costs were to be locally funded.
- 3.5 On 20 January 2021, the Council adopted the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2021-22 in accordance with The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013. This scheme will end on 31 March 2022.

3.6 From the latest data, there are currently 12,717 households receiving CTR; 8,114 of these are of working age and 4,603 are of pensionable age. Out of the 12,717 households receiving CTR, 9,801 are entitled to a full CTR reduction.

4. Current situation/proposal

4.1 The Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022-23

4.2 The CTR Scheme in Wales is set by regulations made under Schedule 1B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as inserted by the Local Government Finance Act 2012).

4.3 On 27 November 2013, the Assembly laid regulations that implemented the arrangements to support those who will pay council tax. The regulations (Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013) prescribe the main features of the scheme to be adopted by all councils in Wales. Minor amendments to these regulations have since been made each financial year.

4.4 The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 have now been laid before the Senedd for approval. These regulations uprate the financial figures used in the CTR schemes and make amendments to:

- support Afghan nationals and UK nationals from Afghanistan as a consequence of the recent changes to the Afghan Government. The amendments make provision to exempt this group from those counted as persons not being in Great Britain.
- disregard any redress payment received by survivors of historical child abuse in care in Scotland, from the calculation of an applicant's capital under the CTR scheme.

4.5 The new regulations do not contain any significant changes, from the claimants' perspective, to the current scheme and the maximum level of support that eligible claimants can receive remains at 100%. The regulations can be found at: [The Council Tax Reduction Schemes \(Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2022](#).

4.6 Within the Prescribed Requirements Regulations, there is limited discretion given to the Council to apply discretionary elements that are more generous than the national scheme. These are:

- The ability to increase the standard extended reduction period of 4 weeks given to persons after they return to work (where they have previously been receiving CTR that is to end as a result of their return to work);
- Discretion to increase the amount of War Disablement Pensions and War Widows Pensions which is to be disregarded when calculating income of the claimant; and
- The ability to backdate the application of CTR with regard to late claims prior to the new standard period of three months before the claim.

4.7 It is required that the Council adopts a CTR Scheme regardless of whether it applies any of the discretionary elements. If the Council fails to approve a scheme, then a

default scheme shall apply. The Council can only apply discretion if it makes its own scheme under the Prescribed Requirements Regulations.

4.8 **Consultation**

4.9 The 2015 amendment Regulations removed the requirement for local authorities to publish a draft scheme and consult interested persons where a billing authority revises a scheme in consequence of amendments made to the Prescribed Requirement Regulations. The effect of the amendment was to remove the requirement for local authorities to consult in relation to changes made by Welsh Ministers (as opposed to the discretionary areas of the scheme), over which local authorities have no discretion.

4.10 Consultation on the Prescribed Requirement Regulations was undertaken in 2016 and the results detailed in the Head of Finance's report to Council on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme on 11 January 2017. As it is proposed not to change the discretionary elements, a further consultation exercise has not been completed.

4.11 It is proposed that the discretionary elements remain as follows:

- The extended payment period is maintained at the minimum standard of 4 weeks.
- War Disablement Pensions and War Widows Pensions are fully disregarded when calculating entitlement to CTR. The estimated cost of this proposal within the financial year is £9,323.
- Backdating is maintained at the minimum standard of 3 months.

4.12 The total estimated cost to the Council for these three proposals is £9,323 for 2022-23.

4.13 **Main Issues**

4.14 The Council must consider whether to replace or revise its CTR scheme and is obliged to make a scheme under the requirements of the Prescribed Requirements Regulations. The obligation is a statutory duty and applies even if the Council chooses not to apply any of the discretions available to it.

4.15 The recommended approach to the available discretions is to apply the recommendations in Table 1 at paragraph 4.23 of the report. It should be noted that there are no additional monies available from the Welsh Government to fund the discretionary elements.

4.16 The scheme must be administered by local authorities within a fixed budget. There are significant difficulties adequately funding a service which is demand led with a fixed cost budget provision. The Welsh Government has confirmed there will be no additional funding to bridge any gap and each authority will be expected to meet any shortfall.

4.17 The Council continues to have powers to support hardship on an individual basis or in respect of a defined group. Such arrangements cannot, however, form part of the CTR Scheme itself.

