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



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

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
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**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, 12 October 2023

Dear Councillor,

COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held Hybrid in the Council Chamber Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB /remotely via Microsoft Teams on **Wednesday, 18 October 2023 at 16:00.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest from Members/Officers in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.
3. Approval of Minutes 3 - 14
To receive for approval the minutes of 20/09/23.
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. Presentation to Council by the Chief Executive of Awen Cultural Trust 15 - 16
7. Corporate Plan Delivery Plan Targets 17 - 36
8. Capital Programme Update Quarter 2 2023-24 37 - 56
9. Treasury Management Half Year Report 2023-24 57 - 80
10. Making of Porthcawl Harbour Byelaws 81 - 106

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|-----|--|-----------|
| 11. | <u>South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements</u> | 107 - 116 |
| 12. | <u>Information Report for Noting</u> | 117 - 124 |
| 13. | <u>Urgent Items</u>
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: This will be a Hybrid meeting and Members and Officers will be attending in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Angel Street Bridgend / Remotely via Microsoft Teams. 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 643148 / 643694 / 643513 / 643696.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

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

Councillors:

S Aspey
H T Bennett
A R Berrow
F D Bletsoe
S J Bletsoe
JPD Blundell
E L P Caparros
N Clarke
RJ Collins
HJ David
C Davies
C L C Davies
P Davies
S Easterbrook
M J Evans
N Farr
P Ford

Councillors

J Gebbie
W R Goode
RM Granville
H Griffiths
S J Griffiths
D T Harrison
M L Hughes
D M Hughes
RM James
P W Jenkins
M R John
M Jones
MJ Kearns
W J Kendall
M Lewis
J Llewellyn-Hopkins
RL Penhale-Thomas

Councillors

J E Pratt
E Richards
R J Smith
JC Spanswick
I M Spiller
T Thomas
JH Tildesley MBE
G Walter
A Wathan
A Williams
AJ Williams
HM Williams
I Williams
MJ Williams
R Williams
E D Winstanley
T Wood

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB /REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor W J Kendall – Chairperson

H T Bennett	A R Berrow	F D Bletsoe	S J Bletsoe
JPD Blundell	E L P Caparros	N Clarke	RJ Collins
HJ David	C Davies	C L C Davies	P Davies
S Easterbrook	M J Evans	N Farr	P Ford
J Gebbie	W R Goode	RM Granville	H Griffiths
D T Harrison	M L Hughes	P W Jenkins	M R John
M Jones	MJ Kearns	M Lewis	J Llewellyn-Hopkins
RL Penhale-Thomas	J E Pratt	E Richards	R J Smith
JC Spanswick	I M Spiller	T Thomas	JH Tildesley MBE
A Wathan	A Williams	AJ Williams	HM Williams
I Williams	MJ Williams	R Williams	E D Winstanley

Officers:

Jackie Davies	Head of Adult Social Care
Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Laura Griffiths	Principal Solicitor
Lindsay Harvey	Corporate Director Education and Family Support
Rachel Keepins	Democratic Services Manager
Laura Kinsey	Head of Children's Social Care
Carys Lord	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance & Change
Claire Marchant	Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Jonathan Parsons	Group Manager Development
Michael Pitman	Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services
Mark Shephard	Chief Executive

163. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members/Officer:-

Councillors S J Griffiths, T Wood, RM James, G Walter and the Corporate Director – Communities.

164. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made:-

Councillor H Bennett - Agenda item 6, personal interest as her employer was mentioned in the report as a partner provider.

Councillor JC Spanswick – Agenda item 6, prejudicial interest as a close family member is involved in Children's Services.

Councillors N Clarke, Alex Williams and H Williams – Agenda item 8, prejudicial interests as close family members have second homes.

Councillors Chris Davies and D Harrison – Agenda item 8, prejudicial interests (no reasons given)

Councillor T Thomas – Agenda item 8, prejudicial interest as he works for organisation that represents the interests of property agents.

Councillor S Bletsoe – Agenda item 8, prejudicial interest as Operations Manager, Wales, for the National Residential Landlords Association who represent the interest of Private Rental Landlords who are second homeowners within the County Borough.

All those Members who declared prejudicial interests in the items so stated, left the meeting whilst the reports relating to these were being considered.

165. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of a meeting of Council dated 19 July 2023, be approved as a true and accurate record.

166. **TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM:**

Mayor

Please note that there has been a slight change to the membership of the Development Control Committee in that Councillor Johanna-Llewellyn-Hopkins will be replacing Councillor Heidi Bennett. This will not affect the political balance of the Committee.

With the agreement of Group Leaders there have been some changes to today's agenda. There will be limited announcements; Item 9 will be deferred to October Council to allow for additional information to be incorporated and there will also be no Council questions at Item 12.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health

A Joint Inspectorate Review has been published on the effectiveness of child protection arrangements across Bridgend County Borough.

The report was based on visits carried out between 12–16 June by representatives of Care Inspectorate Wales, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Fire and Rescue Services, the Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and Estyn.

While the Council is the lead on safeguarding, the review also considered the actions and processes that are in place for our other statutory safeguarding partners, namely Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and South Wales Police and included the partnership working arrangements between each organisation in tackling the abuse and neglect of children.

As a result, the extensive report has highlighted numerous examples of where the partnership arrangements and processes for each individual agency have performed well, while also identifying areas of variability and where further improvements need to be made – both as a group, and as separate organisations.

All partners involved in the review have welcomed the findings of this report, as it offers an independent insight into the work of each organisation as well as the effectiveness of our multi-agency efforts.

While it is particularly pleasing to note the high level of positive comments within the report, we have also paid close attention to those areas which must be strengthened or where improvements can be made.

This includes the unprecedented increase in demand which has impacted all partners and has forced an over-reliance on using agencies and operating above the funded establishment in children's services.

Each partner remains fully committed towards providing the best safeguarding services possible, and to delivering improvements across all fronts.

Anyone who wishes to take a look at the review, then copies are available from the Justice Inspectorate's website along with further details on the work of the Joint Inspectorate Review.

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

The Leader made the following announcements:

The closure of the Zimmer Biomet factory is likely to take up to two years to complete, and redundancies will take place throughout this period.

69 per cent of the redundancies were employees within the County Borough.

Together with partners we have met with senior managers at the factory to discuss how we can jointly support affected staff.

There was a meeting in the summer at Bridgend Job Centre where our Employability and Economic Development team were present to discuss the support that each organisation can provide Zimmer Biomet and their staff.

The official consultation period is due to end in October. The company has stated that they do not want any involvement from Welsh Government at the moment, other than to help look for a new company who may be interested in taking the factory unit on.

A further joint agency meeting will take place with the company during November to arrange suitable support for staff being who will be made redundant next year.

Rescue attempts for Wilko have not been successful. The Maesteg store closed its doors for the last time yesterday, while the Bridgend store will close tomorrow.

It was originally hoped that the two local stores would be included among those premises that have been purchased by B&M and Pepco. Unfortunately, this has not proven to be the case.

As a result, meetings have taken place with the Employability Bridgend team at both stores to offer support to employees being made redundant.

We are continuing to provide affected staff with direct help and advice, and all partners will work closely together over coming weeks and months to offer further support.

We continue to advertise and promote Bridgend County Borough as an excellent place for businesses to invest in. Further updates will be made available as the situation develops.

UK Government is to invest five hundred million pounds into helping the Tata Steelworks at Port Talbot make the transition towards cleaner, greener ways of producing steel.

Given the high number of residents of Bridgend County Borough Council who are employed at the plant, there are concerns over reports that trade unions were not included in the talks around the deal, and that there have been early warnings that the investment into new technology could also result in as many as 3,000 jobs being lost.

While this is a positive move towards decarbonisation, it is hoped that urgent discussions can take place which will seek to ensure the future of sustainable steelmaking in South Wales while also protecting jobs.

In addition to electric arc furnace technology, this could, for example, consider the use of further green steelmaking alternatives.

As members have been advised earlier, the Bridgend Indoor Market at the Rhiw Shopping Centre in Bridgend town centre has closed with immediate effect this afternoon.

The closure has been deemed necessary in the interests of public safety after a specialist inspection carried out this morning confirmed that there may be a potential issue involving the use of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) within the structure's roof.

Bridgend County Borough Council has therefore taken swift action to close the indoor market to allow further in-depth assessments and surveys to be carried out, and for next steps to be agreed.

Traders have been informed and the Council will keep them fully up to date on the situation as it develops. The closure of the market hall does not affect the adjacent Rhiw Shopping Centre, which remains open as normal.

Bridgend County Borough Council has been carrying out inspections of all council-maintained premises in line with national advice from UK Government and Welsh Government.

The inspection process has prioritised local schools, where no areas of concern have been identified. The authority is currently in the process of checking other premises and infrastructure and carried out a visual inspection at the indoor market earlier this month as part of this process.

This determined that a more in-depth inspection by a Welsh Government approved specialist was required, which was carried out this morning. The decision to close the indoor market has been based on their findings.

Further surveying is now being arranged to establish the extent of the RAAC issue and what the long-term implications may be. As the council leases the market hall, the authority is also contacting the private owners as a matter of urgency.

To date, the Bridgend Indoor Market is the only premises where a potential issue involving RAAC has been detected.

We recognise the inconvenience and potential hardship this will cause to traders and the impact the loss of the market will have as a popular and busy place where people shop, meet and socialise.

Further updates will follow when available.

More information on RAAC is available from the Welsh Government website, by clicking on the link.

168. **SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23**

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing submitted a report, outlining the Director of Social Services Annual report 2022/23, which is a statutory requirement.

She advised that the report reflected on 2022/23, highlighting key achievements and challenges whilst also outlining the Directorate's key priorities for 2023/24.

In line with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, performance is reported against six quality standards highlighting key actions completed in the year (paragraph 3.4 of the report referred); how Social Services have performed against these standards during this period and the key actions for 2023/24 to enable us to achieve our priorities.

The analysis that was derived from the Annual Report, drew upon on progress against the Social Services and Wellbeing Business Plan, performance data for each service area in Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care, the views of Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) as the regulatory and inspection body for social services and social care in Wales and feedback from people who have experienced social services and well-being and their carers.

Whilst the report highlighted the key priorities for 2023/24 the Director's introduction of the annual report noted the key thematic areas for improvement for 2023/24, for example:

- Hearing and acting on the voice of children and families, adults and carers;
- Securing a stable, well-supported, motivated and permanent workforce;
- Improving practice;
- Maximising the impact of our services and interventions;
- Ensuring a more effective response to children and families, adult and carers, with complex needs;
- Seamlessly working with partners; and
- Implementing better intelligence and information systems

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing confirmed that engagement and consultation were a key aspect of the report and how we undertake these activities, as well as an overview of feedback being included therein.

The report also highlighted how feedback linked to some of the key actions.

A summary of key regulatory activity undertaken in the year was also included in the report and this focussed on inspections of regulated services; the Performance Evaluation Inspection of Children's Social Care in May 2022 (further shared with Overview and Scrutiny) and the November 2023 Improvement Check of Children's Social Care. The summary further included key findings and how we will respond, to given situations that arise throughout the year.

The Directorate is also in the process of refreshing the strategic plan for children and families in Bridgend. The refreshed plan will focus on developing a sustainability plan outlining a service, workforce and financial strategy on how the Council works with

children and families at risk in Bridgend. The plan will be considered by Cabinet in Autumn 2023, confirmed the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing.

The report also outlined how the service effectively continues to work with partner agencies and third sector organisations, that were key in terms of assisting the service as supporting bodies.

Finally, the report highlighted our financial resources noting the key challenges and pressures that the Directorate and Council face in order to deliver statutory services, as it was required to do.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing shared with Council a power point presentation, in order to pick out some of the key findings of the Social Services Annual Report, particularly outlining areas where the Directorate had worked well, including key areas of improvement, as well as identifying areas where some further progress could be made.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health commended the report and accompanying presentation, including the video footage therein that also included a Recruitment campaign exercise.

She thanked the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing and her Heads of Service/Senior management team for their excellent work and commitment to what was a crucially important service. The Leader echoed this, as well as adding the importance of our partners who added their support to the success of the service.

A Member noted from the report that the permanent establishment in Children's Social Care was 122.91 FTE and already working at 29% above level in order to meet its statutory requirements. With this in mind, she asked how performance was monitored to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of the workforce.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing, advised that Children's Services was one of the most monitored public service areas within any area of local government, as there were many areas both locally and nationally where performance was very closely monitored.

Internally there were performance indicators monitored through the Council's Corporate Performance Framework. Some of the data in terms of performance were reflected in the report and accompanying presentation, she added.

Particular emphasis was given to the timeliness of decision making, visits to children, the various stages of the child protection processes, all of which related to the overall activity of the Social Services workforce.

Each Social Worker had a caseload and the size and complexity of each of these was closely monitored through, for example, Management Team meetings, in order to ensure they were managed and processed effectively.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing added, that quarterly performance reviews were also in place to closely look at how caseloads were progressing.

As Children's Social Services was such a highly regulated area, external monitoring and sharing of information was also conducted with inspectorates.

She concluded, by confirming to Council that the Independent Improvement Board had also commended BCBC on its performance of producing quantitative data though there was still some further progress to make on qualitative data.

RESOLVED: That Council endorsed the 2022-23 Director of Social Services Annual Report.

169. **A 3 YEAR SUSTAINABILITY PLAN TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES IN BRIDGEND**

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing presented a report, the purpose of which, was for Council to approve a 3-year plan (Appendix 1 to the report referred) to improve outcomes for children and families in Bridgend, with the financial implications arising from the actions in that plan supporting the safeguarding and protection of children in Bridgend.

The report outlined some background information, where it confirmed that in order to more robustly support the above, extra resource would be required in order to successfully achieve this when facing the number of anticipated challenges that lie ahead.

She explained that while during and post-Covid all services have been challenged, the social care services appear to have experienced the brunt of an imbalance between demand and capacity, particularly in the last two years. The level of demand for children's statutory social care services over the last 18 months, particularly in Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) and hub-based locality services has increased substantially. The headlines are that:

- 8,334 contacts to children's social care in 2022/23 compared to 5,667 (47.1% increase compared to 2021/22)
- 3,114 assessments in 2022/23 (89.4% increase compared to 2021/22)
- 1,202 children with care and support plans as at 31.03.23 (9.3% increase compared to 31.03.22)
- 2,154 initial strategy meetings in 2022/23 (98.3% increase compared to 2021/22)
- 1,557 completed S47 safeguarding investigations in 2022/23 (80% increase compared to 2021/22)
- 270 children on the child protection register as at 31.03.23 (54% increase compared to 31.03.22)

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing explained, that independent analysis reflected that the Council has worked hard and in general successfully over the last year to deal with the unprecedented demand rises. It has involved significant short-term funding to deal with a real capacity crisis. This response is evident in the current workforce position summarised below:

- Permanent establishment in children's social care: 122.91 full time equivalents;
- The service is currently operating at 29% above establishment to meet all statutory duties in a timely way. This additional establishment is funded through a combination of earmarked reserves and specific grants but is also contributing to a significantly overspent position;
- There are 20% vacancies in the permanent workforce. There are usually around 5% absentees from work at any time;
- All vacant posts (and more) are covered to ensure the safety of safeguarding and child protection arrangements;
- 38% of the current children's social care workforce is therefore filled by agency staff.

Following analysis being undertaken that was outlined in the report, it was considered that the current systems that were in place were too complex, and colleagues across the system work hard on a day-to-day basis to ensure that they are managed effectively, and that decision-making is consistent. However, IPC's review of specific case files, and interviews with managers, indicated they are well aware of the difficulties the system creates particularly in terms of the work streams highlighted in paragraph 3.9 of the report.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing went on to say that, for families or other professionals other more basic arrangements are potentially confusing. Currently on the website there are number of different telephone numbers which could be used regarding children's services which can build in potential confusion particularly with the separation between early help and social care contact arrangements. IPC interviewed operational leaders of the services involved, and they reviewed a small selection of ten illustrative case files, selected as examples of more and of less effective practice. IPC state that it was clear to them, from this element of the work, that colleagues work hard together to co-ordinate responses to families and to make sure that gaps in provision are minimised. IPC had therefore identified areas for further practice and system improvement. These were contained in paragraph 3.10 of the report.

Therefore, in the light of the current challenges and the need to build a comprehensive and effective integrated service, IPC recommended a more integrated service be developed which is designed for Bridgend, but draws on best practice from other local authorities in Wales who have achieved significant improvement. These were highlighted in the report and its supporting information.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing finally drew Members attention to the report's financial implications which though significant, would greatly contribute to delivering safe and effective services for children and families going forward.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member – Social Services and Health confirmed that she was more than happy to support the report and its recommendations and she drew Council's attention to paragraph 8.16, which gave a financial commitment to the 3 Year Plan.

A Member noted the budgetary commitment that was required to strengthen the service, including the Council tapping into its earmarked reserves in order to meet the service needs while more permanent funding options were being investigated. He asked what level of funding in monetary terms were required to support the service longer term.

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change confirmed that £1m would be committed into the base budget for Social & Children's Services and this would be ongoing as a permanent resource. However, a fund balance of £2.5m was required to fully support the reports proposals, though earmarked reserves could be used to achieve this in the current year. For next year such surplus would form part of the Revenue Budget setting process discussions, in order to achieve a suitable outcome.

A Member asked if the Authority were confident that the proposed Operating Module used for the 3 Year Plan will provide the sustainability required to meet estimated demand and also, would the objectives of the Plan be both met and measured. She also asked how often the Plan would be reviewed and what would be the consequences of the Plan's proposals not being achieved. Who would also be accountable for this, she further added.

The Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing advised that herself and key officers would be held to account on the delivery of the Plan, through bodies such as the Social Services Improvement Board which would have political representation from Cabinet members and Group Leaders. There were also weekly Performance Dashboard meetings through which progress was monitored, as well as the usual Directorate quarterly performance report updates.

The actions proposed within the Plan had been based on considerable evidence that had emerged following discussions with other Welsh and English local authorities that had found themselves in a similar position to BCBC and had subsequently made improvements in the service through a commitment of extra resource that could target issues such as for example, prevention and ways by which to assist in the escalation of need.

She added that she was the Officer responsible to meet the terms of the Plan as Statutory Officer for the service under the Social Services and Wellbeing legislation and that the Plan would also be subjected to monitoring by the Care Inspectorate for Wales, through their inspections which would look at issues such as quality of service and performance levels. Internally, the Plan would also be monitored through the O&S process and through the Corporate Performance Board (CPA).

For further details regarding debate that ensued on this important item, please click [here](#).

RESOLVED:

That Council:

- Approved 'Think Family', the 3 year sustainability plan for children and families in Bridgend.
- Approved the budget virement of £1m to social services in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules;
- Noted the additional use of £2.5m EMR's in the current financial year to support the service as detailed in the report

170. **COUNCIL TAX PREMIUMS - SECOND HOMES**

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change presented a report, the purpose of which, was to provide further information to Council on the planning and regeneration implications of applying a council tax premium to second homes, as requested at the meeting of Council on 8 February 2024, and to seek Council's approval to go ahead with the application of the premium from 1 April 2024.

The report gave some background information following which, it advised that previously Council had received a report seeking approval to apply a council tax premium on empty homes and second homes in line with Welsh Government Guidance and following a public consultation.

The proposal was to apply 100% council tax premiums to empty homes from 1 April 2023 and to second homes from 1 April 2024, with both increasing to 200% after 2 years.

She reminded that Members had however asked that a further report be brought back to Council during the year on the wider implications of council tax premiums on second homes, prior to deciding whether or not to continue to proceed with applying this premium (see Paragraphs 3.5 to 3.11 of the report for further details).

The Council currently has 81 chargeable second homes, which could generate additional council tax income of £188,000, but this was subject to discounts and exceptions being applied and successful collection.

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change explained that this latest report outlined some of the planning and regeneration implications of implementing the proposal and sought a decision from Council, on whether to continue with the decision made at Council in February 2023 to apply the premium from April 2024.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration reiterated, that there had been an initial report submitted to Council on this topic and empty homes last year. He wished to point out that there was still a significant housing crisis within the County Borough at the current time.

A Member asked that if a member of the public buys a second home which has been empty for many years and is uninhabitable, then they would have to pay double Council Tax on this, ie as well as their primary property, for the length of time it took to make the second property habitable. She asked if there was any financial protection or support in place for these people.

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change, advised that there were an increasing number of grant opportunities available through which to upgrade properties such as the above, to bring them back up to habitable use. She confirmed that she would share these with Members, so that they could in turn share with any interested constituents.

A Member noted the opportunity to gain extra revenue in the form of Council Tax payments from private property second homeowners. He asked though, if the Council could similarly collect extra revenue from the owners of empty business properties.

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change advised that this was dependent upon the owners of such vacated properties being known and traceable. She added, that Council Tax revenue from private properties came into the Council directly, however, Business Rates in respect of commercial properties the Authority collected on behalf of Welsh Government (WG) and paid this directly to them. The Council then received a payment from WG that was based on the adult population of the BCB.

A Member noted the extra income confirmed in the report of £188k and asked what the costs to the Authority would be for ensuring the collection of this.

The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change, advised that there would be no extra cost, as this would just be in the form of additional work that would be absorbed by the Council Tax section, though there could be additional costs in the form of non-payment, for example through chasing up payment and if necessary, Court proceedings and summonses, etc.

As there were some Members who reflected that they did not support the report's proposals, Council agreed to conduct an electronic vote on this item, the result of which was as follows:-

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
28	4	4

RESOLVED: That Council approved the proposed 100% council tax premiums to be implemented from 1st April 2023 for long term empty homes, and 1st April 2024 for second homes, with these both increasing to 200% after 2 years.

171. **SOUTH-EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to defer this item in order to receive further information at the next scheduled meeting of Council.

172. **APPOINTMENT OF REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVES TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUBJECT COMMITTEES**

The Group Manager – Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to seek Council’s approval of the appointment of the following individuals as Registered Representatives for Education items considered by the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, for a maximum term of four years:

- a) Ms Angela Clarke as the Church in Wales Registered Representative;
- b) Ms Samantha Rachel Lambert-Worgan as the Special School Parent Governor Representative

She advised that the term of office of the previous Church in Wales Registered Representative has come to an end and a new nomination has been sought. Ms Angela Clarke has been nominated to serve as the Church in Wales Registered Representative for Education items considered by the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, for a maximum term of four years.

