

# Public Document Pack

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

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



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

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



**Cyfarwyddiaeth y Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive's Directorate**  
Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513  
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Gwasanaethau Democraidd

Ein cyf / Our ref:  
Eich cyf / Your ref:

**Dyddiad/Date:** Dydd Iau, 3 Ebrill 2025

Annwyl Cynghorydd,

### **CYNGOR**

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Cyngor r Hybrid yn Siambraeth y Cyngor Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, CF31 4WB /o bell trwy Timau Microsoft ar **Dydd Mercher, 9 Ebrill 2025 am 16:00**.

### **AGENDA**

#### **1 Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb**

Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Aelodau.

#### **2 Datganiadau o fuddiant**

Derbyn datganiadau o ddiddordeb personol a rhagfarnol (os o gwbl) gan Aelodau / Swyddogion yn unol â darpariaethau'r Cod Ymddygiad Aelodau a fabwysiadwyd gan y Cyngor o 1 Medi 2008.

#### **3 Cymeradwyaeth Cofnodion**

5 - 28

I dderbyn am gymeradwyaeth y Cofnodion cyfarfod y 26/02/25 a 12/03/25

#### **4 I dderbyn cyhoeddiadau oddi wrth:**

- (i) Maer (neu'r person sy'n llywyddu)
- (ii) Prif Weithredwr

#### **5 Derbyn cyhoeddiadau gan yr Arweinydd**

6	<u>Adolygiad o'r Cynllun Corfforaethol ar gyfer 2025/26</u>	29 - 52
7	<u>Adolygiad Craffu</u>	53 - 82
8	<u>Hysbysiad o Gynnig a gynigiwyd gan y</u>	

### **Cyngorydd Ian Williams**

“Ym mis Mehefin 2020, fe wnaeth yr awdurdod hwn ddatgan argyfwng hinsawdd ac mae wedi rhoi'r holl fesurau angenheidiol ar waith i leihau ei ôl troed carbon.

Yn 2021 fe wnaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ddatgan argyfwng natur. Yr hyn y mae hyn yn ei olygu yw bod 17% o'r 3,902 o rywogaethau a astudiyd yng Nghymru mewn perygl o ddiflannu, gyda llawer o rai eraill yn prinbau.

Mae'r cynlluniau a'r camau gweithredu a ganlyn bellach yn eu lle.

Yn 2015, cydnabu Cynllun Gweithredu Adfer Natur (NRAP) Llywodraeth Cymru fod Cymru ymhell o gyrraedd nodau bioamrywiaeth cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol. Mae data bellach yn dangos bod bywyd gwylt Cymru wedi gostwng o 20% ar gyfartaledd rhwng 1994 a 2023. Ac roedd oddeutu 1 o bob 6 rywogaeth Gymreig mewn perygl o ddiflannu yn 2023.

Nod Deddf yr Amgylchedd (Cymru) 2016 yw gwrthdroi'r dirywiad mewn bioamrywiaeth. Ymhliith pethau eraill, mae'n gosod dyletswydd gryfach ar awdurdodau cyhoeddus tuag at fioamrywiaeth a gwytwnwch ecosystemau. Ers hynny, mae'r Senedd wedi datgan argyfwng natur ac mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dweud y bydd yn ymgorffori ei hymateb i'r argyfwng hinsawdd a natur ym mhopeth y bydd yn ei wneud.

Mae'r cynnig hwn yn galw ar i'r cyngor hwn benderfynu ymrwymo i'r argyfwng natur a ddatganwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar y 30ain o Fehefin 2021 ac ystyried effaith yr holl benderfyniadau a wneir gan yr awdurdod hwn ar fywyd gwylt, natur a bioamrywiaeth yn ein bwrdeistref”.