4.18 Adoption of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme

4.19 The Council is required to adopt a scheme by 31 January 2022 under The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013, regardless of whether it chooses to apply any of the discretionary elements. If the Council fails to make a scheme, then a default scheme will apply under The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.

4.20 It is recommended that the Council adopts:

- a Scheme under The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013, which includes all the elements that must be included in the scheme, as set out in the Regulations; and with regard to the discretionary elements, includes the recommendations in Table 1 set out at Paragraph 4.23 below; and
- The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 to 2021; and
- The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022.

4.21 Part 5 of The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 (Other matters that must be included in an Authority's Scheme) identifies which elements of the prescribed requirements of a scheme are minimum only requirements and in respect of which local authorities have an element of discretion.

4.22 The recommendation in relation to the available discretionary elements is contained in Table 1 below: and takes into account the following:

- The consultation responses received in 2016, in particular those relating to the discretionary elements;
- The current local scheme in relation to the treatment of War Disablement Pensions, War Widows Pensions and War Widowers Pensions for Housing Benefit and 2020-21 CTR scheme, which disregards these payments in full; and,
- The fixed funding available.

4.23 Table 1 – Discretionary elements

Part 5 – Other matters that must be included in an authority's scheme	Prescribed Requirement Regulations (Minimum Requirements)	Recommended Details to be Adopted with regard to discretionary elements
Ability to increase the standard extended reduction period of 4 weeks given to applicants where they have previously been receiving a council tax reduction that is to end, as they have ceased receiving qualifying benefits as a result of returning to work, increasing	4 weeks	Pensioners: The 4 weeks period specified in paragraph (33) Schedule 1 will apply, and Non-pensioners:

their hours of work, or receiving increased earnings. Regulation 32 (3) and Regulation 33 (3), paragraph (33) Schedule 1 and paragraph (35) and (40) Schedule 6.		The 4 weeks period specified in paragraph (35) and (40) Schedule 6 will apply.
Ability to backdate applications of CTR for the minimum requirements specified in the Regulations will apply periods longer than the standard period of 3 months before the claim is made. Regulation 34 (4) and Paragraph (3) and (4) of Schedule 13.	3 months	Pensioners: The period of 3 months specified in paragraph (3) Schedule 13 will apply, and Non-pensioners: The period of 3 months specified in paragraph 4, Schedule 13 will apply.
Ability to disregard more than the statutory weekly £10 of income received in respect of War Disablement Pensions and War Widows Pensions and War Widowers Pensions (disregarded when calculating income of the applicant); Regulation 34 (5), Paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b) Schedule 4 and Paragraphs 20(a) and 20(b) of Schedule 9	£10	Pensioners: The total value of any pension specified in paragraph 1(a) and 1(b) Schedule 4 will be disregarded. Non-pensioners: The total value of any pension specified in paragraph 20(a) and 20(b) Schedule 9 will be disregarded.

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 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.

6.2 The Welsh Government has undertaken a detailed regulatory impact assessment, which includes an equality impact assessment; the findings reported were in line with their expectations.

6.3 The Council has undertaken a consultation exercise and this consultation assists the Council in satisfying the public sector equality duty in the Equality Act 2010.

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

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act have been 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 The 2022-23 Provisional Local Government Settlement shows that the sum provided for CTR across Wales is at the same level as 2021-22, a total of £244 million, a sum that has not changed in recent years. Bridgend Council's 2022-23 provisional settlement from Welsh Government includes £12.866 million to fund the CTR scheme, a reduction of £222,000 from the allocation of £13.088 million in 2021-22. This amount does not take into account any increase in council tax charges but is distributed based on expenditure on council tax reduction schemes in previous years. This amount is unlikely to change in the final settlement.

8.2 Any shortfall between the amount provided in the settlement and the amount of CTR awarded, including any discretionary elements, will fall on the Council. Based on the current caseload the estimated total cost of the scheme for 2022-23 is around £15.3 million (including the cost of the discretionary elements), which is £2.434 million higher than the funding provided by Welsh Government. Additional funding of £1 million to meet the full cost of the CTR scheme was included in the base budget as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014-15 to 2017-18. In addition, further funding has also been provided through the MTFS since then to meet demographic changes and changes arising as a result of the increase in council tax. The proposed budget for 2022-23 is currently £16 million, which provides some headroom based on current projected demand. However, with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and the impact of the restrictions on the economy and employment, and increases in the number of people eligible for, and claiming, benefits, demand may well increase, so this budget will need to be kept under review during the financial year and the position reported as part of the quarterly monitoring process to Cabinet. The Welsh Government provided additional funding during 2020-21 to mitigate some of the effects of the pandemic from its Hardship Fund, but there is no information yet as to whether or not any further financial support will be forthcoming during 2021-22 or future years.