Following an election held in accordance with the Parent Governor Representatives and Church Representatives (Wales) Regulations 2001, Ms Samantha Rachel Lambert-Worgan has been nominated to serve as the Special School Parent Governor Representative for Education items considered by the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, for the same term as above.

Following consideration of the report by Council, it was

RESOLVED: That Council noted the report and approved the appointment of the following individuals as Registered Representatives for Education items considered by the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees, for a maximum term of four years:

- (i) Ms Angela Clark as the Church in Wales Registered Representative;
- (ii) Ms Samantha Rachel Lambert-Worgan as the Special School Parent Governor Representative.

173. **INFORMATION REPORT FOR NOTING**

The Group Manager, Legal and Democratic Services informed Council of an information report for noting, that had been published since the last scheduled meeting.

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

RESOLVED: That Council acknowledged the publication of the report referred to in paragraph 3.1 of the report.

174. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE:**

The responses by the Executive to questions posed to them by certain Members of Council had been circulated to all Members in advance of the meeting.

As the Mayor had briefly announced earlier, there would be no further consideration of this agenda item at today's meeting.

175. **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

The meeting closed at 18:20

Agenda Item 6

Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF AWEN CULTURAL TRUST
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Responsible Officer:	MARK GALVIN SENIOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER – COMMITTEES
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	The report and accompanying presentation will update Council on the latest work and developments of the above organisation and partner of the Council.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of a presentation proposed to be delivered by representatives of Awen Cultural Trust.

2. Background

- 2.1 Council will be accustomed to receiving presentations from its key partners and stakeholders periodically in the past.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The presentation will be given to Council at its October meeting, by Mr Richard Hughes who will be accompanied by Ceri Evans.
- 3.2 Further presentations will be scheduled periodically for future Council meetings from partner organisations and agencies.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 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.

6. Climate Change Implications

6.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no safeguarding or corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 That Council is recommended to note the presentation as referred to at paragraph 3.1 of the report.

Background documents

None.

Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	CORPORATE PLAN DELIVERY PLAN TARGETS
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	ALEX RAWLIN POLICY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	Council priorities, aims, commitments and performance indicators in the Corporate Plan / Delivery Plan inform Service Plans which form part of the Policy Framework.
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the development of the Corporate Plan and Corporate Plan Delivery Plan, each Directorate has now produced a Business Plan, which includes targets against each Corporate Plan Performance Indicator. • These show – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 99 PIs for the seven wellbeing objectives. • Nearly half of those indicators can be reported quarterly (47 indicators). • Trend data is available on 60% of indicators. • 87% of indicators (86) now have proposed targets. Of these, 60% (52) have targets to improve performance or are set at a maximum level. 13% (11) have targets to maintain performance. The others are new indicators where we don't have historical performance data. • A rationale has been provided for each target to explain whether the council aims to increase, reduce or maintain performance, and explain why. • Directorate business plan will now be stored, saved and available to view on the intranet

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present for approval the proposed annual performance targets for 2023-24 for the performance indicators in the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP) that supports the Council's new Corporate Plan.

2 Background

- 2.1 On 1 March 2023 Council agreed the Corporate Plan 2023-28 and the proposal to develop a one-year Corporate Plan Delivery Plan to help monitor progress against it. On 19 July 2023 Council agreed the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2023-24 which set out the Wellbeing Objectives and associated aims, commitments and performance indicators that will help measure the Council's progress on priorities.

2.2 Following the development of the Corporate Plan and CPDP, each Directorate has now produced a Business Plan, which includes targets against each Corporate Plan Performance Indicator and a clear rationale for the target. Directorates were asked to provide as many targets as possible, and comparable data for the previous year where possible, minimising the use of 'setting baselines' as an alternative to providing a target, and giving greater scope for trend analysis.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1 The Performance Indicators and targets are included in **Appendix 1**. It shows:-

- There are 99 PIs for the seven wellbeing objectives.
- Nearly half of those indicators can be reported quarterly (47 indicators).
- Trend data is available on 60% of indicators.
- 87% of indicators (86) now have proposed targets. Of these, 60% (52) have targets to improve performance or are set at a maximum level. 13% (11) have targets to maintain performance. The others are new indicators where we don't have historical performance data.

4.2 In response to a recommendation from internal audit about the storing and sharing of directorate business plans, the business plans will now be shared and available to view on the BCBC intranet.

4.3 The targets were reviewed by Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 September 2023. The committee's recommendations and requests have been reflected in this report, particularly their main request, that the rationales be reviewed, made more user friendly and consistent.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 This report proposes an approach to measure progress against the following corporate well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that form part of the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-28:-

1. A County Borough where we protect our most vulnerable
2. A County Borough with fair work, skilled, high-quality jobs and thriving towns
3. A County Borough with thriving valleys communities
4. A County Borough where we help people meet their potential
5. A County Borough that is responding to the climate and nature emergency
6. A County Borough where people feel valued, heard and part of their community
7. A County Borough where we support people to live healthy and happy lives

5.2 The 5 ways of working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 have also contributed to the Council developing its own five ways of working. The ways of driving and measuring those ways of working is also contained in the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan.

6. Climate Change Implications

6.1 There are no specific implications of this report on climate change. However, the Delivery Plan proposes measures and targets to help us assess the Council's performance on areas including climate change.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no specific implications of this report on safeguarding or corporate parenting. However, the Delivery Plan proposes measures and targets to help us assess the Council's performance on areas including safeguarding and corporate parenting.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications associated with these arrangements. Council agreed the budget for 2023-24 in March 2023 and that the targets will be achieved within that budget.

9. Recommendation

9.1 Council is recommended to: -

- Consider and approve the targets for the Corporate Plan Performance Indicators in **Appendix 1.**

Background documents

None.

Appendix 1

Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2023-24 – Performance Indicator Targets

WBO 1 - A County Borough where we protect our most vulnerable

Aim 1.1 Providing high-quality children’s and adults social services and early help services to people who need them

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of eligible carers who were offered a carer’s assessment (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	80%	New indicator. Developing internal processes and IT systems to strengthen recording mechanisms to improve the ability to measure the offer of carers assessments.
Timeliness of visits to a) children who are care experienced b) children on the child protection register (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	a) 81.13% b) 82.14%	a) 80% b) 80%	a) 85% b) 85%	To continue to improve performance but also reflect the challenges there have been linked to recruitment and retention
SSWB40 - Safe reduction in the number of care experienced children (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	398	<374	<374	Target set to see reduction in numbers reflective of pre-pandemic levels
CH/026 - Safe reduction in the number of children on the child protection register (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	270	No target set	<270	Target set to see reduction following significant increase in 2022-23
Percentage of enquiries to the Adult Social Care front door which result in information and advice only (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	70%	New indicator. Baseline target set based on analysis of data over last 2 years
Total number of packages of reablement completed during the year (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	377	New for 2023-24	370	New indicator. Baseline target set based on analysis of previous years data.
SSWB38c Percentage of reablement packages completed that mitigated need for support (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	66.84%	48%	68%	Target set to improve; however, an increased number of referrals is expected.

Number of people who access independent advocacy to support their rights within: a) children's social care; b) adult's social care. (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	a)185 b)180	New indicator. Baseline target set based on current service demand.
DEFS29 Percentage of completed Team Around the Family (TAF) plans closed with a successful outcome (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	75%	70%	72%	Due to an increased complexity in caseloads, this target may be more challenging to achieve.

Aim 1.2 Supporting people in poverty to get the support they need / help they are entitled to

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of people supported through FASS (Financial Assistance and Support Service) where support has resulted in increased income through claims for additional/increased benefits and allowances (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	60%	New indicator. Base target set to monitor success of the scheme in supporting people to access benefits and allowances they are entitled to receive.
Percentage of people supported through FASS who have received advice and support in managing or reducing household debt (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	60%	New indicator. Base target set to monitor the success of the intervention by the Financial Assistance and Support Scheme

Aim 1.3 Supporting people facing homelessness to find a place to live

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
PAM/012- Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	19%	30%	20%	Target reduced to more realistic level considering the Welsh Government legislative changes in terms of priority need which has a significant impact on number of households included in this measure
DOPS39 - Percentage of people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless for whom the Local Authority has a final legal duty to secure suitable accommodation (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	7.6%	30%	10%	Target set to see reduction in the number who fall into the final legal duty category. This is where initial measures to relieve their homelessness within 56 days have failed.

Aim 1.4 Supporting children with additional learning needs to get the best from their education

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS164 - Percentage of schools that have an ALN policy in place (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	100%	In line with the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (Wales) 2018

Aim 1.5 Safeguarding and protecting people who are at risk of harm

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
CORPB1 – Percentage of council staff completing safeguarding awareness training (CEX/All) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	77.33%	100%	100%	All staff to complete training
AD/024 - Percentage of Adult safeguarding inquiries which receive initial response within 7 working days (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	84.19%	No target	85%	Target set to see improved performance
CH/003 - Percentage of Childrens referrals where decision is made within 24 hours (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	99.53%	No target	100%	To continue to improve performance and ensure children are protected from harm
New - Percentage of child protection investigations completed within required timescales (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline setting	New indicator for 2023/24 and system changes need to be made to enable accurate data capture.
Average waiting time on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) waiting list (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline setting	New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to calculate an average and set future target

Aim 1.6 Help people to live safely at home through changes to their homes

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Average number of days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level access showers • Stair lifts • Ramps • Extensions (CEX) 	New for 23-24	n/a	Baseline setting	New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded under the new category headings to calculate an average and set future targets. Data will continue to be

<i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>				reported as combined average while baseline data is gathered.
DOPS41 - Percentage of people who feel they can live more independently as a result of receiving a DFG in their home (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	Data not available	98.1%	98%	To maintain current performance while new records management systems are embedded

Aim 1.7 Support partners to keep communities safe

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of council staff completing Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) training (Level 1) (CEX/ALL) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	94%	New for 2023-24	100%	All staff to complete training
Number of instances where CCTV supports South Wales Police in monitoring incidents (baseline)(CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline setting	To collect, monitor and analyse the first year of data in order to set a meaningful target and rationale going forward
DEFS161 - Percentage of children being released from custody who attend a suitable education, training and employment arrangement (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	100%	As per conditions of release from custody, it is important that children engage in suitable education, training, or employment arrangements.

WBO 2 - County Borough with fair work, skilled, high-quality jobs and thriving towns

Aim 2.1 Helping our residents get the skills they need for work

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS82 - Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	392	347	350	Annual target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year depending on funding source therefore targets are not comparable
DEFS84 – Number of under-employed participants leaving Employability Bridgend with an improved labour market position (COMM)	107	82	100	Annual target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year

<i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>				depending on funding source therefore targets are not comparable
Number of referrals to the employment service in ARC (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline setting	First year of reporting. Baseline to be established.

Aim 2.2 Making sure our young people find jobs, or are in education or training

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS80 - The number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme supported into education or training (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	387	213	727	Annual target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year depending on funding source therefore targets are not comparable
PAM046 - Percentage of Year 11 leavers not in education, training, or employment (NEET) in the careers Wales annual destination statistics (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	1.6	2.0	1.5	This target reflects the current position where more young people are identifying with a range of complex issues, impacting their progression into education, employment, or training.

Aim 2.4 Attracting investment and supporting new and existing local businesses

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of businesses receiving support through Shared Prosperity Funding (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	20	New indicator. Base target set to monitor the number of businesses supported and support economic growth
Number of business start-ups assisted (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	52	New indicator. Base target set to monitor the number of businesses supported and support economic growth
Number of local businesses attending procurement workshops (Annual) (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline Setting	Provide workshops in line with our procurement strategy and the introduction of supplier relation management
Local spend on low value BCBC procurement and contracts under £100,000 (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	2.93%	New for 2023-24	4%	Increase the amount of local spends on low value purchases and contracts under £100,000.

Aim 2.5 Making the council an attractive place to work

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
<p>CED29 - Percentage of staff reporting through survey that they agree or strongly agree with the statement:</p> <p>a) I feel every department is working towards the same common goal</p> <p>b) I am satisfied with BCBC as an employer</p> <p>c) Working here makes me want to perform to the best of my ability</p> <p>d) I feel that BCBC values its employees' ideas and opinions</p> <p>e) Do you think there are opportunities for two-way communication to discuss and raise ideas and issues? (CEX)</p> <p><i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i></p>	<p>a)41</p> <p>b)67</p> <p>c)77</p> <p>d)40</p> <p>e)84</p>	<p>a)39</p> <p>b)74</p> <p>c)79</p> <p>d)48</p> <p>e)83</p>	<p>a)42</p> <p>b)74</p> <p>c)79</p> <p>d)48</p> <p>e)85</p>	<p>Target set to show increase in positive feedback from staff in comparison to the previous survey conducted (2022-23 actuals)</p>
<p>Percentage of staff reporting through survey that they agree or strongly agree with the statement:</p> <p>a) I feel supported to manage my personal wellbeing whilst in work:</p> <p>b) The council is dedicated to taking positive action to support employees achieve a positive sense of wellbeing in their working lives (CEX)</p> <p><i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i></p>	<p>a) 70%</p> <p>b) 53%</p>	<p>New for 2023-24</p>	<p>a) 71%</p> <p>b) 54%</p>	<p>Target set to show increase in positive feedback from staff in comparison to the previous survey conducted (2022-23 actuals)</p>
<p>Number of sign up of new subscribers to the staff extranet (CEX)</p> <p><i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i></p>	<p>New for 2023-24</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Baseline Setting</p>	<p>To collect baseline data to understand how many staff are accessing the extranet. This will help set a meaningful target and rationale for future</p>

Aim 2.6 Ensuring employment is fair, equitable and pays at least the real living wage

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
<p>Number of real living wage employers identified (by size of contract) (CEX)</p> <p><i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i></p>	<p>235</p>	<p>New for 2023-24</p>	<p>249</p>	<p>Increase the number of suppliers replying and becoming accredited</p>

WBO 3 - A County Borough with thriving valleys communities

Aim 3.1 Investing in town centres, including Maesteg town centre

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of commercial properties assisted through the enhancement grant scheme (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	2	To allocate the grant appropriately to successful applicants in line with funding terms

Aim 3.3 Improving community facilities and making them more accessible

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Value of investment with Community Asset Transfers (CATs) in Valleys (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	£200k	Level of external investment exceeds Council's CAT Fund allocations for the year. External investment target of £200K for CAT projects in valley communities
Number of visits to venues for all purposes (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline setting	New indicator. Baseline to be set with new approach to capturing participation across a range of facilities within the valleys.

Aim 3.6 Encourage the development of new affordable homes in the valleys

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of additional affordable homes provided by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) in the Valleys (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	20	This 1-year target forms part of wider programme to see an additional 100 units in the valleys provided by RSLs over the next 5 years through the Welsh Government capital build scheme.

WBO 4 - A County Borough where we help people meet their potential

Aim 4.1 Providing safe, supportive schools, with high quality teaching

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS156 Number of schools judged by Estyn to be in 'significant improvement' or 'special measures' (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	0	New for 2023-24	0	School support is delivered by CSC, so there should be early support in place to avoid the outcome of any school requiring 'significant

				improvement' or in 'special measures'
PAM032 - Average 'Capped 9' score for pupils in Year 11 (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	No data available	No target set	Baseline Setting	Welsh Government has reinstated the data collection for the 2022-23 school year. Following reinstatement, the first-year results will be a baseline only.
EDU016a/PAM007- Percentage pupil attendance in primary schools (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	No data available	No target set	90%	Pupil attendance is a critical measure as young people are unlikely to attain their full potential and are more likely to be diverted into anti-social behaviour if they are not attending school regularly.
EDU016b/PAM008 - Percentage pupil attendance in secondary schools (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	No data available	No target set	90%	
EDU010a Percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the school year in primary schools (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	0.02%	No target set	0.02%	Primary exclusions have remained static since COVID-19 lockdown, so targets remain the same as pre-pandemic levels.
EDU010b Percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the school year in secondary schools (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	0.164%	No target set	0.12%	Secondary exclusions have shown an upward trend since the pandemic due to behavioural changes and increased complexity of need. The target reflects an expected improvement in this performance
DEFS155 Percentage of schools that have self-evaluated themselves as 'green' as part of their annual safeguarding audit (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	90%	100%	100%	Target set in line with Welsh Government guidance, to ensure schools are exercising their legal safeguarding obligations.

Aim 4.3 Expanding Welsh medium education opportunities

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS138 Percentage of Year 1 pupils taught through the medium of Welsh (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	8.04%	8.7%	8.7%	Welsh Government targets in accordance with Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019.
DEFS157 Percentage of learners studying for assessed qualifications through the medium of Welsh at the end of Key Stage 4 (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	6.62%	New for 2023-24	7.16%	To see an increase in learners studying through the medium of Welsh as per Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019.

DEFS158 Number of learners studying for Welsh as a second language (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	1378	New for 2023-24	1437	To see an increase in learners studying Welsh as a second language as per Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019.
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Aim 4.5 Attract and retain young people into BCBC employment

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DOPS36 - Number of apprentices employed across the organisation (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	36	36	39	Target set to increase number of apprentices
Percentage of those concluding apprenticeships and obtaining a non-apprentice role (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	70.8%	New for 2023-24	75%	Continue to improve the number of apprentices gaining employment

Aim 4.6 Offering youth services and school holiday programmes for our young people

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Participation in targeted activities for people with additional or diverse needs (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline Setting	New indicator. Welsh Government post pandemic investments have been removed and now using core resources.
Participation in the national free swimming initiative for 16 and under (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	16691	New for 2023-24	Baseline Setting	New indicator. Programme investment reduced and Welsh Government review taking place
Participation in active for life and holiday playworks programmes (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline Setting	New indicator. Significant reduction in government funding, new approaches being developed.

Aim 4.8 Supporting and encouraging lifelong learning

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS159 Percentage of learners enrolled in local authority community learning per 1,000 adult population (EFS) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	0.002%	New for 2023-24	1%	To ensure there are adequate learning opportunities for the adult population across the county borough.

Aim 4.9 Being the best parents we can to our care experienced children

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
SSWB48 Percentage of care leavers who have completed at least 3 consecutive months of employment, education or training in the a)12 months since leaving care b)13- 24 months since leaving care (SSWB) (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	a)54.17% b)62.07%	a)65% b)55%	a)60% b)65%	To continue to improve performance
CH/052 - Percentage care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year (SSWB) (Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)	10.27%	12%	10%	To continue to improve performance

WBO 5 - A County Borough that is responding to the climate and nature emergency

Aim 5.1 Moving towards net zero carbon, and improving our energy efficiency

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Reduction in emissions (across our buildings, fleet & equipment, streetlighting, business travel, commuting, homeworking, waste, procured goods and services) (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	By 5%	To see a reduction in emissions and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.01 Annual Gas Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (Annual Indicator, lower preferred)	24,362,648 kWh	Establish new baseline	23,144,515 kWh	To see reduction in energy consumption levels and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.02 Annual Electricity Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (Annual Indicator, lower preferred)	15,927,161 kWh	Establish new baseline	15,130,803 kWh	To see reduction in energy consumption levels and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.03 Annual CO2 related to gas consumption across the Authority (tonnes) (Annual Indicator, lower preferred)	4,458 tonnes	Establish new baseline	4,235 tonnes	To see reduction in energy consumption and relation emissions and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.04 Annual CO2 related to electricity consumption across the Authority (tonnes) (Annual Indicator, lower preferred)	3,080 tonnes	Establish new baseline	2,925 tonnes	To see reduction in energy consumption and relation emissions and progress our corporate energy efficiency

Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) pollution in the air (micrograms per m ³) (CEX SRS) (Annual Indicator, lower preferred)	47 (1)	New for 2023-24	40	Target set to see a reduction, in line with concentration modelled in the draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for the monitoring location of OBC -110. <i>Note (1) This represents the worst-case concentration recorded during 2022</i>
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Aim 5.2 Protecting our landscapes and open spaces and planting more trees

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of green flag parks (target set to maintain) (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	2	Target set to maintain current high standards
Number of blue flag beaches (target set to maintain) (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	3	Target set to maintain current high standards

Aim 5.3 Improve the quality of the public realm and built environment through good placemaking principles

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
PAM/018 Percentage of all planning applications determined within 8 weeks (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	64%	80.10%	80%	Target set in line with national target for good performance
PAM/019 Percentage of planning appeals dismissed (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	64%	66%	66%	Target set in line with national target for good performance

Aim 5.4 Reducing, reusing or recycling as much of our waste as possible

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO20.05 – Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	40.47%	40%	40	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve
PAM/030 – Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted a) reused b) recycled. c) composted (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	71.38% a)0.68% b)51.01% c)19.69%	70% a)1% b)47% c)20%	70% a)1% b)49% c)20%	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve
PAM/043 - Kilograms of residual waste generated per person (COMM) (Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)	120.2kg	131.65kg	131kg	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve

PAM/010 – Percentage of highways land inspected by the Local Authority to be found to be of a high / acceptable standard of cleanliness (COMM) (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	98.05%	97%	98%	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve
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Aim 5.5 Improving flood defences and schemes to reduce flooding of our homes and businesses

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of statutory sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) applications processed within 7 weeks from receipt of appropriate scheme drawings (COMM) (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	95%	New indicator. Baseline target set to ensure effective progression of applications

WBO 6 - A County Borough where people feel valued, heard, and part of their community

Aim 6.1 Celebrating and supporting diversity and inclusion and tackling discrimination

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of council staff completing Introduction to Equality and Diversity E-Learning. (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	12.07%	New for 2023-24	100%	All staff to complete training

Aim 6.2 Improving the way we engage with local people, including young people, listening to their views and acting on them

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Percentage of consultation participants who answered positively: How effective do you think we have been in meeting our aim of being citizen-focused over the last 12 months? (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	46%	New for 2023-24	50%	Target set to improve performance
Level of engagement (Welsh / English) a) across consultations b) with corporate communications to residents using the digital communications platform c) across all corporate social media accounts (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	a)8,267 b)795,335 c)1,230,698	New for 2023-24	a)>8,267 b)>795,335 c)<1,230,698	To improve the level of engagement across the county borough, based on the number of people who engage in certain corporate consultations, open the digital communications bulletins, and engage with posts

				across all the social media platforms
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Aim 6.3 Offering more information and advice online, and at local level, and making sure you can talk to us and hear from us in Welsh

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
CED5 - Percentage first call resolutions (via Customer Contact Centre) (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	75.91%	75.67%	75.92%	Target set to improve performance.
Number of online transactions using the digital platform (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	103,347	New for 2023-24	>103,347	To promote channel shift and to increase the number of online transactions by customers
Number of hits on the corporate website (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	1,398,559	New for 2023-24	>1,398,559	To improve on the information and advice that is available online to support residents further
Percentage of staff with Welsh language speaking skills (including schools) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	51%	New for 2023-24	52%	To improve the number of staff, including schools, with Welsh language speaking skills.
Percentage of council staff completing Welsh Language Awareness E-Learning (Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)	12.40%	New for 2023-24	100%	All staff to complete training

Aim 6.4 Helping clubs and community groups take control of and improve their facilities and protect them for the future

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO16.8 - Number of council owned assets transferred to the community for running (CATs) (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	10	20	15	A combination of 10 transfers ongoing being delivered and five new ones, across the County Borough
Value of investment with CATs across Bridgend County Borough (COMM) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	£400k	Level of external investment exceeds Council's CAT Fund allocations for the year. External investment target of £400K for CAT projects across County Borough.
Number of people supported to have their needs met in their communities by local community co-ordinators and community navigators (SSWB) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)	New for 2023-24	n/a	200	Baseline target set based on number of individuals being supported by BCBC local community co-ordinators who will be working in 6 locations within the county borough

WBO 7 - A County Borough where we support people to live healthy and happy lives

Aim 7.1 Improving active travel routes and facilities so people can walk and cycle

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
New active travel routes (length in KM) (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	4km	Additional target routes for the year

Aim 7.2 Offering attractive leisure and cultural activities

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of visits by older adults to physical activity opportunities supported (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	Baseline Setting	New indicator. New approach with reductions in funding.
Number of individuals who commence programmes and complete 16 weeks of activity (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	350	New for 2023-24	350	New indicator. Funding levels set by Public Health Wales.
Percentage of pupils who participate in three or more occasions of activity per week (FG Indicator 38 Sport Wales School Sport Survey data) (SSWB) <i>(Bi-annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	44.6%	New for 2023-24	46%	New indicator. Base target set to see improvement on previous data captured by Sport Wales
Participation in the summer reading challenge in libraries (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	2378	New indicator. Target set in line with agreement with Awen
Participation in Childrens events in libraries (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	61,855	New for 2023-24	48,176	New indicator. Welsh Government have removed funding used to support previous higher attendances therefore base target set for new funding levels

Aim 7.3 Improving children's play facilities and opportunities

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Value of investment in play areas (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	£1m	Target set in line with programme of works for the year
Number of play areas that have been refurbished (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	20	Target set in line with programme of works for the year

Aim 7.4 Providing free school meals and expanding free childcare provision

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
New DEFS163 - Percentage of nursery, reception, year 1 and year 2 learners offered a free school meal (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	n/a	New for 2023-24	100%	Target set in line with Welsh Government expectations
New DEFS162 - Percentage of non-maintained settings that are judged by Care Inspectorate Wales as at least 'good' (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	n/a	New for 2023-24	100%	Target set in line with Welsh Government expectations
DEFS160 Number of two-year-olds accessing childcare through the Flying Start programme (EFS) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	321	New for 2023-24	500	The target reflects the positive investment made in the Phase 2A and 2B expansions of the programme

Aim 7.5 Integrating our social care services with health services so people are supported seamlessly

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of people recorded as delayed on the national pathway of care (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	71	New national indicator which includes all reasons for delayed pathway of care. Baseline target set based on data captured for the first quarter of the year.