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

Nodyn: Bydd hwn yn gyfarfod Hybrid a bydd Aelodau a Swyddogion mynchy trwy Siambr y Cyngor, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / o bell Trwy Timau Microsoft. Bydd y cyfarfod cael ei recordio i'w drosglwyddo drwy wefan y Cyngor. Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiwn am hyn, cysylltwch â cabinet\_committee@bridgend.gov.uk neu ffoniwch 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513 / 643159

Yn ddiffuant

**K Watson**

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

### **Dosbarthiad:**

Cynghorwr:

Pob Aelod

CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 26 CHWEFROR 2025COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAID CYFARFOD O'R CYNGOR A GYNHALIWYD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB AR DYDD MERCHER, 26 CHWEFROR 2025 16:00Yn bresennol

## Cynghorydd H Griffiths – Maer a Chadeirydd

A R Berrow	S J Bletsoe	JPD Blundell	E L P Caparros
RJ Collins	HJ David	P Davies	M J Evans
N Farr	J Gebbie	W R Goode	RM Granville
S J Griffiths	GH Haines	M L Hughes	D M Hughes
M R John	M Jones	W J Kendall	M Lewis
J Llewellyn-Hopkins	J E Pratt	JC Spaswick	JH Tildesley MBE
G Walter	A Wathan	AJ Williams	HM Williams
I Williams	E D Winstanley	T Wood	

Yn bresennol yn rhithiol

H T Bennett	N Clarke	C L C Davies	P Ford
D T Harrison	RM James	P W Jenkins	I M Spiller
T Thomas	MJ Williams	R Williams	

Swyddogion:

Jackie Davies	Pennaeth Gofal Cymdeithasol Oedolion
Mark Galvin	Uwch Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democraidd - Pwyllgorau
Laura Griffiths	Prif Gyfreithiwr
Lindsay Harvey	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Addysg, Y Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Phobl Ifanc
Rachel Keepins	Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democraidd
Carys Lord	Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid
Janine Nightingale	Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Cymunedau
Michael Pitman	Swyddog Cymorth Technegol – Gwasanaethau Democraidd
Mark Shephard	Prif Weithredwr

Kelly Watson

Prif Swyddog - Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Rheoleiddiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Pholisi  
Corfforaethol

**103. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb**

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Cafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth yr aelodau canlynol:-  Cynghorydd M Kearn Cynghorydd Alex Williams Cynghorydd F Bletsoe Cynghorydd R Smith
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

**104. Datgan Buddiant**

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Datganodd yr Aelodau y buddiannau personol a ganlyn:-  Cynghorydd R Williams – Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr Agenda, fel aelod o Gyngor Tref Pencoed, gan fod yr adroddiad yn cyfeirio at y Gronfa Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned.  Cynghorydd Amanda Williams – Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr Agenda, fel Llywodraethwr Cymunedol yn Ysgol Gynradd Coety  Cynghorydd E Winstanley - Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr agenda, fel gweithiwr Ymddiriedolaeth Ddiwylliannol Awen a Llywodraethwr ysgol yn Ysgol Gynradd Afon y Felin ac Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr  Cynghorydd I Williams – Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr Agenda, fel Llywodraethwr ysgol yn Ysgol Gyfun Brynteg ac Ysgol Gynradd Oldcastle ac fel aelod o Gyngor Tref Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.  Cynghorydd M John – Eitem 3 ar yr Agenda, fel Llywodraethwr ysgol yn Ysgol Iau Bryncethin
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CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 26 CHWEFROR 2025

	Cynghorydd J Gebbie - Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr agenda, fel llywodraethwr ysgol yn Ysgol Gynradd Mynydd Cynffig Cynghorydd M Evans – Eitemau 3 a 5 ar yr Agenda, fel aelod o Gyngor Tref Pencoed
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