9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- Notes The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013, and the 2014 to 2022 amendment regulations;
- Adopts the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022-2023 as set out in paragraphs 4.18 to 4.23 of this report.

Carys Lord
Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
January 2022

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Background documents: None

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE – CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- advise Council of the outcome of the adjusted political balance of the Authority resulting from Councillor Chris Davies being elected at the recent bi-election in the Caerau Ward;
- seek approval of the revised political balance;
- approve the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with political balance rules, as set out in the Appendix to the report and approve the changes to the membership of the Committees as outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

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

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

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

3. Background

3.1 The Council is required by legislation and the provisions of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution, to undertake arrangements which will continue to facilitate and carry out the decision-making processes of the Authority. On 19 May 2021, at its Annual Meeting, Council approved the political balance and made appointments to Committees to reflect the political make-up of the Authority at that time.

- 3.2 There has been a recent change to the membership of political groups, whereby Councillor Chris Davies (Independent) was elected in the recent bi-election at Caerau. This vacancy had previously been occupied by the late Councillor Philip White.
- 3.3 The change outlined in paragraph 3.2 above, has therefore slightly affected the political balance on Committees as, since his election, Councillor Davies has joined the Llynfi Independent Group.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 In view of paragraph 3.3 above, the following changes to Committee memberships is required, in accordance with a provision of the Local Government Act 1972:-

- 1. Town and Community Council Forum – Labour Group to lose a seat, Llynfi Independents to gain a seat.**
- 2. Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 – Llynfi Independents to gain a seat.**

- 4.2 Following the review of political balance the membership of committees has been updated to reflect the composition of Council accordingly. The updated political balance figures accounting for the above changes, are shown at the Appendix to the report.

- 4.3 The Group Leaders of Labour and Llynfi Independents have been asked to announce at the meeting of Council on 19 January 2022 the changes required as detailed in paragraph 4.1.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 There is no effect upon 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. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Implications

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

8. Financial Implications

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

9. Recommendations

9.1 That Council:-

- (1) Notes the outcome of the revised political balance of the Authority resulting from changes to the membership of political groups following the recent election of Councillor Chris Davies at the bi-election in the Caerau Ward;
- (2) Approves the revised political balance (of the Council);
- (3) Approves the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with political balance rules, as set out in the Appendix to the report and the resulting changes to the membership of the Committees, as outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

K Watson

Chief Officer Legal, HR and Corporate Policy and Monitoring Officer
January 2022

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Interim Democratic Services Manager

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Background documents: None.

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Committee	Total	Labour			Conservative			Independent Alliance			Llynfi Independents			Plaid Cymru		
		No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change
Appeals	12	6	50.00		1	8.33		2	16.67		1	8.33		1	8.33	
Appointments Committee	8	4	50.00		1	12.50		1	12.50		1	12.50		1	12.50	
Audit Committee	12	6	50.00		2	16.67		3	25.00		1	8.33		0	0.00	
Democratic Services Committee	11	5	45.45		2	18.18		2	18.18		0	0.00		1	9.09	
Development Control Committee	18	8	44.44		3	16.67		4	22.22		1	5.56		1	5.56	
Licensing Act 2003 Committee	14	7	50.00		2	14.29		3	21.43		1	7.14		1	7.14	
Licensing Committee	14	7	50.00		2	14.29		3	21.43		1	7.14		1	7.14	
Town & Community Council Forum	19	8	42.11		2	10.53		4	21.05		2	10.53		0	0.00	
Scrutiny 1	16	7	43.75		2	12.50		4	25.00		1	6.25		0	6.25	
Scrutiny 2	16	7	43.75		2	12.50		4	25.00		1	6.25		0	0.00	
Scrutiny 3	16	7	43.75		2	12.50		3	18.75		1	6.25		1	6.25	
Corporate	12	5	41.67		2	16.67		3	25.00		1	8.33		0	0.00	
Totals	168	77	45.83		23	13.69		36	21.43		12	7.14		7	4.17	
Councillors	54	24	44.44		7	12.96		12	22.22		4	7.41		2	3.70	
Variation as %			1.39			0.73			-0.79			-0.26			0.46	
Variation as Seats(1% = 1.66 seats)	1.66		0.84			0.44			-0.48			-0.16			0.28	