Aim 7.6 Improving the supply of affordable housing

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
Number of additional affordable homes provided by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) across the County Borough (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	110	New for 2023-24	110	This 1-year target forms part of wider programme to see an additional 500 units across the County Borough to be provided by RSLs over the next 5 years through the Welsh Government capital build scheme.
Total number of empty properties returned to use with local authority intervention (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	5	New for 2023-24	5	This is a challenging environment and maintaining current performance is proposed

Ways of Working Indicators (not already included under Wellbeing Objectives)

Performance Indicator Description	2022-23 Actual	2022-23 Target	2023-24 Target	Rationale for Target
PAM/001 Number of working days per full time equivalent lost due to sickness absence (CEX/ALL) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	13.20 days	No target	No target	To reduce sickness levels across the organisation
Percentage of staff that have completed a Personal Review/Appraisal (excluding school staff) (CEX/ALL) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	58.05%	New for 2023-24	80%	Target set to ensure all eligible staff have an annual review.
Percentage budget reductions achieved (Overall BCBC budget) (CEX/ALL) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	72.1%	100%	100%	Target retained at maximum
DOPS34a) - Availability of voice and data network (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	100%	99.99%	99.99%	Target set to maintain good performance
DOPS34b) - Availability of storage area network (core computing) (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	100%	99.99%	99.99%	Target set to maintain good performance
DOPS34c) - Availability of core applications (as defined in the ICT Strategy), central printers and multi-functional devices, and network connected devices (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	99.99%	99.90%	99.90%	Target set to maintain good performance
DCO16.9 - Realisation of capital receipts targets (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	£3.71m	£3.775 m	Nil	Target set in line with disposal programme
DCO19.02 - Percentage of full statutory compliance across BCBC operational buildings (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	78.6%	100%	100%	Target set to achieve full compliance
New- Percentage of statutory compliance across BCBC operational buildings (big 5) (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New for 2023-24	n/a	100%	Target set to achieve full compliance

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Agenda Item 8

Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE QUARTER 2 2023-24
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE
Responsible Officer:	HUW POWELL CAPITAL ACCOUNTANT
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	Paragraph 3.5.3 of the Financial Procedure Rules requires that the Chief Finance Officer shall report quarterly to Cabinet and Council with an update on the Capital Strategy and the Prudential Indicators. This report fulfils that requirement. There is no impact on the policy framework or procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The report provides an update on the capital budgets and expenditure as at 30 September 2023, the revised capital programme for 2023-24 to 2032-33 and the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2023-24.• Appendix A shows the budgets and spend to 30 September 2023 for the individual schemes in 2023-24.• Appendix B provides details of the revised capital programme for 2023-24 to 2032-33.• Appendix C provides details of the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2023-24.

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) 'The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities' (2021 edition) requirement to report performance against all forward looking indicators on a quarterly basis.
- provide an update on the capital programme position for 2023-24 as at 30 September 2023 (**Appendix A**).
- note the slippage of £15.809 million in to 2024-25 as detailed in **Appendix B**.
- seek approval of the virements between schemes as detailed in **Appendix B**.

- seek approval of the new schemes/additions to the capital programme totalling £0.737 million as outlined in **Appendix B**.
- note the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2023-24 (**Appendix C**).

2. Background

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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
- 2.3 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 2023-24, incorporating the Prudential Indicators for 2023-24, was approved by Council on 1 March 2023.
- 2.4 On 1 March 2023 Council approved a capital budget of £69.045 million for 2023-24 as part of a capital programme covering the period 2023-24 to 2032-33. The programme was last updated and approved by Council on 19 July 2023.

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 Capital Programme Quarter 2 Update 2023-24

- 3.1.1 This section of the report provides Members with an update on the Council's capital programme for 2023-24 since the budget was last approved by Council and incorporates any new schemes and grant approvals. The revised programme for 2023-24 currently totals £81.817 million, of which £44.574 million is met from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) resources, including capital receipts, revenue contributions from earmarked reserves and borrowing, with the remaining £37.243 million coming from external resources, including Welsh Government General Capital Grant. Table 1 below shows the capital programme for each Directorate from the July 2023 approved Council position to Quarter 2:

Table 1 – Capital Programme per Directorate 2023-24

Directorate	Approved Council July 2023 £'000	New Approvals/ Reductions £'000	Virements £'000	Slippage to future years £'000	Revised Budget 2023-24 £'000
Education & Family Support	32,937	1,604	75	0	34,616
Social Services and Well-being	3,379	141	0	(1,000)	2,520
Communities	52,504	(1,008)	0	(14,809)	36,687
Chief Executive's	7,197	0	(75)	0	7,122
Council Wide	872	0	0	0	872
Total	96,889	737	0	(15,809)	81,817

3.1.2 Table 2 below summarises the current funding assumptions for the capital programme for 2023-24. 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 2023-24 Resources

CAPITAL RESOURCES	£'000
<i>BCBC Resources:</i>	
Capital Receipts	8,976
Earmarked Reserves	24,884
Unsupported Borrowing	5,810
Supported Borrowing	3,951
Other Loans	87
Revenue Contribution	866
Total BCBC Resources	44,574
<i>External Resources:</i>	
S106	2,445
Grants	34,798
Total External Resources	37,243
TOTAL RESOURCES	81,817

- 3.1.3 **Appendix A** provides details of the individual schemes within the capital programme, showing the budget available in 2023-24 compared to the projected spend at 30 September 2023. There are currently no projected under or over spends on any of the schemes at year end.
- 3.1.4 However, a number of schemes have been identified as requiring slippage of budget to future years (2024-25 and beyond).

Porthcawl Grand Pavilion (£1.000 million)

Due to a delay in receiving the award of Levelling Up funding from UK Government, project development has been limited. The project is currently at RIBA Stage 4 design and the planning application process is ongoing. Therefore £1.000 million is being slipped for use in 2024-25.

Parks/Pavilions/Community Centres CAT (£0.400 million)

The Community Asset Transfer (CAT) fund provides capital funding to assist community groups to improve assets post-transfer as and when self-management agreements are finalised. The timings of asset transfers are difficult to predict due to issues such as land registration, which can delay completions, therefore £0.400 million is being slipped for use in 2024-25.

Porthcawl Regeneration (£2.500 million)

Development work is ongoing across the regeneration site, including further consultation and work on the infrastructure plan for Salt Lake. Enabling works in relation to the scheme have commenced and will continue into 2024-25. Therefore £2.500 million is being slipped for future use.

Bridgend Heat (£3.265 million)

Due to changes in the economic climate, including higher prices and interest rates, the financial model for the phase 1 scheme was no longer deemed to be viable. An outline business case for a larger second phase of the heat network has been issued, which incorporates the phase 1 infrastructure. Cabinet has agreed that work on this larger scheme be progressed, and details brought back for consideration. Consequently, it is unlikely that any capital expenditure will be incurred in this financial year.

Capital Asset Management Fund (£0.500 million)

A £1.5 million capital fund was established in 2019-20 to meet the costs of capital works required to comply with any health and safety or other legislative requirements in respect of the Council's assets. Subsequently £0.500 million was transferred to revenue works, leaving £1.000 million for capital. There have been 2 approvals on this fund to date (£0.180 million Pencoed Complex Medical Needs provision in 2019-20 and £0.047 million Puffin Crossing Kenfig Hill 2022-23). £0.500 million is being slipped to 2024-25, leaving a budget of £0.273 million in 2023-24 to fund any other unexpected health and safety works. Should there be a need for more funding in this financial year, some or all of the £0.500 million will be brought back into 2023-24.

Waterton Upgrade (£8.144 million)

The scheme has not progressed on the Waterton site as anticipated. Following changes to the Welsh Flood Risk Assessment Maps by Natural Resources Wales which resulted in the proposed disposal of land at Waterton for residential development no longer being viable, the way forward with the much needed improved

highways depot is currently under review. There is no capital spend anticipated in the current financial year, therefore £8.144 million has been slipped to 2024-25.

- 3.1.5 There are a number of amendments to the capital programme for 2023-24, such as new and amended schemes, since the capital programme was last approved, including:

Additional Learning Needs Grant (ALN) (£0.928 million)

Welsh Government has awarded the Council £0.928 million to optimise pre-16 learning environments for those with additional learning needs and increase accessibility to promote inclusive practice, support learning and pupil wellbeing. The funding can be used for eligible expenditure to support learners with ALN in both mainstream and special schools.

Flying Start Extension – Nantymoel Primary (£0.580 million)

The Council have been awarded a grant of £0.580 million from Welsh Government's Childcare and Early Years Capital Programme to provide a new build Flying Start childcare facility at Nantymoel Primary School. This funding is linked to the expansion of early years provision across Wales and forms part of the phase 2A expansion in Bridgend. The ongoing running and maintenance costs will be funded from the ringfenced expansion Flying Start funding through the Children and Communities grant.

ICT School Equipment – Brynteg iPads (£0.096 million)

Brynteg School will purchase 345 iPads which will be used exclusively for the new intake of Year 7 pupils and which includes onsite support and training for both staff and pupils. This will be funded from prudential borrowing which the school will repay from their delegated budget over a three-year period.

Youth Service Vehicle (£0.075 million)

Bridgend Youth Service will purchase a mobile youth centre, which will be used in partnership with South Wales Police and other third sector colleagues. The mobile centre will be used to engage with young people across the county borough in identified "hot spot" areas along with areas with limited or no access to centre based youth provision. The purchase of the vehicle will be funded from displaced Safer Streets funding which was used to fund part of the CCTV replacement in 2022-23. Therefore a virement from the CCTV replacement scheme is required. This will have no impact on the CCTV replacement. The ongoing running and maintenance costs will be funded from the youth service revenue budget.

Ty Cwm Ogwr Residential Care Home (£0.041 million)

The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Housing with Care Fund (HCF) is available to support independent living in the community for people with care and support needs and to provide intermediate care settings in the community so that people who need care, support and rehabilitation can return to living independently or maintain their existing independence. The Council has been awarded £0.041million funding from the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Housing with Care Fund (HCF) to upgrade the Nurse Call system at Ty Cwm Ogwr.

Breakaway (£0.100 million)

The Council has been awarded a further £0.100 million from the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Housing With Care Fund detailed above, to build a small extension which will provide

a bedroom and wet room at the Breakaway short stay provision. It is anticipated that there will be a small increase in revenue running costs such as electricity and gas which have to be met from within existing budgets.

Coychurch Crematorium Flower Court (0.194 million)

The Flower Court works at Coychurch crematorium are progressing well, but due to unforeseen additional works required to the roof and drainage an additional budget of £0.194 million is required. This addition will be funded from the Crematorium's accumulated balance.

Ynysawdre to Bryncethin Active Travel Route (£0.784 million)

The Ynysawdre to Bryncethin Active Travel Route will connect two points on the existing local active travel network and, where numerous schools and sports facilities (Brynmenyn Primary School, Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen, Halo Ynysawdre Swimming Pool & Fitness Centre, Tondu United Football Club) are located nearby. Encouraging the use of active travel can provide health benefits associated with increased physical activity, environmental benefits associated with reductions in noise and air pollution, reduction in congestion and other associated economic benefits. It also can assist in promoting greater social inclusion and providing infrastructure that facilitates low-cost modes of transportation, ensuring equity of opportunity to the majority of the local population. The scheme will be fully funded from Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund.

Coal Tip Safety (£0.200 million)

The Council have been awarded £0.200 million from Welsh Government's Coal Tip Safety Grant Scheme to undertake remedial works on a coal tip at Ocean Colliery No.6, in Nantymoel. The work will involve renewing concrete drainage channels and grouting of voids to prevent water entering the ground and causing coal tip instability. The drainage will run to existing water courses as previously, and the works will prevent further issues that could affect the stability of the coal tip. As such the works are considered to improve the issues that may occur due to climate change.

Brilliant Basics (£0.110 million)

The purpose of Brilliant Basics is to deliver basic small scale tourism infrastructure improvements across all of Wales to ensure that all visitors to Wales have a positive and memorable experience throughout all aspects of their stay. Welsh Government have awarded the Council £0.088 million from their Brilliant Basics Fund which, along with £0.022 million of Bridgend CBC Special Regeneration Fund revenue match funding, will enable the completion of the Porthcawl Cycle Scheme which will link Rest Bay, Harbourside and the Town Centre to Trecco Bay.

Local Places for Nature (£0.115 million)

The Local Places for Nature (LNP) 2023-25 project will focus on creating and enhancing habitats in urban and peri-urban areas across Bridgend such as tree, hedge and wildflower planting, wetland creation and changing mowing practices to encourage wildflowers and diverse grasslands. These activities will be carried out on Council owned land and land owned by LNP partners, such as Valleys to Coast. The scheme will be fully funded by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action, with capital allocations of £0.115 million in 2023-24 and £0.110 million in 2024-25. Local Places for Nature is focused primarily on urban and peri-urban areas and thus these schemes will impact on the everyday lives of the residents of Bridgend, providing

positive impacts on the ecosystem services and climate change mitigation where people live, work and access public services.

In addition to the above schemes, two schemes have had their funding reduced and one scheme has been removed from the capital programme. These are shown as negative approvals:

Road Signs 20mph Default Speed (£0.217 million)

Welsh Government awarded the Council a grant of £0.924 million for the 20mph default speed scheme in April 2023, and the grant was added to the capital programme in the Quarter 1 update report. Welsh Government have since confirmed that the allocation included the £0.217 million underspend from 2022-23, which had been slipped forward to 2023-24 already. Therefore, £0.217 million of grant funding needs to be removed from the capital programme.

Public Rights of Way Access Improvement Grant (£0.017 million)

Condition 5c of the Access Improvement Grant states that authorities must have a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) in place to be eligible for the maximum amount of grant, and that funding will be reduced by 25% if an authority does not meet this condition. The Council advised Welsh Government in June 2023 that this condition had not been met, therefore the amount of grant available has reduced by 25% and £0.017 million needs to be removed from the capital programme.

Llynfi Valley Development Programme (£2.177 million)

The Council's request to repurpose the Welsh Government Llynfi Valley loan, and to convert the loan to non-repayable grant funding has been unsuccessful. The scheme cannot proceed without the Welsh Government funding, and as a result has been removed from the capital programme.

3.1.6 A revised Capital Programme is included as **Appendix B**.

3.2 Prudential and Other Indicators 2023-24 Monitoring

3.2.1 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 in the Capital Strategy which was approved by Council. In line with the requirements of the Prudential Code, the Chief Finance Officer is required to establish procedures to monitor both performance against all forward-looking prudential indicators and the requirement specified.

3.2.2 In March 2023, Council approved the Capital Strategy for 2023-24, which included the Prudential Indicators for 2023-24.

3.2.3 **Appendix C** details the actual indicators for 2022-23, the estimated indicators for 2023-24 set out in the Council's Capital Strategy and the projected indicators for 2023-24 based on the revised Capital Programme. These show that the Council is operating in line with the approved indicators.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with five ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The well-being objectives are designed to complement each other and are part of an integrated way of working to improve well-being for the people of Bridgend. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of the well-being goals or objectives as a result of this report.

6. Climate Change Implications

6.1 These are reflected within the report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no Safeguarding and Corporate Parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 These are reflected within the report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- notes the Council's Capital Programme 2023-24 Quarter 2 update to 30 September 2023 (**Appendix A**).
- notes the slippage of £15.809 million to 2024-25 as detailed in **Appendix B**.
- approves the virements between schemes as detailed in **Appendix B**.
- approves the new schemes/additions to the capital programme totalling £0.737 million as outlined in **Appendix B**.
- notes the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2023-24 (**Appendix C**).

Background documents

None

Bridgend County Borough Council

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT

QUARTER 2 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

APPENDIX A

	Budget 23-24 (Council July 23)	New Approvals and Adjustments	Virement	Slippage to Future Years	Revised Budget 2023-24	Total Exp to date	Projected Spend	Over / (Under) spend	Impact on BCBC Resources
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000

Education & Family Support

1	HIGHWAYS SCHEMES BAND B SCHOOL	3,400				3,400	6	3,400	
2	SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING	10,525		(10,525)		-	-	-	
3	HERONSBRIDGE REPLACEMENT	-		4,200		4,200	280	4,200	
4	MYNYDD CYNFFIG REPLACEMENT	-		4,198		4,198	192	4,198	
5	Y G BRO OGWR REPLACEMENT	-		2,127		2,127	21	2,127	
6	BRIDGEND WEST MIM	-				-	-	-	
7	YSGOL GYFYN GYMRAEG LLANGYNWYD	100				100	-	100	
8	LAND PURCHASE BAND B SCHOOLS	2,028				2,028	-	2,028	
9	GATEWAY TO THE VALLEYS SECONDARY SCHOOL	32				32	-	32	
10	GARW VALLEY SOUTH PRIMARY PROVISION	70				70	9	70	
11	PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL BAND A	53				53	-	53	
12	GARW VALLEY PRIMARY HIGHWAYS WORKS	30				30	-	30	
13	PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL HIGHWAYS WORKS	56				56	-	56	
14	ABERCERDIN PRIMARY HUB	277				277	-	277	
15	BRYNTEG COMPREHENSIVE ALL WEATHER PITCH	402				402	18	402	
16	CHILDRENS DIRECTORATE MINOR WORKS	255				255	6	255	
17	SCHOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY	68				68	16	68	
18	SCHOOL MODERNISATION	386				386	18	386	
19	PENCOED PRIMARY CLASSROOM EXTENSION	502				502	17	502	
20	COETY PRIMARY SCHOOL EXTENSION	544				544	9	544	
21	BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SIX CLASSROOMS	1,632				1,632	10	1,632	
22	EUCATION S106 SCHEMES	169				169	-	169	
23	MYNYDD CYNFFIG PRIMARY SCHOOL MOBILES	79				79	-	79	
24	SCHOOLS CAPITAL MAINTENANCE GRANT	4,629				4,629	692	4,629	
25	WELSH MEDIUM GRANT - BRIDGEND	550				550	-	550	
26	WELSH MEDIUM GRANT - OGMORE	65				65	65	65	
27	WELSH MEDIUM GRANT - PORTHCAWL	550				550	-	550	
28	WELSH MEDIUM - HIGHWAYS	22				22	-	22	
29	FREE SCHOOL MEALS	3,570				3,570	643	3,570	
30	COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS	2,139				2,139	260	2,139	
31	ALN CAPITAL GRANT	-	928			928	55	928	
32	YSGOL GYMRAEG BRO OGWR MOBILE CLASSROOMS	249				249	17	249	
33	PORTHCAWL WELSH MEDIUM SEEDLING SCHOOL	370				370	-	370	
34	FLYING START CHILDCARE	185				185	16	185	
35	FLYING START EXTENSION - NANTYMOEL PRIMARY	-	580			580	-	580	
36	ICT SCHOOL EQUIPMENT BRYNTEG I PADS	-	96			96	96	96	
37	YOUTH SERVICE VEHICLE	-		75		75	-	75	
	TOTAL Education & Family Support	32,937	1,604	75	-	34,616	2,446	34,616	-