**105. Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig 2025-26 i 2028-29**

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p>Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid adroddiad ar y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig (SATC) arfaethedig a oedd yn nodi blaenoriaethau gwariant y Cyngor ar gyfer y 4 blynedd nesaf ochr yn ochr â chyllideb fanwl ar gyfer 2025-26.</p> <p>Roedd yr adroddiad yn amlinellu'r canlynol:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y cyd-destun ariannol, deddfwriaethol a pholisi wrth baratoi'r gyllideb ddrafft, ynghyd â gwybodaeth fanylach am y gwasanaethau sydd i'w darparu gan y Cyngor dros gyfnod y SATC.</li> <li>• Bod y SATC arfaethedig wedi'i llywio gan 13 o egwyddorion SATC y Cyngor, ynghyd ag egwyddorion ychwanegol ar gyfer y gyllideb a geisiwyd gan y Cabinet ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol sydd i ddod. Datblygwyd yr SATC gan y Cabinet a'r Bwrdd Rheoli Corfforaethol, gan ystyried trafodaethau â Phanel Ymchwil a Gwerthuso'r Gyllideb, Pwyllgorau Trosolwg a Chrâu'r Cyngor a'r Fforwm Cyllideb Ysgolion, a'r argymhellion ganddynt. Roedd y cyhoedd hefyd wedi cael gwahoddiad i gymryd rhan yn yr ymgynghoriad.</li> <li>• Bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyhoeddi ei chyllideb ddrafft ar 10 Rhagfyr 2024 cyn cyhoeddi'r setliad dros dro i llywodraeth leol ar 11 Rhagfyr 2024.</li> <li>• O ran y setliad llywodraeth leol dros dro, y cynnydd i'r Cyllid Allanol Cyfun (AEF) oedd 4.3% ar raddfa Cymru gyfan. Y cynnydd ar gyfer Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yw 3.9%.</li> <li>• Na roddwyd unrhyw wybodaeth am gyllid mewn blynnyddoedd i ddod, ond yn ôl yr arwyddion bydd y sefyllfa'n parhau i fod yn eithriadol o</li> </ul>
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	<p>heriol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bod nifer o grantiau penodol wedi'u trosglwyddo i mewn ac allan o'r setliad.</li> <li>• Mai'r gyllideb arfaethedig ar gyfer 2025-26 yw £383.338 miliwn, a bod hyn yn cynwys pwysau cyflogau a phrisiau disgwyliedig o £13.3 miliwn, pwysau o £14.454 miliwn ar gyllidebau gwasanaethau, gostyngiadau i'r gyllideb o £8.379 miliwn a chynnydd o 4.5% i'r dreth gyngor. Ceir dadansoddiad o'r gyllideb ar gyfer 2025-26 yn Nhabl 10.</li> <li>• Bod y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig yn nodi targed arbedion mwyaf tebygol o £39.516 miliwn dros y 4 blynedd ariannol nesaf.</li> <li>• Bod cyllid cyfalaf cyffredinol y Cyngor wedi cynyddu £602,000 i £8.582 miliwn.</li> <li>• Bod gan y swyddog Adran 151 ddyletswydd statudol i bennu cyllideb gytbwys a chadarn.</li> <li>• Na chaiff y setliad terfynol ei gyhoeddi hyd ddiwedd mis Chwefror. O ganlyniad i hyn, mae'r gyllideb hon yn cael ei chynnig ar sail y setliad dros dro a gafwyd ym mis Rhagfyr 2024. Bydd newidiadau i'r Setliad Terfynol, fel trosglwyddo grantiau penodol i mewn, a chyllid ychwanegol, yn cael eu hadrodd i'r Cyngor maes o law, ond ni ragwelir y bydd hyn yn effeithio ar y dreth gyngor.</li> </ul> <p>Cyhoeddodd y Maer fod SATC diwygiedig wedi cael ei chyflwyno gan Grŵp Annibynnol Sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr (BCI) yn unol â darpariaeth yng Nghyfansoddiad y Cyngor a bod y fersiwn honno wedi'i dderbyn gan y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid. Roedd y fersiwn wedi'i hanfon at yr holl aelodau a'r Bwrdd Rheoli Corfforaethol (BRhC) ymlaen llaw cyn y cyfarfod. Gofynnodd y Maer i Arweinydd Grŵp BCI roi amlinelliad o brif gynigion y gyllideb amgen.