Committee	Total	Independent			Independent			Independent			Independent			Independent		
		JH Tildesley			R Stirman			M Hughes			S Aspey			R Shaw		
		No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change
Appeals	12	1	8.33		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Appointments Committee	8	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Audit Committee	12	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Democratic Services Committee	11	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		1	9.09		0	0.00	
Development Control Committee	18	0	0.00		1	5.56		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Licensing Act 2003 Committee	14	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Licensing Committee	14	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Town & Community Council Forum	19	1	5.26		0	0.00		1	5.26		1	5.26		0	0.00	
Scrutiny 1	16	0	0.00		1	6.25		1	6.25		0	0.00		0	0.00	
Scrutiny 2	16	0	0.00		0	0.00		1	6.25		1	6.25		0	0.00	
Scrutiny 3	16	0	0.00		1	6.25		0	0.00		0	0.00		1	6.25	
Corporate	12	0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		0	0.00		1	8.33	
Totals	168	2	1.19		3	1.79		3	1.79		3	1.81		2	1.19	
Councillors	54	1	1.85		1	1.85		1	1.85		1	1.85		1	1.85	
Variation as %			-0.66			-0.07			-0.07			-0.04			-0.66	
Variation as Seats(1% = 1.66 seats)	1.66		-0.40			-0.04			-0.04			-0.03			-0.40	

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REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of Council to the extension of the term of office of two Independent Members of the Standards Committee.

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 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 Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 the Standards Committee shall consist of not less than five nor more than nine members at least two of which shall be County Borough Councillors. The Committee currently comprises seven members namely:

- Mr Clifford Jones (OBE) Chair, Independent Member
- Mrs Judith Kiely, Independent Member
- Mr Philip Clarke, Independent Member
- Mr Jeff Baker, Independent Member
- Cllr Mike Clarke, County Borough Councillor
- Cllr Paul Davies, County Borough Councillor
- Cllr Gavin Thomas, Town and Community Councillor

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The term of office for two Independent Members runs out in February and May 2022. The Members are eligible to be reappointed for a further term. Thereafter, they must stand down and cannot serve more than two terms of office under the Regulations. In addition, the Regulations specify that the second term of office can be a maximum of four years.
- 4.2 The Members have made a beneficial contribution to the governance of the Council and are in agreement to standing for a further term.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 This is a matter for determination by Council and is within the policy framework and procedure rules.

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. It is considered that there is no significant or unacceptable impact upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8.1 Financial implications

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

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 That Council reappoints Mr Jeff Baker and Mr Philip Clarke to the Standards Committee for a further term.

K Watson

Chief Officer –Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy
January 2022

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Group Manager - Legal and Democratic Services

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Background documents: None

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER - LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY

INFORMATION REPORT FOR NOTING

1. Purpose of report

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

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

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

- Smarter use of resources – ensuring that all 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 a previous meeting of Council, it was resolved to approve a revised procedure for the presentation to Council of Information Reports for noting.

4. Current situation/proposal

4.1 Information Reports

The following Information Report has been published since the last meeting of Council:-

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Published</u>
Urgent Delegated Decision	13 January 2022

4.2 Availability of Documents

The documents have been circulated to Elected Members electronically via Email and placed on the Bridgend County Borough Council website. They are available from the above date of publication.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

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

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

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications regarding this report.

9. Recommendation

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

K Watson

Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

10 January 2022

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Interim Democratic Services Manager
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Email: cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk

Background documents: None.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY

URGENT DELEGATED DECISIONS

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to report to Council two delegated decisions executed as a matter of urgency under Scheme A 1.1 of the Scheme of Delegation of Functions.

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

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

3. Background

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

4. Current situation/proposal

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

Scheme A 1.1

CMM-PS-21-175 and CMM-PS-21-181 - Land purchase at Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridgend.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 This report has no effect on the Council's 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 well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications relating to the report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that Council notes the report.

K Watson

Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy & Monitoring Officer

11 January 2022

Contact officer: **Andrew Rees**
Democratic Services Officer

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Background documents: The Council's Scheme of Delegation (of Functions)

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