	Budget 23-24 (Council July 23)	New Approvals and Adjustments	Virement	Slippage to Future Years	Revised Budget 2023-24	Total Exp to date	Projected Spend	Over / (Under) spend	Impact on BCBC Resources
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000

Social Services and Wellbeing

38	BRYN Y CAE - UPGRADE HFE'S	40			40	-	40		
39	TY CWM OGWR	41			41	1	41		
40	WELLBEING MINOR WORKS	110			110	-	110		
41	BAKERS WAY MINOR WORKS	10			10	-	10		
42	CHILDRENS RESIDENTIAL HUB	444			444	316	444		
43	TELECARE TRANSFORMATION	893			893	-	893		
44	TY CWM OGWR RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME HCF	-	41		41	-	41		
45	BREAKAWAY	-	100		100	-	100		
46	COMMUNITY CENTRES	197			197	12	197		
47	BRYNGARW HOUSE	8			8	-	8		
48	PORTHCAWL GRAND PAVILION	1,537		(1,000)	537	12	537		
49	YSGOL BRYN CASTELL HARD COURT	99			99	-	99		
TOTAL Social Services & Wellbeing		3,379	141	-	(1,000)	2,520	341	2,520	-

Communities

Street Scene

50	COMMUNITY PLAY AREAS	1,906			1,906	32	1,906		
51	PARKS/PAVILIONS/OTHER COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS	1,419		(400)	1,019	348	1,019		
52	ABERFIELDS PLAYFIELDS	11			11	-	11		
53	CITY DEAL	2,586			2,586	-	2,586		
54	COYCHURCH CREM WORKS	559	194		753	730	753		
55	REMEDIAL MEASURES - CAR PARKS	135			135	-	135		
56	CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT CAR	38			38	-	38		
57	20 MPH DEFAULT SPEED	1,306	(217)		1,089	512	1,089		
58	ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES	38			38	3	38		
59	HIGHWAYS STRUCTURAL WORKS	566			566	37	566		
60	CARRIAGEWAY CAPITAL WORKS	250			250	(11)	250		
61	HEOL MOSTYN JUNCTION	168			168	-	168		
62	PROW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT STRUCTURES	85	(17)		68	2	68		
63	HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE GRANT	1,000			1,000	(119)	1,000		
64	REPLACEMENT OF STREET LIGHTING	400			400	124	400		
65	RIVER BRIDGE PROTECTION MEASURES	22			22	60	22		
66	COMMUNITIES MINOR WORKS	484			484	(1)	484		
67	ULEV TRANSFORMATION FUND 2	299			299	256	299		
68	FLEET TRANSITION-ULEV	220			220	30	220		
69	NET ZERO CARBON FLEET	264			264	104	264		
70	PORTHCAWL BUS STATION CCRMETRO	3,778			3,778	523	3,778		
71	PENPRYSG ROAD BRIDGE	13			13	-	13		
72	RESIDENTS PARKING BRIDGEND TOWN CENTRE	109			109	-	109		
73	FLEET VEHICLES	2,079			2,079	-	2,079		
74	AHP WASTE	6			6	2	6		
75	CORNELLY CEMETERY EXTENSION	217			217	13	217		
76	PORTHCAWL CEMETERY EXTENSION	177			177	8	177		
77	S106 HIGHWAYS SMALL SCHEMES	42			42	-	42		

	Budget 23-24 (Council July 23)	New Approvals and Adjustments	Virement	Slippage to Future Years	Revised Budget 2023-24	Total Exp to date	Projected Spend	Over / (Under) spend	Impact on BCBC Resources
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
78 UNADOPTED ROADS	433				433	(1)	433		
79 TONDU WASTE DEPOT UPGRADE FIRE	17				17	-	17		
80 PUFFIN CROSSING KENFIG HILL	14				14	3	14		
81 YNYSAWDRE TO BRYNCETHIN ATR	-	784			784	43	784		
82 COAL TIP SAFETY	-	200			200	-	200		
TOTAL Streetscene	18,641	944	-	(400)	19,185	2,698	19,185	-	-

Regeneration & Development

83 EU CONVERGANCE SRF BUDGET	389		47		436	-	436		
84 COSY CORNER (PRIF)	1,310				1,310	1,226	1,310		
85 PORTHCAWL REGENERATION PROJECT	2,920			(2,500)	420	304	420		
86 ECONOMIC STIMULUS GRANT	484				484	37	484		
87 COASTAL RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	764				764	522	764		
88 EWENNY ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	3,493				3,493	-	3,493		
89 ARBED PHASE 1 CESP	1,273				1,273	75	1,273		
90 LLYNFI VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	2,177	(2,177)			-	-	-		
91 BRIDGEND HEAT SCHEME	3,312		(47)	(3,265)	-	-	-		
92 MAESTEG TOWN HALL CULTURAL HUB	2,452				2,452	734	2,452		
93 TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND	232				232	8	232		
94 PORTHCAWL TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE	124				124	-	124		
95 COMM PROP ENHANCEMENT FUND	134				134	-	134		
96 CWM TAFF NATURE NETWORK	209				209	175	209		
97 URBAN CENTRE PROPERTY ENHANCE	562				562	-	562		
98 2030 DECARBONISATION	400				400	-	400		
99 SHARED PROSPERITY FRAMEWORK	1,889				1,889	-	1,889		
100 BRILLIANT BASICS	-	110			110	-	110		
101 LOCAL PLACES FOR NATURE	-	115			115	-	115		
TOTAL Regeneration & Development	22,124	- 1,952	-	- 5,765	14,407	3,081	14,407	-	-

Corporate Landlord

102 CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT FUND	773			(500)	273	-	273		
103 RAVENS COURT	446				446	-	446		
104 DDA WORKS	82				82	13	82		
105 MINOR WORKS	1,497				1,497	-	1,497		
106 FIRE PRECAUTIONS MINOR WORKS	110				110	35	110		
107 BRYNCETHIN DEPOT FACILITIES	551				551	5	551		
108 WATERTON UPGRADE	8,144			(8,144)	-	-	-		
109 EVERGREEN HALL	89				89	19	89		
110 INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES	47				47	-	47		
TOTAL Corporate Landlord	11,739	-	-	(8,644)	3,095	72	3,095	-	-

TOTAL Communities

TOTAL Communities	52,504	(1,008)	-	(14,809)	36,687	5,851	36,687	-	-
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	Budget 23-24 (Council July 23)	New Approvals and Adjustments	Virement	Slippage to Future Years	Revised Budget 2023-24	Total Exp to date	Projected Spend	Over / (Under) spend	Impact on BCBC Resources
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive									
111	MANDATORY DFG RELATED EXPEND	2,110				2,110	994	2,110	
111	TARGET HARDENING GRANTS	-				-	67	-	
111	COMFORT SAFE & SECURITY GRANTS	-				-	7	-	
111	EMERGENCY REPAIR LIFETIME GRANT	-				-	21	-	
112	DISCRETIONARY HOUSING GRANTS	329				329	-	329	
113	HOUSING RENEWAL AREA	315				315	5	315	
113	EMPTY HOMES GRANTS-GRANTS ONLY	-				-	102	-	
114	ENABLE GRANT	270				270	86	270	
115	HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING	530				530	-	530	
116	HEALTH & WELLBEING VILLAGE	480				480	-	480	
117	AFFORDABLE HOUSING	844				844	-	844	
	TOTAL Housing/Homelessness	4,878	-	-	-	4,878	1,282	4,878	-
118	ICT INFRA SUPPORT	766				766	195	766	
119	DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	180				180	-	180	
120	CCTV SYSTEMS REPLACEMENT	113		(75)		38	23	38	
121	ICT DATA CENTRE REPLACEMENT	1,260				1,260	-	1,260	
	TOTAL ICT	2,319	-	(75)	-	2,244	218	2,244	-
	TOTAL Chief Executive	7,197	-	(75)	-	7,122	1,500	7,122	-
Council Wide Capital Budgets									
122	CORPORATE CAPITAL FUND	573				573	-	573	
123	UNALLOCATED	299				299	-	299	
		872	-	-	-	872	-	872	-
	GRAND TOTAL	96,889	737	-	(15,809)	81,817	10,138	81,817	-

	Total 2023-2033			2023-2024					FUTURE YEARS									CUMULATIVE Total 2022 - 2033 £'000
	Total Cost	BCBC Funding	External Funding	Council July 23 2023-24	New Approvals / Reductions	Virement	Slippage	Revised 2023-24	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
63 Highways Refurbishment	2,000	2,000	-	1,000				1,000	1,000									2,000
64 Replacement of Street Lighting Columns/ River Bridge Protection Measures	4,000	4,000	-	400				400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	4,000
65 River Bridge Protection Measures	22	22	-	22				22										22
66 Communities Minor Works	484	484	-	484				484										484
67 Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation Fund 2	299	-	299	299				299										299
68 Fleet Transition Ultra Low Emmissions Vehicles	220	-	220	220				220										220
69 Net Zero Carbon Fleet	264	264	-	264				264										264
70 Porthcawl Metro-Link (CCR)	3,778	1,071	2,707	3,778				3,778										3,778
71 Penprysg Road Bridge - LTF/CCR	13	13	-	13				13										13
72 Residents Parking Bridgend Town Centre	109	109	-	109				109										109
73 Fleet Vehicles	2,579	2,579	-	2,079				2,079	500									2,579
74 AHP Waste	6	6	-	6				6										6
75 Extension to Cornelly Cemetery	217	217	-	217				217										217
76 Extension to Porthcawl Cemetery	177	177	-	177				177										177
77 S106 Highways Small Schemes	42	-	42	42				42										42
78 Unadopted Roads	433	433	-	433				433										433
79 Fire Suppression System Tondu Waste Depot	17	17	-	17				17										17
80 Puffin Crossing Kenfig Hill	14	14	-	14				14										14
81 Ynysawdre to Bryncethin ATR	784	-	784		784			784										784
82 Coal Tip Safety	390		390		200			200	190									390
Regeneration & Development																		
83 Special Regeneration Funding	436	436	-	389		47		436										436
84 Cosy Corner (PRIF)	1,310	1,310	-	1,310				1,310										1,310
85 Porthcawl Regeneration	2,920	2,920	-	2,920		(2,500)		420	2,500									2,920
86 Economic Stimulus Grant	484	484	-	484				484										484
87 Coastal Risk Management Programme	764	764	-	764				764										764
88 Ewenny Road Industrial Estate	3,493	-	3,493	3,493				3,493										3,493
89 CESP/Arbed Phase 1	3,493	855	2,638	1,273				1,273	1,791	429								3,493
90 Llynfi Valley Development Programme	-	-	-	2,177	(2,177)			-										-
91 Bridgend Heat Scheme	3,265	2,276	989	3,312		(47)	(3,265)	-	3,265									3,265
92 Maesteg Town Hall Cultural Hub	2,452	1,870	582	2,452				2,452										2,452
93 Town & Community Council Fund	682	682	-	232				232	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	682
94 Porthcawl Townscape Heritage Initiative	124	124	-	124				124										124
95 Commercial Property Enhancement Fund	134	134	-	134				134										134
96 Cwm Taf Nature Network	209	-	209	209				209										209
97 Urban Centre Property Enhancement	1,176	-	1,176	562				562	614									1,176
98 2030 Decarbonisation	3,200	3,200	-	400				400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	3,200
99 Shared Prosperity Fund	5,603	-	5,603	1,889				1,889	3,714									5,603
100 Brilliant Basics	110	22	88		110			110										110
101 Local Places for Nature	225	-	225		115			115	110									225
Corporate Landlord																		
102 Capital Asset Management Fund	773	773	-	773			(500)	273	500									773
103 Raven's Court	446	446	-	446				446										446
104 DDA Works	82	82	-	82				82										82
105 Minor Works Asset Management	11,667	11,667	-	1,497				1,497	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,130	11,667
106 Fire Precautions	110	110	-	110				110										110
107 Bryncethin Depot Facilities	551	551	-	551				551										551
108 Waterton Upgrade	8,144	8,144	-	8,144			(8,144)	-	8,144									8,144
109 Evergreen Hall	89	89	-	89				89										89
110 Investing in Communities	47	47	-	47				47										47
Total Communities	88,344	66,615	21,729	52,504	(1,008)	-	(14,809)	36,687	30,368	4,100	2,570	2,570	2,570	2,570	2,570	2,170	2,170	88,344
Chief Executive's																		
Housing / Homelessness																		
111 Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)	17,860	17,760	100	2,110				2,110	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	17,860
112 Discretionary Housing Grants	2,129	2,129	-	329				329	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	2,129
113 Housing Renewal / Empty Properties	1,215	1,215	-	315				315	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	1,215
114 Enable Grant	540	-	540	270				270	270									540
115 Homelessness and Housing	530	-	530	530				530										530
116 Health and Wellbeing Village	480	-	480	480				480										480
117 Affordable Housing	844	530	314	844				844										844
ICT																		
118 Investment in ICT	4,366	4,366	-	766				766	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	4,366
119 Digital Transformation	180	180	-	180				180										180
120 Replacement CCTV	38	38	-	113		(75)		38										38
121 ICT Datacentre Replacement	1,260	1,260	-	1,260				1,260										1,260
Total Chief Executive's	29,442	27,478	1,964	7,197	-	(75)	-	7,122	2,720	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	2,450	29,442
Council Wide Capital Budgets																		
122 Corporate Capital Fund	2,373	2,373	-	573				573	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	2,373
123 Unallocated	11,352	11,352	-	299				299	279		1,226	1,458	1,458	1,458	1,458	1,858	1,858	11,352
Total Council Wide Capital budgets	13,725	13,725	-	872	-	-	-	872	479	200	1,426	1,658	1,658	1,658	1,658	2,058	2,058	13,725

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PRUDENTIAL AND OTHER INDICATORS 2022-23 and 2023-24

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 2022-23 actual capital expenditure, the capital programme approved by Council on 1 March 2023 and the projected capital expenditure for the current financial year which has incorporated slippage of schemes from 2022-23 together with any new grants and contributions or changes in the profile of funding for 2023-24.

Table 1: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Expenditure

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Council Fund services	29.230	69.045	81.817
TOTAL	29.230	69.045	81.817

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 debt (the 'net financing requirement' - borrowing, leasing and Private Finance Initiative). The planned financing of the expenditure has been projected as follows:

Table 2: Capital financing

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
External sources	22.192	22.891	37.243
Own resources	0.227	36.481	34.726
Net Financing Requirement	6.811	9.673	9.848
TOTAL	29.230	69.045	81.817

The net financing requirement 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

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	2.917	2.989	2.989
Additional Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP)	2.132	2.414	2.273
Total MRP & VRP	5.049	5.403	5.262
Other MRP on Long term Liabilities	0.863	0.929	0.929
Total Own Resources	5.912	6.332	6.191

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 actual CFR is as follows based on the movement on capital expenditure during the year:

Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Capital Financing Requirement			
Opening CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	161.451	167.556	163.213
Opening PFI CFR	14.765	13.903	13.903
Total opening CFR	176.216	181.495	177.116
Movement in CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	1.761	4.270	4.586
Movement in PFI CFR	(0.862)	(0.929)	(0.929)
Total movement in CFR	0.899	3.341	3.657
Closing CFR	177.115	184.801	180.773
Movement in CFR represented by:			
Net financing need for year (Table 2 above)	6.811	9.673	9.848
Minimum and voluntary revenue provisions	(5.049)	(5.403)	(5.262)
MRP on PFI and other long term leases (Table 3)	(0.863)	(0.929)	(0.929)
Total movement	0.899	3.341	3.657

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

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Debt (incl. PFI & leases)	119.820	112.186	117.739
Capital Financing Requirement	177.115	184.801	180.773

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

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

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

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 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	130.000	130.000	130.000
Operational boundary – other long term liabilities	25.000	25.000	25.000
Operational Boundary Limit Total	155.000	155.000	155.000
Total Borrowing and Long Term Liabilities	119.820	112.186	117.739

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

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Capital Financing Central	5.060	6.553	5.131
Other Financing costs	4.079	4.360	4.427
TOTAL FINANCING COSTS	9.139	10.913	9.558
Proportion of net revenue stream	2.85%	3.19%	2.79%

This shows that in 2023-24, it is forecast that 3.19% of the Council's net revenue income will be spent on paying back the costs of capital expenditure.

The net revenue stream is calculated as the income from Welsh Government Revenue Settlement Grant plus Council Tax and NNDR, less Police and Community Council precepts.

The table below shows the Prudential Indicator of estimates of net income from commercial and service investments to net revenue stream.

Table 8: Prudential Indicator: Net Income from Commercial and Service Investments to Net Revenue Stream

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023/24 Estimate £m	2023/24 Projection £m
Net Revenue Budget	320.289	342.047	342.334
Income from Commercial Investments	0.459	0.459	0.459
% Ratio	0.14%	0.13%	0.13%

The income receivable from the commercial property portfolio is not deemed to be a financial resilience risk in terms of being 'un-proportionate' to the Council's overall income.

Agenda Item 9

Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEAR REPORT 2023-24
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE
Responsible Officer:	NIGEL SMITH, GROUP MANAGER – CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	Paragraph 22.5 of the Financial Procedure Rules requires the Chief Finance Officer to report quarterly to Council, summarising borrowing and investment activity and indicating compliance with any statutory or Council approved guidelines together with a half yearly and an annual report to Council.
Executive Summary:	<p>The report provides an update of Treasury Management activity for the half year 1 April – 30 September 2023.</p> <p>As at 30 September 2023 the Council had £99.79 million of long term debt, £13.36 million of other long term liabilities and £85.50 million of short term investments, an overall net debt position of £27.65 million.</p> <p>The average interest rate for debt was 4.69% (excluding Salix borrowing which is interest free) and for investments it was 4.42%.</p> <p>The Council has a manageable maturity structure of borrowing, with its current debt repayable at various points over the next 30 years.</p> <p>The Council has complied with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy’s Treasury Management Code and Welsh Government Investment Guidance.</p>

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’s) ‘Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice’ (the CIPFA Code).
- Report on the Treasury Management Indicators for the half year April to September 2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 Treasury Management is the management of the Council's cash flows, borrowing and investments, and the associated risks. The Council is exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of financial risk are therefore central to the Council's prudent financial management.
- 2.2 Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2021 edition (the CIPFA Code), which requires the Council to approve a Treasury Management Strategy before the start of each financial year, and, as a minimum, a semi-annual and annual treasury outturn report. The CIPFA Code also requires the Council to set a number of Treasury Management Indicators, which are forward looking parameters, and enable the Council to measure and manage its exposure to treasury management risks, and these are included throughout this report. Welsh Government (WG) guidance issued in November 2019 on Local Authority Investment's requires the Council to approve an Investment Strategy before the start of each financial year. This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the Welsh Government Guidance.
- 2.3 In 2021 CIPFA published an updated version of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code). The Prudential Code includes a requirement for Local Authorities to provide a Capital Strategy, which is a summary document approved by full Council covering capital expenditure and financing, treasury management and non-treasury investments. The definition of investments in the revised 2021 CIPFA Code covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which the authority holds primarily for financial return. The Council's Capital Strategy 2023-24 complied with CIPFA's requirement and included the Prudential Indicators along with the details regarding the Council's non-treasury investments. The Capital Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy should be read in conjunction with each other as they are interlinked, as borrowing and investments are directly impacted upon by capital plans, and both were approved together by Council on 1 March 2023.
- 2.4 The Council's treasury management advisors are Arlingclose. The current services provided to the Council include:
- advice and guidance on relevant policies, strategies and reports
 - advice on investment decisions
 - notification of credit ratings and changes
 - other information on credit quality
 - advice on debt management decisions
 - accounting advice
 - reports on treasury performance
 - forecasts of interest rates
 - training courses

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 External Context – Economic Background

- 3.1.1 The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation dropped to 6.7% in August from 6.8% in July, which was below the forecasted level. This drop was driven by factors beyond energy prices, with core CPI inflation (excluding energy, food, beverages, and tobacco) at 6.2%.
- 3.1.2 In quarter 2 2023, UK Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a measure of the size and health of the economy, increased by 0.2%, slightly better than expected in the August Monetary Policy Report. Household consumption and business investment exceeded expectations, growing by 0.6% and 3.4% respectively. However, housing investment continued to decline, falling by 2.3% in the quarter and 7.7% compared to the previous year. July saw a 0.5% decrease in monthly GDP, in contrast to a 0.5% rise in June.
- 3.1.3 The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee on the 20th September 2023 voted by a majority of 5-4 to maintain the official Bank Rate at 5.25%, and did not increase them again as anticipated.

3.2 Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) Lending Facility Advice, Revised CIPFA Codes

- 3.2.1 The Council continues to undertake its duties in line with the current guidance for the PWLB lending facility which was significantly revised by HM Treasury in August 2021. Authorities that are purchasing or intending to purchase investment assets primarily for yield, or financial return, will not be able to access funding from the PWLB except to refinance existing loans or externalise internal borrowing. Acceptable use of PWLB borrowing includes service delivery, housing, regeneration, preventative action, refinancing and treasury management.
- 3.2.2 The Council's treasury management activities are undertaken in line with CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance and CIPFA's Treasury Management Code. To comply with the Prudential Code authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return. The Prudential Code also states it is not prudent for local authorities to make investment or spending decisions that will increase the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the authority. Existing commercial investments are not required to be sold, however, authorities with existing commercial investments who expect to need to borrow should review the options for exiting these investments. The Council has complied with the full requirements of both codes during the first half of 2023-24.

3.3 Treasury Management half-year 2023-24

- 3.3.1 The Council has complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements during the period 1 April to 30 September 2023.. The Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24 was approved by Council on 1 March 2023. The quarter 1 report was presented to Cabinet on 18 July 2023.

3.3.2 A summary of the treasury management activities is shown in the Treasury Management Half Year Report to 30 September 2023 at **Appendix A**. The Council's external debt and investment position at 30 September 2023 is shown in Table 1 below, and more detail is provided within the appendix within Section 3: External Debt and Investment Position, Section 4: Borrowing and Section 5 Treasury Investments. As with the previous year, no long-term borrowing has been taken out in 2023-24 and no debt rescheduling has been undertaken as there has been no opportunity to make significant savings. However, should the opportunity arise to reschedule any loans at a preferential rate, this would be done.

Favourable cash flows continue to provide surplus funds for investment and the balance on investments held at 30 September 2023 was £85.5 million, with an average interest rate of 4.42. The total balance of investments has increased compared to those at 31 March 2023, when the balance held was £74.50 million, at an average interest rate of 2.55%.