</p> <p>Dyweddodd yr Arweinydd Grŵp, Grŵp BCI fod y cynnig amgen yn diogelu ysgolion a'r gwasanaeth cwnsela ac yn lleihau'r toriad hwnnw o 1%, fel y dangosir yn y SATC, i 0.5% o'r gyllideb a ddirprwyir i'r Ysgolion. Esboniodd y byddai'r gostyngiad hwn yn cefnogi anghenion addysgol a iechyd meddwl a llesiant disgylion, a hefyd yn rhoi mwy o gefnogaeth i'r staff addysgu. Byddai hyn yn ei dro yn lleihau achosion CAMHS.</p> <p>Roedd dau brif faes i'w diogelu, sef y gwasanaethau cwnsela yn yr ysgol yn llawn, yn sgil yr argyfwng iechyd meddwl sy'n dod i'r amlwg ymhliith pobl ifanc, a gostyngiad i'r toriadau o £1,186m i £593k. Byddai hyn yn dod o doriadau i wasanaethau eraill o fewn y Cyngor fel y manylir yn y cynigion amgen. Roedd y gyllideb amgen hefyd yn cynnig sut y gallai CBS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ddefnyddio dulliau eraill i gynhyrchu cyllid ychwanegol.</p>
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	<p>Awgrymodd yr Arweinydd Grŵp BCI, ni waeth pa gyllideb y ceid cytundeb arni heddiw, y dylai'r Panel Ymchwil a Gwerthuso'r Gyllideb, y Cabinet a'r Bwrdd Rheoli Corfforaethol a grwpiau'r wrthblaid/aelodau yn cyfarfod yn fuan iawn yn y flwyddyn ariannol newydd, i edrych ar gyllid yr awdurdod lleol. Byddent hefyd yn monitro'r sefyllfa ariannol yn rheolaidd a pharhaus ar y cyfle cyntaf er mwyn sicrhau'r paratoadau gorau er mwyn llunio cynigion terfynol y SATC ar gyfer 2026-27 (wrth symud ymlaen).</p> <p>Gofynnodd aelod beth fyddai'n digwydd pe bai rhai ysgolion bach yn cau o ganlyniad i'r gostyngiadau uchod. Roedd y gyllideb amgen yn cyfeirio at hynny.</p> <p>Dyweddodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg, Blynnyddoedd Cynnwr a Phobl Ifanc fod canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru yn diogelu ysgolion bach a gwledig, ac felly y byddai'n rhaid cynnal Arfarniad Opsiynau ffurfiol pe byddai'r Cyngor yn cytuno i gau ysgolion o'r fath. Byddai hyn yn golygu, o gytuno ar hynny, mai'r cynharaf y gallai'r ysgolion hyn gau fyddai tua mis Medi 2027. Felly, ni fyddai unrhyw arbedion o'r cynnig yn cael eu gwneud yn SATC y flwyddyn i ddod. Hefyd, o gytuno ar hynny, byddai costau pellach yn cael eu cynhyrchu o gostau drafnidiaeth, ac o wneud ysgolion eraill yn fwy i gynnwys disgylion o'r ysgolion a fyddai'n cau. Roedd felly o'r farn na fyddai'r arbedion a awgrymwyd (y cyfeiriwyd atynt yn EV1 yr adroddiad) a oedd yn gyfanswm o £239k yn cael eu sicrhau.</p> <p>Teimlai aelod y byddai'r cynigion a wnaed hefyd yn cael effaith ar lefel cronfeydd wrth gefn y Cyngor yn y tymor hwy. Dywedwyd eisoes bod y rhain yn is nag a ddymunir.</p> <p>Roedd y Prif Swyddog – Cyllid, Tai a Newid yn cytuno â'r uchod, nid cymaint ar gyfer y flwyddyn 2025-26 a oedd i ddod, ond â'r hyn a ddywedwyd ar gyfer y blynnyddoedd wedi hynny. Dywedodd hyn oherwydd er bod setliadau Llywodraeth Cymru yn anhysbys y tu hwnt i'r flwyddyn a oedd i ddod, roedd dadansoddwyr eisoes wedi rhagweld bod disgwyl i'r setliadau hynny fod yn heriol.