Table 1: Council's external debt and investment position as of 30 September 2023

Investments for Treasury Purposes	Principal as at 31/03/2023 £m	Principal as at 30/09/2023 £m	Average Rate 30/09/2023 %
External Long Term Borrowing			
Public Works Loan Board	77.62	77.62	4.70
Lender's Option Borrower's Option	19.25	19.25	4.65
Salix Loans (interest Free)	3.06	2.92	NIL
Total External Long Term Borrowing	99.93	99.79	4.69*
Other Long Term Liabilities			
Private Finance Initiative**	13.90	13.23	
Other Long Term Liabilities	0.23	0.13	
Total Other Long Term Liabilities	14.13	13.36	
Total Gross Debt	114.06	113.15	
Investments for treasury management purposes			
Debt Management Office	7.50	12.00	5.22
Local Authorities	53.00	43.00	4.16
Money Market Funds (instant access)	NIL	18.50	5.32
Banks	14.00	12.00	3.19
Total Treasury Investments	74.50	85.50	4.42
Net Debt	39.56	27.65	

* Excluding Salix loans which are interest free

** (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg 10.50 years remaining term

3.3.3 The £19.25 million in Table 1 above relates to Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans which have a maturity date of 2054 though these may be rescheduled in advance of this maturity date. The LOBO rate and term may vary in the future depending on the prevailing rates at one of the bi-annual trigger points (these being July and January) and, therefore, the Council being given the option to accept the increase or repay the loan without incurring a penalty. There have been significant interest rate rises recently, with an expectation that they may rise further, thus the lender could still exercise this option in the future.

- 3.3.4 The Total Other Long Term Liabilities figure of £13.36 million at 30 September 2023 includes £13.23 million for the Council's Private Finance initiative (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg. The Other Long-Term Liabilities are for the Innovation Centre and Waste Contract.
- 3.3.5 Both the CIPFA Code and Welsh Government Guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return. Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard and Poor's to ensure that this lies within the Councils' agreed minimum credit rating.
- 3.3.6 The Council defines high credit quality as organisations and securities having a credit rating of A- (A3 for Moody's) or higher and the Council does not invest in any organisation below this level. **Schedule A** in **Appendix A** shows the equivalence table for credit ratings for Fitch, Moody's, and Standard and Poor's and explains the different investment grades.
- 3.3.7 There is one long-term investment (original duration of 12 months or more) outstanding as at 30 September 2023 of £5 million with Medway Council, as reported in quarter 1. This is repayable within the next 12 months. All other investments at 30 September 2023 are short term deposits including instant access and notice accounts.
- 3.3.8 The Treasury Management Code requires the Council to set and report on a number of Treasury Management Indicators. The indicators either summarise the expected activity or introduce limits upon the activity. Details of the estimates for 2023-24 set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy compared to the actual at 30 September 2023 are shown in **Appendix A** and these show that the Council operated within the approved limits throughout the period.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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 because of this report.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 The Climate Change implications were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the environment because of this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 The Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting implications were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon Safeguarding and Corporate parenting because of this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The financial implications are reflected within the report and attached **Appendix A**.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 It is recommended that Council:
- Note the treasury management activities for 2023-24 for the half year period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023
 - Note the Treasury Management Indicators for the half year ending 30 September 2023 against those approved in the Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24.

Background documents

None



Treasury Management Half Year Report to 30 September 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Treasury Management is the management of the Council's cash flows on a day-to-day basis, and is carried out in accordance with legislation and Codes of Practice.
- The Treasury Management Strategy was approved by Council 1 March 2023.
- Inflation has continued to fall from a peak of 11.1% in October 2022, to 6.7% in the 12 months to August 2023.
- The Bank of England base rate was increased by 0.25% in August to a rate of 5.25% as at 30 September 2023. Whilst there were some expectations of a further increase during September, the Monetary Policy Committee voted to maintain the base rate at 5.25% at its September meeting.
- No new long-term debt was taken out during the year, and no debt was rescheduled during the year. Interest rates on long-term debt remain unchanged at an average of 4.69%.
- Total external borrowing at 30 September 2023 - £99.79 million, reduction of £0.14 million from 1 April 2023 due to scheduled repayment of Salix loans.
- Total investments as at 30 September 2023 was £85.5 million, an increase from £74.5 million as at 1 April 2023.
- Average interest rates on investments received 4.42%, an increase from the average rate at 31 March 2023 of 2.55% as new investments are made at higher rates than those in the preceding 12-18 months.
- Investments are made on the basis of security, liquidity and, only then, return, commensurate with the security and liquidity of the investment.
- Due to the current level of reserves, the Council is able to use short-term resources to fund capital programme borrowing need in lieu of external borrowing. However, this is only a short-term position, and, whilst the liability benchmark (Chart 1) suggests that the Council may not need new long-term borrowing at present, it is dependent on the Capital Programme expenditure profile, any new debt-funded schemes being added to the Programme and the use of reserves currently held.
- The Council may use short-term borrowing (less than 12 months) to manage day-to-day operational cash flow.
- The Council has operated within the approved limits as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Treasury management activities are the *'management of the organisation's borrowing, investments and cash flows, including its banking, money market and capital market transactions, the effective control of the risks associated with those activities, and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.'* (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (2021) (CIPFA Code).

The definition of 'Investments' includes:

- Treasury Management investments (held for the prudent management of financial affairs), and
- non-Treasury Investments, undertaken as part of a Capital Strategy either in the course of provision of services; or made for commercial reasons purely to make a financial gain. These are managed outside of normal treasury management activity.

The Council carries out its treasury management function in accordance with the CIPFA Code and the legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and Welsh Government Guidance.

The Council has an integrated Treasury Management Strategy where borrowing and investments are managed in accordance with best professional practice, which is assessed either from internal expertise or consultation with our external advisers. The Council will look to borrow money if needed to either meet short term cash flow needs or to fund the capital programme. Therefore, any actual loans taken are not generally associated with particular items of expenditure or assets.

The Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices to Cabinet, and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Section 151 Officer. The Governance and Audit Committee are responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and policies and regular reports will be presented to the Committee for their consideration.

2.0 ECONOMIC CONTEXT

UK inflation remained stubbornly high over much of the period compared to the US and euro zone, keeping expectations elevated around how much further the Bank of England would increase bank rate. However, inflation data published in the latter part of the period undershot expectations, causing financial markets to reassess interest rate increases. This was followed by the Bank of England deciding to keep the Bank Rate at 5.25% in September, against an expectation of another 0.25% rise.

Economic growth in the UK remained relatively weak over the period. In calendar quarter 2 2023 (April – June), the economy expanded by 0.2%. . However, monthly

Gross Domestic Product data, a measure of the size and health of the economy, showed a 0.5% contraction in July, the largest fall to date in 2023 and worse than the 0.2% decline predicted, which could be an indication the monetary tightening cycle is starting to cause recessionary or at the very least stagnating economic conditions.

July data showed the unemployment rate increased to 4.3% (3mth/year) while the employment rate rose to 75.5%. Pay growth was 8.5% for total pay (including bonuses) and 7.8% for regular pay, which for the latter was the highest recorded annual growth rate. Adjusting for inflation, pay growth in real terms was positive at 1.2% and 0.6% for total pay and regular pay respectively.

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) showed inflation at 6.7% in the 12 months to August 2023, down from 6.8% in July. On a monthly basis CPI rose 0.3% in August, compared with a rise of 0.5% in August 2022.

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee continued tightening monetary policy over most of the period, taking the official Bank Rate to 5.25% in August. Against expectations of a further hike in September, the Committee voted 5-4 to maintain the Bank Rate at 5.25%. Those who voted against were in favour of another 0.25% increase.

Financial market Bank Rate expectations moderated over the period as falling inflation and weakening data gave some indication that higher interest rates were working. Expectations fell from predicting a peak of over 6% in June to 5.5% just ahead of the September Monetary Policy Committee meeting, and to then expecting 5.25% to be the peak by the end of the period.

Following the September Monetary Policy Committee meeting, Arlingclose, the authority's treasury adviser, modestly revised its interest forecast to reflect the central view that 5.25% will now be the peak in Bank Rate. In the short term the risks are to the upside if inflation increases again, but over the remaining part of the time horizon the risks are to the downside from economic activity weakening more than expected.

The lagged effect of monetary policy together with the staggered fixed term mortgage maturities over the next 12-24 months means the full impact from Bank Rate rises are still yet to be felt by households. Higher rates will also impact business and according to Standards & Poor (S&P) / Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) survey data, the UK manufacturing and services sector contracted during the quarter with all measures scoring under 50, indicating contraction in the sectors.

3.0 EXTERNAL DEBT AND INVESTMENT POSITION

The Council's external debt and investments at 30 September 2023 is set out in Table 1 below. The Council held £99.79 million of Long Term Borrowing comprising:

- Public Works Loan Board (PWLB - central government) at fixed rates and duration
- Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) which may be rescheduled ahead of their maturity of 22 January 2054
- £2.92 million of Salix interest-free loans

In addition, the Council had £85.5 million of investments for treasury management purposes and £5.845 million of investments for commercial purposes (see Table 11):-

Table 1: Council's external debt and investment position as of 30 September 2023

Investments for Treasury Purposes	Principal as at 31/03/2023 £m	Principal as at 30/09/2023 £m	Average Rate 30/09/2023 %
External Long Term Borrowing			
Public Works Loan Board	77.62	77.62	4.70
Lender's Option Borrower's Option	19.25	19.25	4.65
Salix Loans (interest Free)	3.06	2.92	NIL
Total External Long Term Borrowing	99.93	99.79	4.69*
Other Long Term Liabilities			
Private Finance Initiative**	13.90	13.23	
Other Long Term Liabilities	0.23	0.13	
Total Other Long Term Liabilities	14.13	13.36	
Total Gross Debt	114.06	113.15	
Investments for treasury management purposes			
Debt Management Office	7.50	12.00	5.22
Local Authorities	53.00	43.00	4.16
Money Market Funds (instant access)	NIL	18.50	5.32
Banks	14.00	12.00	3.19
Total Treasury Investments	74.50	85.50	4.42
Net Debt	39.56	27.65	

* Excluding Salix loans which are interest free

** (PFI) arrangement for the provision of a Secondary School in Maesteg 10.75 years remaining term

Investments for Commercial Purposes	Fair Value as at 31/03/2023 £m	Anticipated annual return £m
Investments	5.845	0.46

The current profile of repayment of the Council's long-term debt is set out in the Liability Benchmark chart below. The table assumes that the Public Works Loan Board

and Lender's Option Borrower's Option loans will be repayable on their maturity date. However, although shown as maturing in 2054 the £19.25 million of Lender's Option Borrower's Option loans may be rescheduled ahead of their maturity date of 22 January 2054.

PWLB lending criteria requires that the Council does not invest purely for financial return if it wishes to access any new PWLB borrowing. The CIPFA Code sets out that it is not prudent for local authorities to invest for financial return.

All borrowing by the Council is as a single pool of debt rather than having loans specific to individual schemes. Where a Council finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside revenue to repay that debt in later years, known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The forecast MRP that will need to be set aside for 2023-24 is £6.191 million, which is provided for in the revenue budget and includes any additional MRP as a result of prudential borrowing and MRP on the PFI. MRP is budgeted within central budgets with additional MRP funded from Directorate budgets.

Liability benchmark

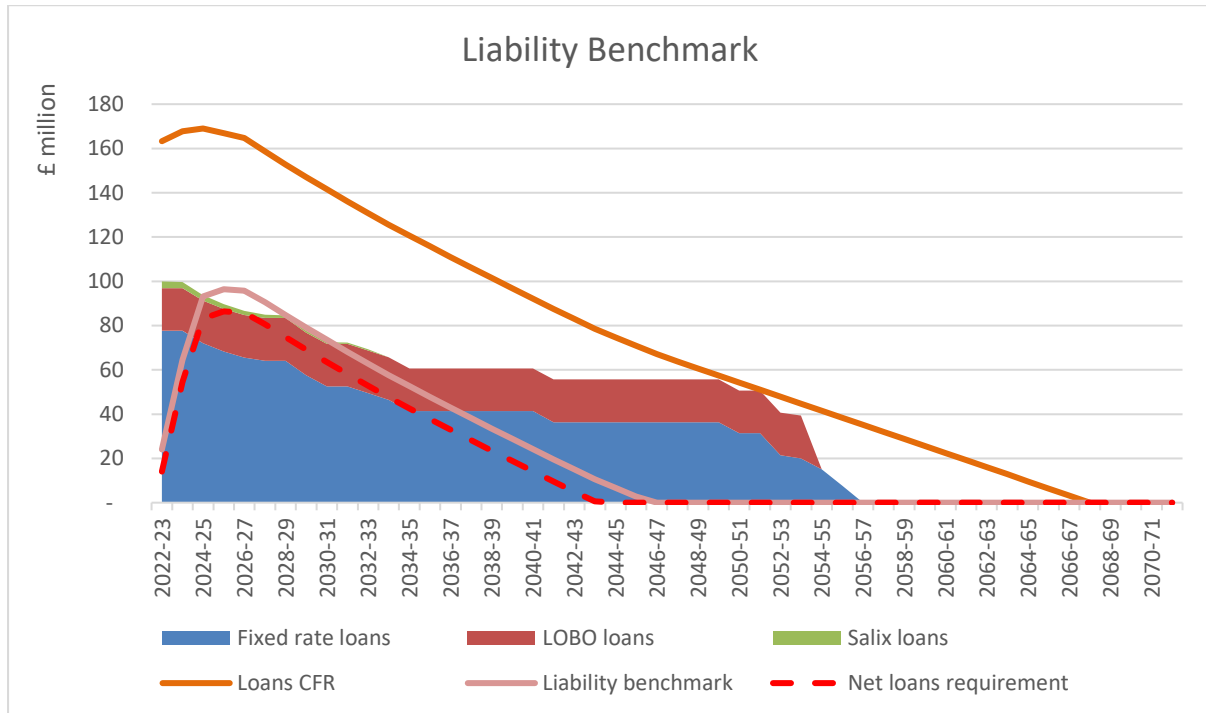
The liability benchmark is a tool which helps to assess the lowest level of borrowing the Council needs, taking into account available cash resources to fund capital expenditure in the short term. A minimum level of liquidity is factored into the calculation, set at £10 million, to ensure the Council has available cash resources to meet day-to-day cash flow requirements. Forecast borrowing needs are based on capital expenditure estimates and available useable reserves. The underlying need to borrow to fund capital expenditure (known as the Capital Financing Requirement or CFR) is the amount of capital expenditure which is not funded via grants, capital receipts or contributions from revenue and earmarked reserves.

Table 2 below shows the Capital Financing Requirement and the calculation of the liability benchmark. It is important to note that the graph is based on the current approved capital programme and the borrowing associated therewith. Any new schemes which require debt financing will increase the CFR and loans requirement.

Table 2: Liability benchmark

	31 March 2023 actual	31 March 2024 estimate (TMS)	31 March 2024 forecast	31 March 2025 forecast	31 March 2026 forecast
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Financing Requirement	177.12	184.81	180.77	180.98	177.74
Less: Other debt liabilities	(13.90)	(12.97)	(12.97)	(11.97)	(10.90)
Loans Capital Financing Requirement	163.22	171.83	167.80	169.01	166.85
Less: Balance Sheet Resources	(149.16)	(84.14)	(113.27)	(93.71)	(80.43)
Plus: Liquidity allowance	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Liability Benchmark	24.06	97.69	64.53	85.30	96.42

The liability benchmark is an important tool to help establish whether the Council is likely to be a long-term borrower or long-term investor in the future, and so shape its strategic focus and decision making. The liability benchmark itself represents an estimate of the cumulative amount of external borrowing the Council must hold to fund its **current** capital plans while keeping treasury investments at the minimum level to manage day-to-day cash flow.



Currently it is forecast that the Council has sufficient reserves to not need any new borrowing in the immediate future, however this is based on a number of assumptions including the forecast capital programme expenditure and the level and use of reserves. The current financial climate and the pressure on reserves, and any new schemes that may be brought forward in the Capital Programme which are debt-funded, will require the need to borrow, the timing of which is difficult to predict.

The Section 151 Officer will monitor and update the liability benchmark assumptions on an on-going basis and report any significant changes within the treasury management monitoring reports to Cabinet, Governance and Audit Committee and Council as appropriate. This could be as a result of changes in the level of usable reserves at year end, slippage within the Capital Programme or changes within the working capital assumptions which may affect the Council’s need for new long-term borrowing.

4.0 BORROWING

As at 30 September 2023 the Council held £99.79 million of Long-Term Borrowing, £96.87 million of which is fixed long term loans as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes. Based on the forecast capital programme and current assumptions regarding the use of reserves, it is anticipated that the Council will not need to raise new long term borrowing in the foreseeable future. This is subject to the use of reserves and progression of the capital programme and whether any new schemes are added that require borrowing.

The Council has previously raised the majority of its long-term borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB). This was the source of funding the last time the Council took long-term borrowing of £5 million in March 2012. The Council will however consider long term loans from other sources including banks, pension funds and other local authorities if appropriate. The Council will also investigate the possibility of issuing bonds and similar instruments, in order to lower interest costs and reduce over-reliance on one source of funding in line with the CIPFA Code.

The Council has loans from PWLB maturing within the next 3 financial years that it will need to repay. Whilst at present it is anticipated that the Council will have resources to repay these loans, it will be dependent on the level of cash resources available. The value of the loans due to be repaid over the next 3 years is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Value of PWLB maturing debt

	2023-24 £ million	2024-25 £ million	2025-26 £ million
Value of maturing debt	Nil	5.580	3.709

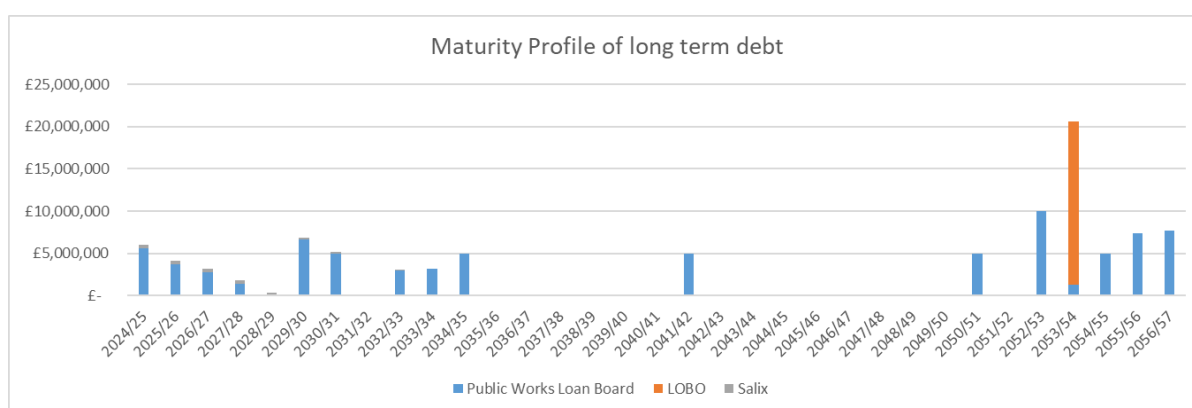
Maturity structure of borrowing

The maturity structure of borrowing indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk with respect to the maturity of the Council's external borrowing. The limits are set to avoid having large amounts of debt maturing in a short space of time. and is the amount of projected borrowing maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing. Where the maturity date of borrowing is unknown, as in the case of LOBO loans, the maturity should normally be determined by reference to the earliest date at which the lender can require repayment. The £19.25 million of LOBO loans has therefore been included in the 'Under 12 months' category.

Table 4: Maturity Structure of Borrowing 2023-24

Maturity structure of borrowing	Upper limit	lower limit	£ million	As at 30 Sept 2023
Under 12 months	50%	0%	19.65	19.69%
12 months and within 24 months	25%	0%	8.75	8.77%
24 months and within 5 years	25%	0%	6.23	6.24%
5 years and within 10 years	40%	0%	15.63	15.66%
10 years and within 20 years	50%	0%	13.14	13.17%
20 years and above	60%	25%	36.39	36.47%

As can be seen from the table the maturity structure remains within the limits approved as part of the Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24. The following chart provides the maturity profile of the Council’s long term debt.



None of the LOBO loans have had to be repaid during the first half of the 2023-24 year. All the LOBO loans are subject to the lender having the right to change the rate of interest payable during the financial year at either of two trigger points in January and July, with the Council having the right to refuse the change, triggering early repayment and the need to re-finance. This is a manageable risk should repayment be needed during the **current** financial year as the Council has sufficient funds available in the short term. However, the Council would need to take out new borrowing in the short-medium term to replace any LOBO loans repaid.

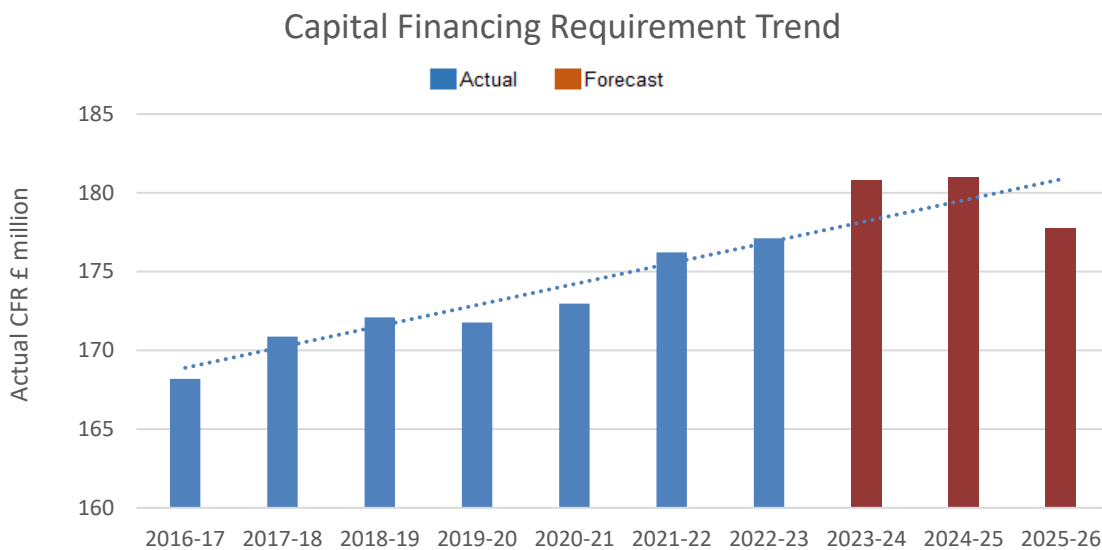
Table 5: LOBO loans

Commencement date	Loan value £m	Potential repayment date	Option frequency	Full term maturity
22 January 2004	4.00	22 Jan 2024	6 months	22 January 2054
22 January 2004	5.00	22 Jan 2024	6 months	22 January 2054
22 January 2004	10.25	22 Jan 2024	6 months	22 January 2054

In accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy, the Council is internally borrowing, which is when it uses temporary cash balances it holds in the short term instead of undertaking external borrowing. The current level of internal borrowing is £68.19 million as at 30 September 2023. This is shown by the Council’s Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) net of its external level of debt including other long term

debt liabilities. The Council’s 2023-24 CFR is forecast to be £180.77 million, external borrowing is forecast to be £99.61 and other long term debt liabilities forecast to be £12.97 million, which is the PFI Maesteg School scheme.

The chart below shows the trend in the CFR based on **current** capital commitments within the approved capital programme. The CFR is anticipated to increase in the current year assuming capital expenditure is incurred as currently anticipated. The CFR in future years shows a reduction, however, this is on the assumption of no new schemes which require debt financing. If new schemes requiring debt financing are added, the CFR will continue to increase.



5.0 TREASURY INVESTMENTS

The Council holds treasury investments as a result of temporary cash balances arising from its day-to-day activities. The management of the day-to-day cash requirements of the Council is undertaken in-house with advice from Arlingclose, the Council’s Treasury Management advisors. This may involve temporary borrowing to meet cash-flow needs or temporary lending of surplus funds. Investment balances can fluctuate daily and arise as a result of a range of circumstances, including timing differences of revenue and capital cash flows, reserves and other balances held for future use.

Investments are made in institutions approved by Council as part of its Treasury Management Strategy and in accordance with investment guidelines issued by the Welsh Government. As part of the Markets and Financial Instruments Directive II, the Council elected for ‘professional’ status, which covers national and regional governments and public bodies. The categories of investments the Council can invest in can be changed, any proposed changes being presented to Council for approval.

Treasury investments are made primarily on the basis of ensuring security of the funds invested, whilst managing liquidity, and only then considering a commensurate return

on the investment. As at 30 September 2023 the Council held £85.50 million of investments, with an average return of 4.42% (£74.50 million at 2.55% as at 31 March 2023). Table 6 below shows the investment profile as at 30 September 2023.

Table 6: Investments by counterparty type

Investment Category	Balance 1 April 2023 £m	Investments made in period £m	Investments repaid in period £m	Balance 30 Sept 2023 £m	Weighted interest rate 1 April 2023 to 30 Sept 2023 %
Government DMO	7.50	266.50	(262.00)	12.00	4.76
Local Authorities	53.00	14.00	(24.00)	43.00	3.53
Money Market Funds	-	36.60	(18.10)	18.50	4.75
Banks (fixed maturity dates)	3.00	18.00	(18.00)	3.00	3.58
Banks (instant access/notice accounts)	11.00	33.45	(35.45)	9.00	4.73
TOTAL	74.50	368.55	(357.55)	85.50	4.08

The following should be noted:

- During the period to 30 September 2023 all investments made were in line with the approved counterparties within the Treasury Management Strategy.
- Investments are diversified over a number of organisations across different sectors, demonstrating a diversified investment portfolio.
- All investments are in sterling and are rated A- and above as per the approved criteria or with a public body.
- The weighted average rates are for all investments made during 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023

The overall interest receivable from treasury investments for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 was £1.861 million. As interest rates rise so will the returns on new investments made, however there will be a time lag on the overall average rates for existing investments until historic investments mature and monies are reinvested at higher rates. The Council will continue to take a cautious approach to investing to ensure as its primary concern the security of any investments made. The risk of default for investments held is considered negligible.

All investments longer than 364 days will be made with a cautious approach to cash flow requirements and advice from the Council's Treasury Management advisors will be sought as necessary. The Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24 reduced the maximum duration for new investments to local authorities from 25 years (as grouped with other government agencies) to 2 years. The Treasury Management report for the first quarter to 30 June 2023 showed an investment which was agreed for a period of 2 years with Medway Council repayable in July 2024, at the time the repayment of

which was over 12 months. At the 30 September 2023 the investment is due to be repaid within 12 months. All other investments as at 30 September 2023 were short term of less than one year duration.

Table 7: Sums invested for periods longer than a year

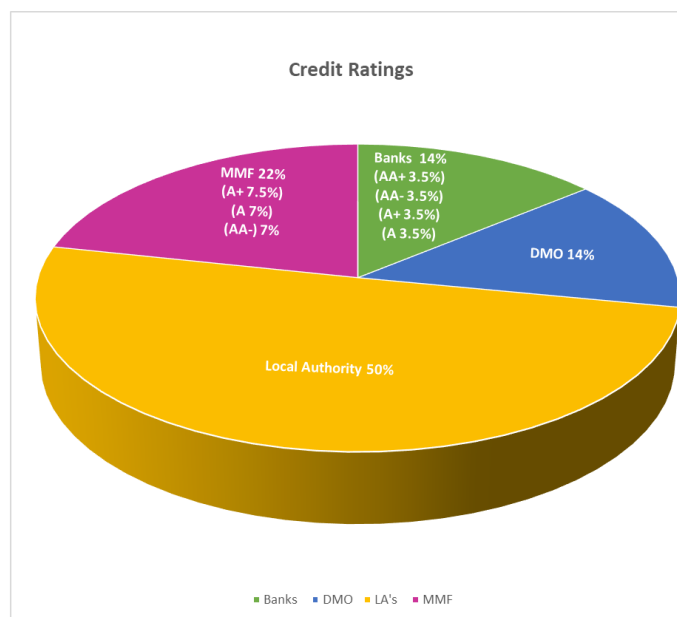
Price risk indicator	TMS 2023-24 £m	Actual £m	Full term maturity
Limit on principal invested beyond 12 months	15	5	

The below table details the Council’s investments by counterparty and maturity profile as at 30 September 2023.

Table 8: Investments by maturity

Counterparty Category	Instant Access £m	Deposits maturing within 1 month £m	Deposits maturing within 2-3 months £m	Deposits maturing within 4-12 months £m	TOTAL £m
Government DMO	-	12.00	-	-	12.00
Local Authorities	-	5.00	5.00	33.00	43.00
Money Market Funds	18.50	-	-	-	18.50
Banks	6.00	6.00	-	-	12.00
Total	24.50	23.00	5.00	33.00	85.50

The pie chart below summarises the distribution of the Council’s investments by credit ratings. Most local authorities do not have credit ratings but are considered secure investment counterparties. The DMO is the UK government and rated AA.



6.0 INTEREST RATE EXPOSURES

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

The following Table is based on investments at 30 September 2023.

Table 9: Interest Rate Exposure

Interest rate risk indicator	£ million
One year revenue impact of a 1% rise in interest rates	(0.637)
One year revenue impact of a 1% fall in interest rates	0.830

It is important to note that this is an indicator not a limit. It is calculated at a point in time on the assumption that maturing loans and investments would be replaced at rates 1% higher or lower than they are currently, and that the treasury investment and borrowing portfolios remain unchanged over the next 12 months, which in practice is not the case. The figure for the 1% fall in interest rates indicator is not the same figure as the 1% increase (but reversed) as the borrowing relates to variable LOBO loans where it is assumed that the lender would only exercise their option if there was an increase in interest rates. All other borrowing does not have a rate reset in the next year and is with the PWLB at fixed rates.

A comparison of interest expenditure and income due for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 is shown below.

Table 10: Interest

	01 April 2023 – 30 September 2023 £ million
Interest expenditure payable on long term borrowing	2.269
Interest income received in period	(1.861)
Net interest cost	0.408

7.0 NON-TREASURY INVESTMENTS

The Council recognises that investment in other financial assets and property primarily for financial return, taken for non-treasury management purposes, requires careful investment management. Such activities include investments in subsidiaries and investments in property. A schedule of the Council's existing non-treasury investments (currently limited to owned property) is set out in Table 11 below. Recent PWLB guidance requires that local authorities should review their investment portfolio if they

wish to secure PWLB borrowing but does not require the local authority to sell existing investment assets. This category covers non-financial assets held primarily or partially to generate a profit, primarily investment property. These assets are valued on an annual basis, which provides security of their value and continued benefit to the Council.

Table 11: Non-treasury investments

Non-treasury investments	£ million
Bridgend Science Park - Units 1 & 2	3.985
Waterton Cross Land	0.600
Brynmenyn Industrial Estate Plot 53	0.675
Village Farm Plots 32,119 & 120	0.385
Tyrewise Bridgend	0.200
Total at Fair Value	5.845
Anticipated annual return 2023-24	0.460

The Council considers that the scale of its investment properties is proportionate to the resources of the Council as the investment represents less than 1% of its total long-term assets. In addition, the value of these investments has increased from the previous year.

In accordance with Welsh Government Investment Guidance, these are to be classified as non-treasury investments.

Schedule A – Credit Rating Equivalence Table

Credit Rating Equivalence Table

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

Schedule B – Arlingclose Economic & Interest Rate Forecast – Sept 2023

Underlying assumptions:

- UK inflation and wage growth remain elevated, but the August CPI data suggested that inflation was falling more rapidly. In a narrow 5-4 vote, the MPC took the opportunity to hold rates at 5.25%, a level we see as the peak. Near-term rate cuts are unlikely, although downside risks will increase as the UK economy inevitably slides into recession.
- While the MPC vote was close, and the minutes contained the warning about the need for further tightening if inflationary pressures persist, both the decline in closely watched inflation measures and confidence that wage growth had peaked, clearly allowed policymakers to focus on the weaker activity data.
- The UK economy has so far been resilient. However, recent data indicates a further deceleration in business and household activity growth as higher interest rates start to bite. Global demand will be soft, so offer little assistance in offsetting weakening domestic demand. A recession remains a likely outcome.
- Employment demand has weakened and unemployment has increased, although the tight labour market has resulted in higher nominal wage growth. Anecdotal evidence suggests slowing recruitment and wage growth, and we expect unemployment to rise.
- Consumer confidence has improved due to signs of real wage growth amid strength in the labour market, but household spending will remain weak as mortgaged households suffer higher interest payments and unemployment rises. Business investment/spending will fall back due to higher borrowing costs and weaker demand.
- Inflation will continue to fall over the next 12 months, albeit with upside risk. The MPC's attention will remain on underlying inflation measures and wage data. Policy rates will remain at the peak for another 10-12 months, until the MPC is comfortable the risk of further second round effects have diminished.
- Maintaining monetary policy in restrictive territory for so long, when the economy is already struggling (as the recent PMI data indicate), will require significant policy loosening in the future to boost demand and inflation.
- Global bond yields remain volatile. Like the UK, the Federal Reserve and other central banks see persistently higher policy rates through 2023/2024 as key to dampening domestic inflationary pressure. Data points will therefore prompt changes in bond yields as global interest rate expectations shift.

Forecast:

- The MPC held Bank Rate at 5.25% in September. We believe this is the peak for Bank Rate.
- The MPC will cut rates in the medium term to stimulate the UK economy but will be reluctant to do so until it is sure there will be no lingering second round effects. We see rate cuts from Q3 2024 to a low of around 3% by early2026.
- The immediate risks around Bank Rate lie to the upside, but these diminish over the next few quarters and shift to the downside before balancing out, due to the weakening UK economy and dampening effects on inflation.
- Arlingclose expects long-term gilt yields to eventually fall from current levels reflecting the lower medium-term path for Bank Rate. However, yields will remain relatively higher than in the past, partly due to quantitative tightening, with continued elevated volatility.

	Current	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26
Official Bank Rate													
Upside risk	0.00	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00
Central Case	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.00	4.75	4.25	4.00	3.75	3.50	3.25	3.00	3.00
Downside risk	0.00	0.00	-0.25	-0.50	-0.75	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
3-month money market rate													
Upside risk	0.00	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00
Central Case	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.30	5.15	4.80	4.30	4.10	3.80	3.50	3.25	3.05	3.05
Downside risk	0.00	0.00	-0.25	-0.50	-0.75	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
5yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.00	0.50	0.70	0.70	0.85	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Central Case	4.38	4.50	4.50	4.40	4.25	4.00	3.75	3.50	3.40	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.35
Downside risk	0.00	-0.50	-0.70	-0.85	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
10yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.00	0.50	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Central Case	4.27	4.40	4.35	4.30	4.25	4.15	4.00	3.80	3.75	3.65	3.60	3.65	3.70
Downside risk	0.00	-0.50	-0.70	-0.85	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
20yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.00	0.50	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Central Case	4.67	4.65	4.60	4.55	4.45	4.35	4.25	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20
Downside risk	0.00	-0.50	-0.70	-0.85	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
50yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.00	0.50	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Central Case	4.25	4.25	4.20	4.15	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
Downside risk	0.00	-0.50	-0.70	-0.85	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00

PWLB Standard Rate (Maturity Loans) = Gilt yield + 1.00%; PWLB Certainty Rate (Maturity Loans) = Gilt yield + 0.80%
PWLB HRA Rate (Maturity Loans) = Gilt yield + 0.40%; UKIB Rate (Maturity Loans) = Gilt yield + 0.60%

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Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	MAKING OF PORTHCAWL HARBOUR BYELAWS
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES
Responsible Officer:	IEUAN SHERWOOD, GROUP MANAGER ECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABILITY
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no effect upon the Council’s policy framework or procedure rules as a result of this report.
Executive Summary:	This report sets out the process undertaken to create new byelaws for Porthcawl Harbour and requests that Council makes the new byelaws.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council to make new byelaws for Porthcawl Harbour in the form set out at **Appendix 2**.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Porthcawl Harbour is situated on the Bristol Channel, which is famous for its large tidal range and strong currents, making it a hazardous area to navigate. The Bristol Channel has a large amount of commercial activity and, very often, ships navigating their way up to Bristol Docks can be seen laden with containers, cars and raw materials for distribution across the UK.
- 2.2 Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) are granted powers to assist in the operation, maintenance and development of Porthcawl Harbour and must act in the capacity of the Harbour Authority under the provisions of Part V of the Mid Glamorgan County Council Act 1987 (“the 1987 Act”). The Council is identified as being the Harbour Authority with the undertakings associated with the Harbour being vested in the Council.
- 2.3 Porthcawl Harbour is home to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution’s (RNLI) busiest inshore lifeboat station in Wales and consequently a very active branch of National Coastwatch Institute (NCI). Both charities are dedicated to working with BCBC to improve water safety across the coastline of Bridgend County Borough.
- 2.4 Porthcawl Harbour now attracts various groups of individuals, some visiting the site for social purposes to visit the commercial food and drink premises or to participate in a full range of coastal and water based activities. Activities include, but are not

limited to, fishing, sailing, powerboating, water skiing, stand up paddle boarding, open water swimming and kayaking.

- 2.5 Since opening the Marina in Porthcawl Harbour in 2013 the Marina has performed well in terms of generating income and has a healthy demand for moorings with a consistent waiting list.
- 2.6 The development of the Marina has supported increased interest in other regeneration and investment projects within the Harbour footprint including the sale of the Jennings Building which now accommodates 3 commercial premises and 14 live/work apartments. It was critical to the success of the Porthcawl Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) bid for Heritage Lottery funding, to bring back into use key historic buildings in the Harbour Quarter, including the Look-out Tower and the Customs House. In addition, funding was secured by BCBC through the Tourism Attractor Destination (TAD) scheme led by Visit Wales. This funding, along with match funding from BCBC, has enabled the redevelopment of the Cosy Corner site, which is now complete.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 A byelaw is a local law which is made by a statutory body under an enabling power which is contained in an Act of Parliament or a Measure or Act of the National Assembly. Specific areas within the footprint of Porthcawl Harbour (as defined by the 1987 Act) are currently subject to byelaws that identify Public Bathing Places across Porthcawl. These byelaws were originally established in 1953 by the Urban District Council of Porthcawl and were subsequently updated by byelaws adopted by the Borough of Ogwr in 1984.
- 3.2 A process is set out in the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 (“the 2012 Act”) for making and revoking byelaws. The 2012 Act changed the procedure for confirmation of byelaws by Welsh Ministers and introduced an alternative procedure which removes the need for confirmation by Welsh Ministers for byelaws specified in the 2012 Act. Welsh Government has published statutory guidance on the 2012 Act (March 2015) and this document gives detailed guidance on the procedure to be followed when making byelaws under the 2012 Act. If, following the completion of the consultation process, an authority decides to make a byelaw, at least six weeks before that byelaw can be made the authority must publish notice of their intention to make the byelaw in one or more local newspapers and also on the authority’s website.
- 3.3 Under Section 6 and Schedule 1 of the 2012 Act any byelaw made by a local authority under an enactment listed under Part 1 of Schedule 1 does not require confirmation by Welsh Ministers. The 1987 Act is listed under Part 1 of Schedule 1 so BCBC can follow the procedure in the 2012 Act which does not require confirmation by Welsh Ministers to make byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour.
- 3.4 On 15 December 2020 a report was presented to Cabinet. In that report Cabinet were advised that, as a result of a recent review into Health and Safety at the Harbour, and also as a result of recent incidents reported in the area, officers considered that revisions were required to the existing byelaws. As a result of this report the Corporate Director Communities was authorised to undertake a consultation on new proposed draft byelaws.

- 3.5 A consultation process took place from 23rd August 2021 – 14th November 2021. The 2012 Act prescribes that prior to making a byelaw under Section 6 an authority must:
- a) Publish on the authority's website an initial written statement which describes the issue which the authority thinks may be addressed by making a byelaw; and
 - b) Consult any person (including, where applicable, a community council) who the authority thinks is likely to be interested in, or affected by, the issue.

The consultation was made available through the BCBC website. The consultation report is set out in **Appendix 1**.

- 3.6 Following the consultation process, and a review of the consultation report by the Harbour Board, a further report was presented to Cabinet and the proposed final byelaws were approved by Cabinet on 8th March 2022. Cabinet also agreed that the proposed final byelaws should be presented to Council for adoption.
- 3.7 In accordance with requirements of the 2012 Act, following the decision of Cabinet in March 2022 a second written statement containing copies of the first written statement, a copy of the report on the consultation, and a copy of the decision of cabinet and the reasons for it, was published on the Council's website. This second written statement has not led to any new issues being raised. In view of the fact that no issues have been raised following the decision of Cabinet in March 2022 and the publication of the second written statement, Council is requested to make the Byelaws for Regulating Porthcawl Harbour and Associated Waters in the form set out in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.8 A notice of the Council's intention to make the byelaws at this meeting of Council was advertised in the Glamorgan Gazette on the 31st August 2023.
- 3.9 The 2012 Act requires that byelaws must be made under the common seal of the Council and this report seeks the authority of Council to make the byelaws and affix the common seal.
- 3.10 Under the 2012 Act, once the byelaws are made the Council must:
- a) publish the byelaw on the authority's website
 - b) deposit a copy of the byelaw at a place in the authority's area
 - c) ensure that the copy is open to public inspection at all reasonable hours without payment
 - d) give a copy of the byelaw to a person who requests it (the authority may charge the person a reasonable fee)
 - e) send a copy of the byelaws to the proper officer of the council of every community to which the byelaw applies

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 The proposed Porthcawl Harbour Byelaws demonstrate the sustainable development principle by ensuring that by meeting the needs of the present they do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This is evidenced through the 5 ways of working as follows:

- Long-term: A consultation process has been undertaken to consider not only the current issues in the area but also those that are considered to be issues in the future and will seek to put in place a more fit for purpose situation.
- Prevention: The changing nature of the Harbour area and its users has highlighted a number of concerns which the process to revise the byelaws will seek to mitigate and manage.
- Integration: The consultation process to revise the byelaws was undertaken to ensure that their implementation integrates with current and future operations.
- Collaboration: The process for revising the byelaws will be undertaken through a partnership approach between BCBC and key stakeholders.
- Involvement: The process of revising byelaws and undertaking consultation will be that as set out in the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012.

6. Climate Change Implications

6.1 There are no Climate Change implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no safeguarding or corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations of this report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- (1) Makes the byelaws in the form set out in **Appendix 2** and authorises the affixing of the Council's seal to the byelaws
- (2) Authorises the Corporate Director Communities to take all necessary steps to deal with the byelaws once made as described in paragraph 3.10 of the report.

Background documents

None

APPENDIX 1:

Porthcawl harbour byelaws

Consultation report

Date of issue: January 2022

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6.2.4 Do you think that any problems could be dealt with by using some other method apart from the adoption of byelaws so that we can ensure that those problems can be dealt with effectively in the future?	7
6.2.5 If yes please tell us how these problems can be effectively managed?.....	7
6.2.6 Do you have any other comments you would like to make in relation to Porthcawl Harbour and the revision or adoption of byelaws?.....	8

1. Overview

A public consultation on the adoption of new byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour was undertaken over a twelve-week period from **23 August** to **14 November 2021**.

The consultation received a total of **186** interactions from survey completions. This paper details the analysis associated with the consultation.

2. Introduction

The public survey was available to complete online through a link on the consultation page of the council's website. Paper copies of the consultation were also made available which could be sent directly to residents upon request. Surveys were available in standard and large print formats. Both were available in Welsh and English. The content of the page remains available online.

In total, there were six questions that required a reply from respondents. Respondents could choose to answer all or some of the questions. All survey responses offered the option of anonymity. The council's standard set of equalities monitoring questions were also included with the survey in line with recommended good practice for all public-facing surveys carried out by the council.

Comments regarding the consultation were also invited via social media, letter, email and phone call.

3. Marketing and engagement methods

3.1 Marketing

This section details the methods used to raise the profile of the consultation and encourage participation.

3.1.1 Social media

The council runs the following social media accounts: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

The public consultation on the adoption of new byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour was posted bilingually to the council's corporate Twitter channels throughout the consultation period to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage citizens to share their views on the proposals.

The council currently has **14,321** followers on its English Twitter account and **310** on its Welsh Twitter account. While content is most likely to be seen by these users, it is also displayed to users who are not connected to the accounts.

During the consultation period, the local authority posted **5 times** on Twitter in both English and Welsh. This content reached over **74,000** people.

Tweets	5
Impressions	4031
Reach	74,893
Engagements	76
Likes	5
Shares/retweets	1
Link clicks	30
Comments	2

3.1.2 govDelivery

govDelivery is a digital communications tool that was implemented by the local authority in June 2020 to send messages directly to residents' email inboxes in the language of their choice.

There are currently **36,560** English language subscribers and **222** Welsh language subscribers from Bridgend County Borough to the weekly Covid-19 update emails. Details of the public consultation on the adoption of new byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour was included in a Gov Delivery bulletin on **30 September 2021**.

The English bulletin received a total of **119 link clicks**, the Welsh bulletin received **0 link clicks**.

3.1.3 Media and publicity

One main media release was issued to coincide with the start of the consultation in order to raise awareness and encourage participation. This was issued on 24 September 2021.

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/news/have-your-say-on-use-of-waters-around-porthcawl-harbour/>

The consultation was also incorporated into a news round-up media release issued on 24 September. The media release was featured at the media centre of the council's website.

4. Response rate

In total, there were **186 survey completions**.

5. How effective was the consultation?

The data collection methods, which include the online survey and a paper survey were developed using plain English to maximise understanding. These response methods were designed to give a consistency to the survey across multiple platforms.

6. Question and analysis - consultation survey

Section seven of the report looks at the questions asked in the consultation survey – with **186** respondents in total.

6.1 Language to complete the survey.

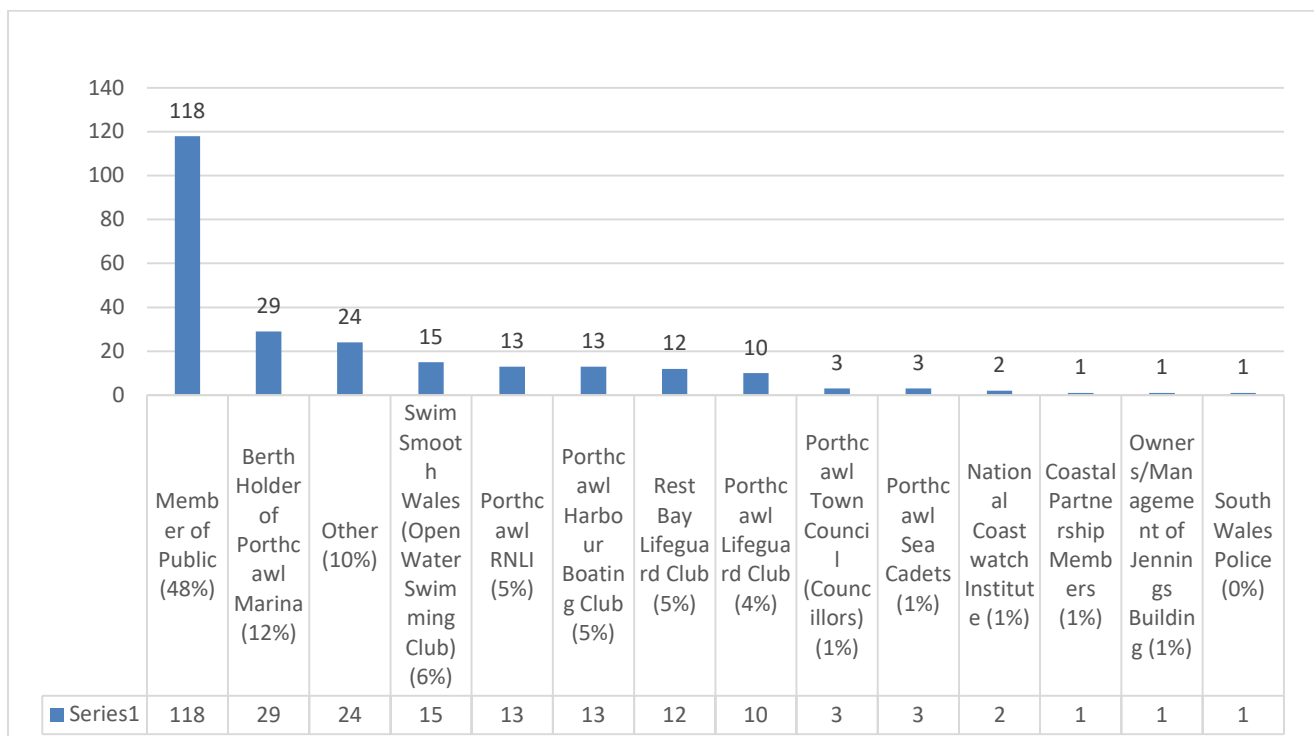
Respondents to the consultation survey were initially asked in which language they would like to complete the survey. Overall, **100% of respondents selected English with 0% selecting Welsh.**

Language	#	%
English	186	100%
Welsh	000	00
Total	186	100.0

6.2 Survey questions

6.2.1 Please tick the option(s) that best describe you as a respondent

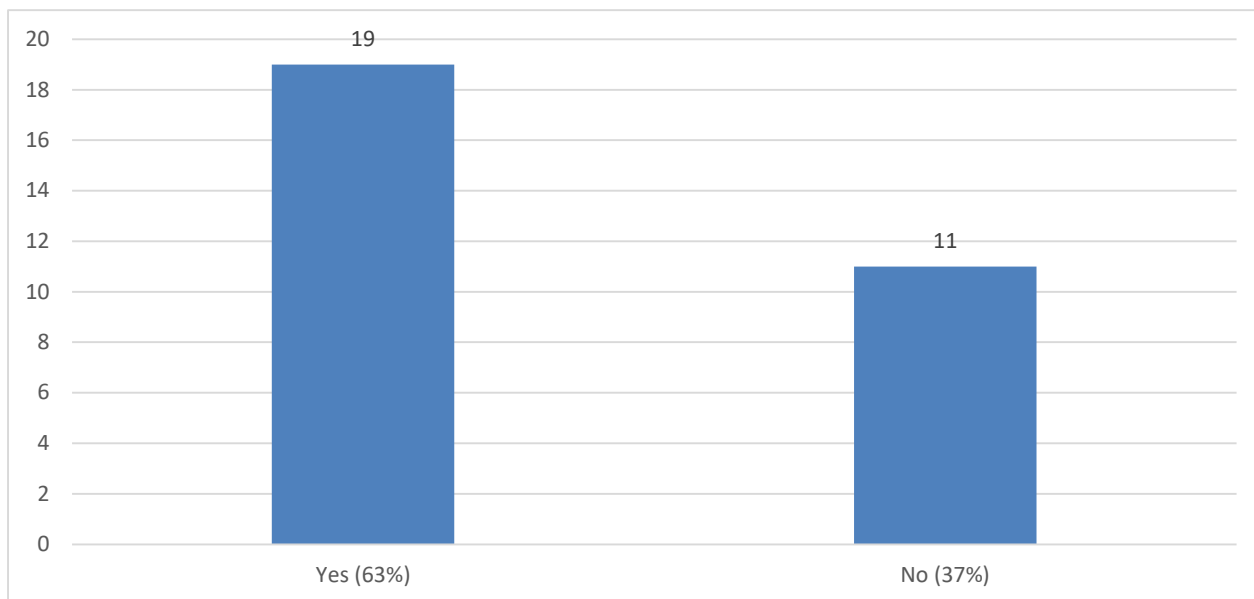
There were **186** responses to this question.



Of the 186 respondents, **118 (48%) were members of the public. 29 respondents (12%) were berth holders at Porthcawl Marina and 24 respondents (10%) stated 'other' as a category.**

6.2.2 Have you experienced any problems in the use of the Harbour?

There were 30 responses to this question.



19 respondents (63%) of people stated that yes, they had experienced problems using the harbour. While **11 respondents, (37%)** said no they hadn't experienced any problems using the harbour.

6.2.3 If yes, please describe what happened and what the problems are.

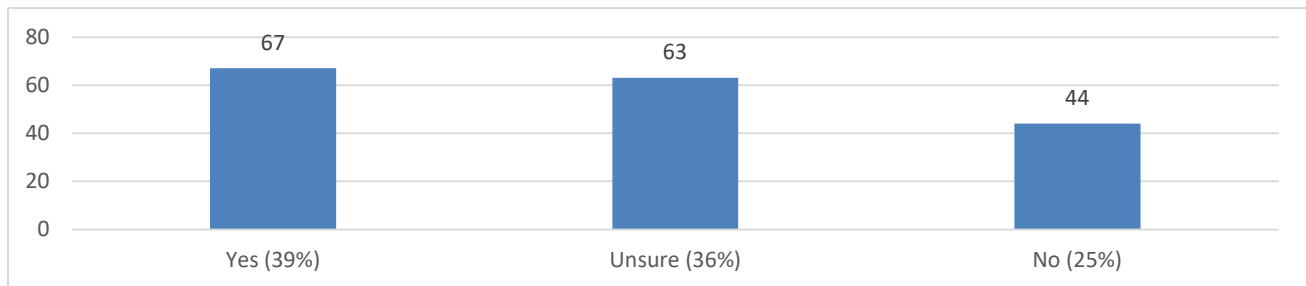
63 comments were made in relation to this question and have been themed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
Swimmers	19
Abusive fishermen casting close to swimmers and boats	12
No boat lifting, dangerous boat slip, sluice gates failing	8
Parking	7
Dangerous jet skis and speed boats	4
Anti-social Behaviour	3
Dog mess / litter	3
Breakwater closed	1
Does not accommodate personal watercrafts	1
Lack of facilities for swimmers	1
No Wifi	1
Not enough electric supplies	1
Scaffolding	1
Unable to get in contact	1
Total:	63

The three most common problems at the harbour according to respondents to the survey are swimmers, abusive fishermen casting close to swimmers and boats and no boat lifting, a dangerous boat slip and sluice gates failing.

6.2.4 Do you think that any problems could be dealt with by using some other method apart from the adoption of byelaws so that we can ensure that those problems can be dealt with effectively in the future?

There were **174** responses to this question.



67 respondents (39%) stated that they thought these problems could be dealt with by using an alternative method from the adoption of byelaws. **63 respondents** (36%) were unsure if the problems could be dealt with by alternative means. 44 respondents (25%) stated no, they didn't think using other methods apart from the adoption of byelaws.

6.2.5 If yes please tell us how these problems can be effectively managed?

62 comments were made in relation to this question and have been themed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
Safer swimming measures	21
More signage is needed	12
Alternative access for swimmers	11
More patrols around the Harbour	8
More education is needed	7
Additional funding is needed	2
Improve the appearance of the harbour	2
Ban fishing	2
Involve the community	2
Theme	67

The top three themes for this question were as follows: **21 comments** were made in relation to safer swimming measures, **12 comments** were made in relation to more signage and **11 comments** were made in relation to alternative access for swimmers.

6.2.6 Do you have any other comments you would like to make in relation to Porthcawl Harbour and the revision or adoption of byelaws?

78 comments were made in relation to this question and have been themed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
More safety for swimmers	32
Don't ban recreational use (swimming, fishing etc)	14
More education, signage and awareness is needed	10
Improve the area around the harbour	7
Promote recreational activities around the harbour	6
No changes to the byelaws are needed	4
Enforce waste management	3
Ban swimming	2
Involve the community and treat everyone equally	2
Ban fishing	1
Total:	81

The top three themes for this question were as follows: **32 comments** were made in relation to safety for swimmers, **14 comments** were made in relation to not banning recreational use (swimming, fishing etc) and **10 comments** were made in relation to more education, signage and awareness is needed.

6.3 Equalities monitoring

6.3.1 How would these proposals affect you because of your: Gender, Age, Ethnicity, Disability, Sexuality, Religion / belief, Gender identity, Relationship status, Pregnancy, Preferred language?

62 comments were provided by respondents and these have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
No effect	50
Age	4
English should be focused on	3
Health and wellbeing	2
Disability access	2
Mental health	2
Gender	1
Total:	64

50 comments were made in relation to the proposals having no effect, four comments were made in relation to age of respondents and 3 comments were made in relation to a focus on English.

6.3.2 We would like to know your views on the effects that the guidance would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

59 comments were provided by respondents and these have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
No impact on language	24
No views	18
Bilingual signs are good	11
English should be focused on	2
Too much focus on Welsh	1
No signage is present	1
Welsh could be omitted	1
Unsure of impact	1
Bilingual signs are confusing	1
Total:	60

24 comments were made in relation to the guidance having no impact on language, **18 comments** were made in relation to respondents having no views on this and there were **11 comments** in relation to bilingual signs being good.

6.3.3 Please also explain how you believe the guidance could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language, and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language and ensure there are no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.

51 comments were provided by respondents and these have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	Number of responses
No views	20
No impact	13
Bilingual communication	7
Employ Welsh speaking staff	3
Too much Welsh	2
Focus more on English	2
Promote Welsh language	2
Can't speak Welsh	1
Let the community decide	1
Depends on the changes	1
Total:	52

20 responses were stated they had no views on this question. **13 people** stated that the guidance had no impact on Welsh language, **18 comments** were made in relation to respondents having no views on this and there were **11 comments** in relation to bilingual signs being good.

7. Conclusion

Using statistical analysis, based on a confidence level of 95% a sample of 186 survey completions is considered to be robust to a maximum standard error of $\pm 4.752\%$. Therefore, we can be 95% confident that the responses are representative of those that would be given by the total adult population, to within $\pm 4.752\%$ of the percentages reported.

This means that if the total adult population of Bridgend had taken part in the survey and a statistic of 50% was observed, we can be 95% confident that the actual figure lies between 45.248% and 54.752%.

7.1 Equality Impact Assessment

The Full Equality Impact Assessment will be completed alongside the adoption of new byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour.

8.2 Summary

Information from this consultation will be used to inform the development of the adoption of new byelaws at Porthcawl Harbour. Information from this consultation will be shared with cabinet on 8th March 2022.

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

BYELAWS FOR REGULATING PORTHCAWL HARBOUR
AND ASSOCIATED WATERS

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Title and commencement

These byelaws may be cited as the Porthcawl Harbour Byelaws 2020 and shall come into effect on the expiration of 28 days from the date of their being confirmed by the Council.

Application

These byelaws shall apply to all parts of the Porthcawl Harbour.

These byelaws apply to all persons and vessels using the harbour or within the harbour premises and, in addition, the byelaws set out in part V apply to all roads from time to time within the harbour premises except for public roads and the byelaws set out in part VIII apply to pleasure craft and recreational activities within the harbour.

Interpretation

In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words or expressions have the following meanings:

1996 Regulations”	means the Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/75);
Authorised officer of the company	means any person lawfully acting on behalf of the Council;
Berth	means any place within the harbour where a vessel may properly lie whether at a quay, at a mooring or at anchor;
Council	Bridgend County Borough Council
Dangerous Substances Regulations	means the Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations 1987 (SI 1987/37;)
Docks	means the enclosed basin of water with a man-made structure built over water where passengers can get on or off a boat, or where goods can be transported on or off.
Harbour	means all tidal waters and all enclosed waters which lie within the area to which these byelaws apply and includes immediately adjacent quays and docks ancillary to the use of those waters;
Harbour Master	means the person appointed as the harbour master and includes his authorised deputies, assistants and any other person authorised by the Council to act in that capacity; and any permission or instruction of the harbour master, unless the byelaw requires that it be in writing, includes any authority, permission or instruction given orally in person or by radio;
Harbour premises	means the docks, quays and all other works, land and buildings for the time being vested in or occupied or administered by the Council and used for the purposes of or in connection with the harbour;
Master	when used in relation to any vessel means any person having the command, charge or management of the vessel for the time being;
Owner	when used in relation to goods includes any consignor, consignee, shipper or agent for the sale, receipt, custody,

	loading or unloading, handling and clearance of those goods and includes any other person in charge of the goods and his agent in relation thereto; and when used in relation to a vessel includes any part owner, broker, charterer, agent or mortgagee in possession of the vessel or other person or persons entitled for the time being to possession of the vessel; and when used in relation to a vehicle includes any part owner or agent or person having charge of the vehicle for the time being;]
Fairway	A navigable channel used to access or egress the harbour.
Pedal cycle	means a cycle as defined in section 192 of the Road Traffic Act 1988;
Pleasure craft	means any vessel designed or adapted wholly or in part for the purpose of sport or recreation including, without limitation, a personal watercraft and sail board;
Public roads	means all roads which are now or in the future dedicated for use as a public highway which at the date of these byelaws comprise;
Quay	means any quay, wharf, jetty, dolphin, landing stage or other structure used for berthing or mooring vessels, and includes any pier, bridge, roadway or footway immediately adjacent and affording access thereto;
Road	means any road, pier, wharf, quay, bridge or other work or any land within the harbour premises accessible by vehicles;
Sail board	means a raft with a sail or sails designed to be operated by a person or persons standing upright thereon;
Small vessel	means any vessel of less than 24 metres in length;
Vehicle	means any mechanically propelled vehicle including, without limitation, any of those vehicles referred to in sections 185, 186, 187 and 188 but not any vehicle defined in section 189 of the Road Traffic Act 1988;
Vessel	means a ship, boat, raft of any description and includes non-displacement craft and any other thing constructed or adapted for floating on or being submersed in water (whether permanently or temporarily) and amphibious vehicles during such time as it is in the water.

In these byelaws:

- the expression "Highway Code" has the meaning given to it in section 38(8) of the Road Traffic Act 1988;
- the expression "Collision Regulations" means the 1996 Regulations and any other regulations made pursuant to sections 85 and 86 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995;
- references to a byelaw are to numbered paragraphs of these byelaws; and
- references to a part are to any part of these byelaws.

BYELAWS MADE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE MID GLAMORGAN ACT 1987 WITH RESPECT TO PORTHCAWL HARBOUR

PART I - REGULATING THE USE OF THE HARBOUR AND ASSOCIATED WATERS

Berthing

1 **Vessel movements**

- 1.1 The master of a vessel shall give reasonable prior notice to the harbour master of the vessel's arrival at, departure from or movement within the harbour.

2 **Vessels to be berthed and moved as directed**

- 2.1 The harbour master shall determine the order in which vessels may enter or leave the harbour and the master of every vessel in the shall moor, or place and keep moored, the vessel where directed by the harbour master and shall move that vessel to or from any berth within the harbour in accordance with any directions which the harbour master may give from time to time.

3 **Provision of proper fenders**

- 3.1 The master and the owner of a vessel shall ensure that she is provided with a sufficient number of fenders of a type that would float in water and a size appropriate to the vessel and, when berthing and leaving or lying at a harbour in order to prevent damage to other vessels and council property.

4 **Vessels to be kept in a movable condition**

- 4.1 The master of a vessel shall not, except when it is unavoidable that his vessel lie aground, take any steps to render his vessel incapable of movement without first notifying the harbour master and, subject as aforesaid, shall at all times keep his vessel so loaded and ballasted and in such condition that it is capable of being safely moved.
- 4.2 Where at any time a vessel is not capable of being safely moved by means of its own propulsive machinery, the master or owner shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, inform the harbour master and forthwith give to the harbour master any further information which he may reasonably require.

5 **Access across decks**

- 5.1 The master of a vessel alongside a quay or alongside any vessel already berthed within the harbour shall, if required to do so by the harbour master or other authorised officer of the company, give free access across the deck of his vessel for persons and goods to and from vessels berthed alongside his vessel.

Navigation

6 **Vessels to navigate with care**

The master shall navigate his vessel with such care and caution at such speed and in such manner as not to endanger the lives of or cause injury to persons or damage to property and as not to obstruct or prejudice the navigation, manoeuvring, loading or discharging of vessels or cause unnecessary damage to moorings or other property.

7 **Speed of vessels**

7.1 Within the docks and except with permission of the harbour master the master of a vessel shall not cause or permit the vessel to proceed at a speed greater than 3 knots.

7.2 The master of any vessel granted permission by the harbour master to exceed a speed limit shall comply at all times with any conditions attached to that permission, it shall be a defence for the master or operator charged to prove that at the material time the vessel was engaged in an emergency or rescue operation in circumstances where adherence to the speed limit would have been likely to have hindered the use of the vessel for that purpose.

8 **Vessels not to be made fast to aids to navigation**

8.1 The master of a vessel shall not make fast his vessel to or lie against any buoy, beacon or mark used for navigational purposes.

9 **Notification of collisions etc.**

The master of a vessel which:

9.1 has been damaged or caused damage in a collision with any vessel, buoy, beacon or mark used for navigational purposes or any other property; or

9.2 has been sunk or grounded or become stranded in the harbour area or the approaches thereto; or

9.3 by reason of accident, fire, defect or otherwise is in such a condition as to affect its safe navigation or to give rise to danger to other vessels or property;

shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report the occurrence to the harbour master and, as soon as practicable thereafter, provide the harbour master with full details in writing and, where the damage is such as to affect or be likely to affect its seaworthiness, the master shall not move the vessel except to moor or anchor in safety otherwise than with the permission and in accordance with the directions of the harbour master.

10 **Navigation while affected by drink or drugs**

10.1 No person shall have the command, charge or management of a vessel underway or otherwise navigate or have the charge of or undertake any activity which is or may be material to the safe conduct of a vessel underway when unfit by reason of drink or drugs to do so or to have that charge.

- 10.2 The master of a vessel shall not cause or permit any person to navigate or otherwise have charge of or undertake any activity which is or may be material to the safe conduct of a vessel underway if that person is unfit by reason of drink or drugs to do so, have that charge or undertake that activity.

Fishing

11 Fishing in docks

- 11.1 No person shall fish in the docks.
11.2 No person shall discard any bycatch or dead fish into the water within the confines of the harbour.

12 Fishing on the Breakwater

- 12.1 All persons must remove their fishing lines from the path of any vessel on a course to access or egress the harbour.

Parking

13 Observance of the Highway Code

- 13.1 Subject to any conflicting provisions contained in these byelaws, the rules in the Highway Code shall apply to all persons within the harbour premises.

14 Parking

- 14.1 No person shall park any vehicle in the harbour area except in the areas permitted for parking as shown [coloured blank] on the plan attached to these byelaws.
14.2 Permits must be displayed clearly when parking in these areas.

15 Obstruction and danger to persons or property

- 15.1 No person in charge of a vehicle shall cause or permit the vehicle to remain at rest on a road in such a position or in such a condition or in such circumstances as may be likely:
- i. to cause danger to other persons using the road; or
 - ii. to obstruct the use of all or any part of any road.

Bathing and Diving

16 Safe Swimming and Bathing

- 16.1 No person shall engage in swimming or bathing in the docks except with the consent of the harbour master.
16.2 Swimmers may cross the channel at the entrance to the harbour but must do so using the shortest route possible.
16.3 Swimmers shall not cross a narrow channel of fairway if such crossing impedes the passage of a vessel.

17 Diving operations (with respiratory support)

- 17.1 No diving is to take place within the harbour without the prior consent of the harbour master.
17.2 Where the harbour master has approved any diving, all persons taking part shall comply with the Diving at Work Regulations 1997 and any instructions given by the harbour master.

Lockgates

18 Interference with plant, dock machinery, lockgates etc

No person shall, without lawful authority:

- 18.1 use, work, move, tamper or interfere with any plant, dock machinery, equipment or apparatus at the harbour premises; or
- 18.2 open, drawn or shut any lockgate, sluice paddle or bridge of any dock basin under control of the council.

19 Access to lockgates

- 19.1 No person shall enter or remain or attempt to enter upon any lockgate under the control of the council while it is in motion, or pass over any barrier or gate placed before or across any such lockgate before it is swung, or step on such lockgate before the barrier or gates shall have been removed by an officer or servant of the company on duty at the lockgate, and no person other than such officer or servant shall remove, unfasten or interfere with any such barrier or gate.

Slipway

20 Usage

- 20.1 When using the slipway the master of the vessel will ensure:
 - i. the boat and engine are seaworthy.
 - ii. adequate marine insurance is in place
 - iii. arrangements have been made with the Harbour Master or appointed staff for permission to launch or recover.
- 20.2 The slipway must be kept clear. Vehicles and trailers must not be left unattended on the harbour premises.

Shoreline restrictions

- 21 With the exception of accredited lifesaving groups or appointed rescue services. No vessels or masters of vessels shall navigate within 50 meters of the beach shoreline referred to in appendix X.

Waste

22 Deposit of rubbish, interference with refuse bins etc.

- 22.1 No person shall:
 - i. abandon, deposit or dump any materials, goods, furniture, machinery or items of any kind or any rubbish, refuse or waste at any place in the harbour premises not specifically appointed by the Council for such purpose; or
 - ii. interfere with the contents of or remove anything from any receptacle, bin, container or place appointed or used for the time being for the deposit or storage of any rubbish, refuse, waste or other discarded items.

23 Disposal of refuse and waste from vessel.

- 23.1 The master of a vessel shall ensure that:

- i. Only paper, packaging and food waste are to be placed in the covered receptacles provided for that purpose on the quay by the council;
 - ii. the receptacles are kept closed when not in use; and
 - iii. the area in the vicinity of the receptacles is kept clean.
- 23.2 No person other than a member of the crew of a vessel or person employed, engaged or authorised by the master of a vessel shall dispose of any item of any kind in any receptacle, bin or other container provided for the use of a vessel.
- 24 Pumping of Bilges**
- 24.1 The master of a vessel shall not permit bilge water to be pumped from the vessel into the docks unless the written consent of the harbour master shall have been first obtained or unless such action is necessary to avoid his vessel sinking.

Safety

- 25 Interference with firefighting and lifesaving equipment**
- 25.1 Except with the permission of an authorised officer of the Council, no person shall use, obstruct, remove, interfere or tamper with any firefighting equipment or any lifesaving apparatus except for the purpose of combating fire or saving life.
- 26 Fires and naked lights**
- 26.1 No person shall light, or attempt to light, or use any open fire or naked flame within the harbour premises except with the permission of an authorised officer of the Council and subject to such conditions as the Council may prescribe from time to time.

Security

- 27 Unauthorised entry and trespassing**
- 27.1 No person shall enter or leave or attempt to enter or leave the harbour premises or any area or building within the harbour premises other than by means of an approved entrance or exit.
- 28 Damaging or defacing premises**
- 28.1 No person shall damage or wilfully deface any part of the harbour premises or any of the councils property.
- 29 Defacing notices, etc**
- 29.1 No person shall destroy or deface any authorised notice, bill or placard.
- 30 Affixing notices, etc**
- 30.1 No person shall, without the previous approval of an authorised officer of the Council, affix or cause to be affixed any notice, bill or placard or distribute any notice, bill, leaflet or placard anywhere within the harbour premises.
- 31 Obstruction of officers or employees of the Council**
- 31.1 No person shall obstruct:
- (i) any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duties;

- (ii) any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council: or
- (iii) any other person in proper use of the harbour.

32 Removal of offenders

32.1 any person offending against any of these byelaws may be removed from the harbour by an officer of the Council.

33 Penalty

33.1 Any person offending against any of these byelaws is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the Standard Scale.

34 Revocation

34.1 The byelaws made by (blank) and confirmed by (blank) on (blank) relating to the harbour are hereby revoked

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Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER, LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	RACHEL KEEPINS DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There are no effects upon BCBC’s policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	This report seeks approval from Council to appoint the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (the “JOSC”) as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) and agree the draft Terms of Reference for their functions.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee is required to have appropriate scrutiny arrangements in place. This report sets out the requirements in relation to that statutory duty and seeks the authority to implement suitable arrangements.

2. Background

- 2.1 A Corporate Joint Committee, (CJC) is a regional corporate body, with broadly similar powers and duties to local authorities. CJsCs have similar governance and administrative structures but have a level of discretion on constitutional and operational arrangements. There are four are in place in Wales covering North Wales, Mid Wales, South West Wales and South East Wales. Membership of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (the “CJC”) is made up of the elected council leaders of the 10 local authorities within the region together with the nominated representative of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority. CJsCs have significant immediate responsibilities with real impacts for local authorities and people living in their areas.
- 2.2 The Statutory Guidance issued by Welsh Government that accompanies the CJC Regulations states that CJsCs will be subject to the same performance, governance and scrutiny requirements as local authorities. However, it also states that it is

expected that these arrangements should be proportionate to the scale of functions the CJC undertakes.

- 2.3 The Statutory Guidance further states that ‘in considering the most effective and efficient approach to scrutiny, constituent councils and CJsCs should give thought to the benefits of a joint overview and scrutiny committee made up of the constituent councils’.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (“the Regulations”) sets out the CJC’s duties in relation to overview and scrutiny. The Regulations require the CJC to provide information to, attend meetings of and consider any report or recommendations made by a ‘relevant overview and scrutiny committee.’ A ‘relevant overview and scrutiny committee’ is defined as:

- a. an overview and scrutiny committee appointed by a constituent council under section 21(2) of the Local Government Act 2000;
- b. a joint overview and scrutiny committee appointed under the Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013 where the appointing authorities are constituent councils of the corporate joint committee;
- c. a sub-committee of a committee described in paragraph (a) or (b).

- 3.2 The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (the “JOSC”) was appointed by the constituent councils of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (the “CCRCD”) which is a Joint Committee of all ten local authorities of South East Wales and has been established for the purpose of overseeing and co-ordinating the discharge of each councils' obligations in relation to the City Deal. The JOSC provides the scrutiny function and meets to monitor the CCRCD project progress against its programme plan and make reports and recommendations to the Regional Cabinet and/or to any of the Appointing Authorities and to any of their executives in respect of any function that has been delegated to the Regional Cabinet pursuant to the Joint Working Agreement. It meets up to 4 times per year and is administered by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (“RCTCBC”).

- 3.3 The JOSC comprises one non-executive member from each constituent council of the CCRCD, which are also the constituent authorities of the CJC.

- 3.4 It is proposed that appointing the JOSC as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the CJC under a separate Terms of Reference would best satisfy Welsh Government’s intention, as set out in the Statutory Guidance, because:

- (1) the Statutory Guidance provides for consideration to be given to scrutiny being carried out by a joint committee of the constituent authorities;
- (2) the Statutory Guidance expressly states that scrutiny arrangements should be proportionate to the scale and functions of the CJC; and

- (3) JOSC already provides the scrutiny function of the CCRD, the functions of which will be transferred to the CJC in due course.

- 3.5 Informal discussions have taken place between the Interim Monitoring Officer of the CJC and officers of RCTCBC to discuss the viability of the proposal. The JOSC met on 27th July 2023 to consider the proposed scrutiny arrangements for the CJC . Members were supportive of the proposed arrangements for the JOSC to be appointed as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the CJC and highlighted the importance of ensuring that an effective model of governance and scrutiny arrangements for the CJC are put in place. This included ensuring that the arrangement is adequately resourced to include funding for Members to receive sufficient training and support to take forward future scrutiny for the CJC. Further to this, it is proposed that the JOSC, with the support of Heads of Democratic Services from each of the SEWCJC partner authorities, undertake a review of the draft Terms of Reference to ensure they are fit for purpose and provide a clear and defined purpose on the committee's future objectives and responsibilities. Any proposed changes will be reported back to the relevant constituent councils for approval.
- 3.6 On 31st July 2023, the CJC, subject to the agreement of the ten constituent councils of the CJC endorsed the proposal that the JOSC should be appointed as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the CJC and authorised the Interim Monitoring Officer at RCTCBC to make arrangements with the constituent authorities to progress the proposal and to approach RCTCBC to formally request that the JOSC be appointed as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the CJC:
<https://www.cardiffcapitalregion.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/sew-cjc-31.07.23-full-pack.pdf>.
- 3.7 The CJC cannot designate the scrutiny function to the JOSC itself, instead the Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013 require the ten constituent councils to appoint the JOSC as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the CJC, and when doing so, to enter into an agreement setting out the terms of reference, rules and procedures and other ancillary matters as set out in the Regulations. Accordingly, the initial draft Terms of Reference attached as **Appendix 1** will need to be agreed by all constituent councils.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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. The CJC will be subject to the same requirements. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 In developing these proposals and in considering its endorsement, regard should be given, amongst other matters, to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales and places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible.
- 5.3 In discharging their respective duties under the Act, each public body listed in the Act (which includes the councils comprising the CJC) must set and publish wellbeing objectives. These objectives will show how each public body will work to achieve the vision for Wales set out in the national wellbeing goals. When exercising its functions, the CJC should consider how the proposed decision will contribute towards meeting the wellbeing objectives set by each council and in so doing achieve the national wellbeing goals. The wellbeing duty also requires the councils to act in accordance with a 'sustainable development principle'. This principle requires the councils to act in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Put simply, this means that CJC must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future. In doing so, they must:
- look to the long term;
 - focus on prevention by understanding the root causes of problems;
 - deliver an integrated approach to achieving the 7 national well-being goals;
 - work in collaboration with others to find shared sustainable solutions;
 - involve people from all sections of the community in the decisions which affect them.
- 5.4 A Future Generations Assessment Evaluation (including equalities and sustainability impact assessments) has been completed and was reported to the CJC on 31st July 2023: <https://www.cardiffcapitalregion.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/sew-cjc-31.07.23-full-pack.pdf>.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct Climate Change implications arising out of this report however the work of the CJC could potentially have an impact and these will have to be considered by the JOSOC as appropriate.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no Safeguarding or Corporate Parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The existing JOSOC arrangements are overseen by RCTCBC and the costs are fully met by the CCRCDC's budget. It is not anticipated that the overall cost envelope will

change as result of the recommendations set out in this report, but consideration will need to be given to whether an appropriate element of these costs should be recharged to the CJC. The cost of administering the JOSOC for the CJC will be dealt with by a service level agreement between RCTCBC and the CJC.

- 8.2 In the current financial year (2023/24) the CJC has set aside a budget of £8,000 to meet the costs of its sub-committees, which is deemed to be sufficient at this time. In addition, the CJC has an approved contingency budget of £30,000 to support the work of the CJC during 2023/24, which involves putting in a place a number of new arrangements to enable the CJC to discharge its duties under the regulations. These sums will be reviewed as part of the CJC's annual budget setting process, as the volume and complexity of the CJC's operations evolve.
- 8.3 As noted above, it is not considered that there are any financial implications for BCBC as it is not anticipated that the overall cost envelope will change as a result of the recommendations set out in this report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- (1) Appoints the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSOC) as the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the CJC;
- (2) Approves the initial draft Terms of Reference for its functions in respect of the CJC, as attached at **Appendix 1** noting that the JOSOC will review the Terms of Reference and that any proposed amendments will be reported back to the constituent councils;
- (3) Notes that the cost of administering the JOSOC for the CJC will be dealt with by a service level agreement between RCTCBC and the CJC, to be concluded in due course.

Background documents

None

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TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

Definitions

1. For the purposes of these Terms of Reference:

‘CJC’ – The South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

‘Appointing Authorities’ are the constituent councils of the CJC

‘Host Authority’ means Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC, or such other authority as the Appointing Authorities may agree from time to time;

Introduction

2. The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (“the JOSC”) was established by the agreement of the Appointing Authorities pursuant to the Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013.

Members

3. The JOSC shall consist of one non-executive member from each Appointing Authority.
4. It is a matter for each Appointing Authority, from time to time, to nominate, or terminate the appointment of its nominated member serving on the JOSC. Each Appointing Authority shall be entitled, from time to time, to appoint a deputy for its member representative to the JOSC but such deputy shall only be entitled to vote at meetings of the JOSC in the absence of their corresponding principal.
5. The length of appointment is a matter for each Appointing Authority.

Quorum

6. The quorum necessary for a meeting of the JOSC is at least 5 out of the 10 JOSC members, present at the relevant time.

Election of a Chair

7. The JOSC shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair annually.

Rules of Procedure

8. The procedure rules will be those of the Host Authority for its Scrutiny Committees.

Members' Conduct

9. Members of the JOSC will be bound by their respective Council's Code of Conduct.

Declarations of Interest

10. Members of the JOSC must declare any interest either before or during the meetings of the JOSC (and withdraw from that meeting if necessary) in accordance with their Council's Code of Conduct or as required by law.

Confidential and Exempt Information / Access to Information

11. The Host Authority's Access to Information Procedure rules shall apply subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972.

Openness and Transparency

12. All meetings of the JOSC will be open to the public unless it is necessary to exclude the public in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.
13. All agendas, reports and minutes of the JOSC will be made publicly available, unless deemed exempt or confidential in accordance with the above Act.

Functions to be exercised by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

14. The JOSC shall be responsible for exercising the functions of a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee pursuant to the Local Authorities (Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2013.

15. Any member of the JOSC may refer to the JOSC any matter which is relevant to its functions provided it is not a local crime and disorder matter as defined in section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
16. Any member of any of the Appointing Authorities may refer to the JOSC any local Government matter which is relevant to the functions of the JOSC, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The matter relates to one of the functions of the Appointing Authority and is relevant to the functions of the JOSC,
 - b. It affects the electoral area of the member or it affects any person who lives or works there; and
 - c. It is not a local crime and disorder matter as defined in section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
17. When considering whether to refer a matter to the JOSC a member should first consider if it falls within the remit of a single overview and scrutiny committee within the member's local authority, and if that is the case the member should raise the matter there. Members should only refer a matter to the JOSC if it falls clearly within the responsibilities and terms of reference of the JOSC and if there is no scrutiny of the issue in the local authority to which the member belongs.

Administrative Arrangements

18. It shall be the responsibility of the Head of Democratic Services of the Host Authority to ensure that an appropriate level of officer support and other resources to the joint overview and scrutiny committee are in place at all times. The cost of providing these resources will be met by the CJC.

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Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	INFORMATION REPORT FOR NOTING
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	MICHAEL PITMAN – TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICER - COMMITTEES
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	THERE IS NO EFFECT UPON THE POLICY FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE RULES
Executive Summary:	To update Council with a report for Members information and noting in relation to the Democratic Services Committee’s Annual Report

1. Purpose of Report

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

2. Background

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

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 Information Report

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

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Published</u>
Democratic Services Committee Annual Report	12 October 2023

3.2 Availability of Document

The document has been circulated to Elected Members electronically via email and placed on the Bridgend County Borough Council website. The document is available from the above date of publication.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations Implications and Connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no Climate Change Implications from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications from this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications in relation to this report.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 That Council acknowledges the publication of the report referred to in paragraph 3.1 of this report.

Background documents

None

Meeting of:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	18 OCTOBER 2023
Report Title:	DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
Responsible Officer:	RACHEL KEEPINS DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules
Executive Summary:	<p>The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires the Democratic Services Committee (DSC) to make a report at least annually to the Council.</p> <p>The report details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Membership of the DSC • Dates of DSC • DSC Terms of Reference • Activities of the DSC for the period May 2022 to May 2023 • The Structure of the Democratic Services Team covering May 2022-23

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Council with the Democratic Services Annual Report for the period May 2022 to May 2023 for receiving and noting. The report outlines the work of the Committee during that period.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires each Council to establish a Democratic Services Committee. The Measure prescribes the functions of the committee and requires the committee to make a report at least annually to Council.
- 2.2 The Democratic Services Committee cannot discharge any other functions or perform any dual role.

2.3 The Democratic Services Committee approved their Annual Report at its meeting on 8 June 2023.

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 Councillor T Thomas was elected Chair of the Democratic Services Committee at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2022.

3.2 The Committee is serviced by the Democratic Services Manager. The role also has the responsibility of being the Head of Democratic Services.

Membership of the Democratic Services Committee

3.3 The Membership of the Democratic Services Committee for the period May 2022 to May 2023 was as follows:

Councillor	Councillor
Cllr T Thomas (Chair)	Cllr Malcolm James
Cllr S Aspey	Cllr Rob Smith
Cllr Paula Ford	Cllr Ian Spiller
Cllr Richard Granville	Cllr G Walter
Cllr David Harrison	Cllr Elaine Winstanley
Cllr Martin Hughes	

Dates of the Democratic Services Committee Meetings

3.4 The Committee met on the following dates during the period May 2022 to May 2023:

- 7 July 2022
- 20 October 2022
- 23 February 2023

Democratic Services Committee Terms of Reference

3.5 The remit of the Democratic Services Committee is set out under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 and is:

- Designate an officer as the Head of Democratic Services;
- Review the adequacy of provision by the Authority of staff, accommodation and other resources to discharge Democratic Services functions;
- Make reports and recommendations to the Authority in relation to such provision;
- At the request of the Authority review any matter relevant to the support and advice available to members of the Council, and the terms and conditions of office of those members.

- 3.6 There is also a Sub-Committee of the Democratic Services Committee which consists of a Panel to deal with Member family absence under the Family Absence for Members of Local Authorities (Wales) Regulations 2013.

Activities of the Democratic Services Committee for the period May 2022 to May 2023

- 3.7 Following the Welsh local elections in May 2022 the Committee undertook a review of the All-Wales Model Constitution and accompanying guides in order to agree them in principle before being presented to Cabinet and Council for approval and adoption. The Committee determined to establish a Working Group to conduct this work which consisted of six volunteers from the Committee, chaired by Cllr T. Thomas.
- 3.8 The Model Constitution Working Group met on two separate occasions in July and August 2022. In addition to going through each section of the Constitution in depth and providing a series of recommendations, the Group also reviewed the Council's process for questions from Members to Council. This consisted of consideration of the process followed in four neighbouring Welsh Local Authorities to provide an idea of various methods that could be used.
- 3.9 The recommendations from the Working Group were approved by Council on 19th October 2022 along with the revised Constitution and Guide.
- 3.10 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Report 2023-24 was considered at the Committee's October 2022 meeting where Members discussed the proposed changes particularly in relation to the proposed increase in pay for Members. The Committee agreed to provide the following response to the IRPW and WLGA in respect of the IRPW Draft Annual Report 2023-2024:
- 'The Committee recognise that given the cost-of-living crisis and the undeniable difficulties that many people in the County Borough are experiencing at the moment and likely to in the near future, it appears somewhat inappropriate to have pay rises for Elected Members for 2023-2024. However, it is also accepted that personal circumstances of Members need to be considered and therefore it should be a personal matter for Members to determine themselves whether or not they accept the pay rise or make the choice to opt-out.'*
- 3.11 At the Committee's meeting held on 23 February 2023 Members were presented with a report that provided an update on the Digital Platform and Member Portal. The Committee requested further information, recommended methods for promoting the digital platform with the public and also established a working group to take forward the development of the Member Portal. It was recommended that the membership of the working group consist of volunteers from the Democratic Services Committee, as well as Group Leaders, with the following Members putting themselves forward to sit on the group: Cllr Tim Thomas, Cllr Martin Hughes, Cllr Graham Walter, and Cllr Ian Spiller.
- 3.12 The Councillor Portal Working Group met on the 3rd May 2023 and discussed potential areas for consideration with the Head of Partnerships and the Democratic Service Manager. The Group agreed to divide their work up into the following specific categories:

- Quick wins
- Training and development
- Responses
- Technical & Compatibility
- Dashboards
- Engagement

The 'quick wins' will be monitored by the Group to see how they develop and other areas will be explored more with the Group and discussed with Officers to try and find solutions which can be progressed and monitored.

- 3.13 Following the Local Government Elections in May 2022 the Committee considered and reviewed the delivery of the Member Induction Programme 2022 as well as the ongoing Member Development Programme 2022-23. Whilst there was consensus that the Induction Programme had been successful, there were various methods for improvement proposed including holding a Marketplace event sooner after the elections.

Democratic Services Team for the period May 2022 to May 2023

- 3.14 The structure for the Democratic Services Team is set out below:

- Democratic Services Manager (with the statutory post of Head of Democratic Services)
- Senior Democratic Services Officer – Committees
- Democratic Services Officer – Committees
- Democratic Services – Technical Support Officer
- Senior Democratic Services Officer – Scrutiny
- Scrutiny Officer x 2
- Senior Democratic Services Officer – Support
- Democratic Services Assistant
- Democratic Services Officer – Support
- Democratic Services Officer – Leadership, Members and Mayoral
- Chauffeur
- Business Administrative Apprentice (Soon to be in place at the time of drafting)

- 3.15 The provision of staff, accommodation and other resources by the Council has been adequate to discharge the statutory requirements in relation to decision making, democratic administration and scrutiny as they currently exist. However, there are increasing statutory responsibilities and an appetite for further development amongst Members and the Executive. If progressed, these will result in various pressures across the team and whilst the new Apprentice post will temporarily assist with alleviating some of this, there may be a need to submit budget pressure bids during the future budget setting process. The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 places the responsibility on the Authority itself to ensure that the Head of Democratic Services (HDS) is provided with sufficient staff, accommodation and other resources as are, in the Council's opinion, sufficient to allow the HDS's functions to be discharged.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations Implications and Connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no Climate Change implications as a result of this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no Safeguarding or Corporate Parent implications as a result of this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. There are no specific costs associated with the running of this Committee other than those involved in the cost of administration of this and other Council functions within the democratic process.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 It is recommended that Council receive and note the Democratic Services Committee Annual Report.

Background documents

None

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