</p> <p>Awgrymodd yr Arweinydd Grŵp, Annibynwyr Llynfi efallai y dylid adolygu'r Cyfansoddiad o ran y broses o bennu'r gyllideb, i'w gwneud yn rhwyddach i ystyried unrhyw gynigion amgen gan aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau yn gynharach nag a ddigwyddodd eleni, gyda'r gyllideb amgen.</p> <p>Mewn perthynas â'r toriad i'r gyllideb a gynigiwyd o £50k i gau'r swyddfeydd Dinesig am un diwrnod yr wythnos drwy gydol y flwyddyn, gofynnodd aelod sut oedd hyn wedi cael ei gyfrifo, ac a oedd yn cynnwys costau cyfalaf. Mewn ymateb i hyn, cadarnhawyd bod hyn yn cynnwys costau cyfalaf, ond dim costau refeniw, gan y byddai tîm yr Hwb Diogelu Aml-asiantaeth yn dal i ddod i mewn i'r adeilad yn llawnamser i ddefnyddio Llawr 4. Amcangyfrifodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Cymunedau y byddai costau cyfleustodau ar gyfer hyn yn gwrthbwys o unrhyw arbedion arfaethedig.</p>
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	<p>Gofynnodd aelod beth oedd cyfanswm y cyllid a oedd wedi'i dorri o'r gyllideb Addysg ers mis Mai 2022. Dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet Addysg nad oedd yn gwybod yr ateb i hynny, ond y byddai'n cysylltu â'r aelod i'w hysbysu y tu allan i'r cyfarfod. Fodd bynnag, ychwanegodd yr Aelod Cabinet Addysg fod 39% o gyfanswm cyllideb y Cyngor yn cael ei ymrwymo i ysgolion.</p> <p>Gan fod y gyllideb ddiwygiedig wedi'i chynnig a'i heilio, awgrymodd y Maer ei bod hi'n bryd cynnal pleidlais ar y gyllideb honno, a'r canlyniad oedd:-</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th><u>O blaid (y gyllideb ddiwygiedig)</u></th><th><u>Yn erbyn</u></th><th><u>Ymatal</u></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12</td><td>32</td><td>1</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ni chytunwyd felly ar y gyllideb ddiwygiedig.</p> <p>Gofynnodd y Maer wedyn am unrhyw ddatganiadau neu gwestiynau yng hylch y gyllideb wreiddiol a oedd wedi'i chynnwys ym mhecyn yr agenda.</p> <p>Diolchodd yr Aelod Cabinet - Cyllid a Pherfformiad i'r tîm Cyllid am yr holl waith caled yr oeddent wedi'i ymrwymo i'r SATC. Teimlai fod proses y gyllideb wedi gwella dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, pan oedd llyfr y Gyllideb wedi bod ar gael i'r holl aelodau. Roedd aelodau a swyddogion wedi rhoi cryn ymdrech i sicrhau cyllideb gytbwys, ac wedi gorfol edrych ar yr holl wasanaethau statudol ac anstatudol i weld ble orau i wneud toriadau hanfodol. Roedd nifer sylweddol o'r argymhellion ar gyfer y gyllideb a wnaed drwy'r broses graffu hefyd wedi cael eu derbyn gan y Cabinet. Yn ogystal â hyn, ychwanegodd, wrth symud ymlaen, y byddai grŵp Trawsbleidiol yn cael ei sefydlu, gyda chefnogaeth Swyddogion a staff addysgu, i ddadansoddi cyllid ysgolion ymhellach yn y dyfodol - cynnig a wnaed gan Lywodraeth Cymru.</p> <p>Ychwanegodd yr Arweinydd hefyd ei gefnogaeth tuag at y gyllideb, gan gyfeirio at y ffaith bod y cynnydd arfaethedig i'r Dreth Gyngor gyda'r isaf, os nad yr isaf un yng Nghymru. Dywedodd fod yr awdurdod, wrth ystyried yr holl gynigion, wedi ymdrechu hyd eithaf ei allu i ddiogelu gwasanaethau sy'n wynebu'r cyhoedd, gan ddiogelu'r rhai mwyaf agored i niwed mewn cymdeithas,</p> <p>Roedd aelod yn pryderu am y toriadau i'r gyllideb ysgolion, a byddai'n croesawu ymgysylltu mwy ystyrlon â phreswylwyr y Fwrdeistref Sirol yn y dyfodol. Nid oedd yr ymgysylltu a gafwyd gan rai a gymerodd ran yn weithredol ac a roddodd adborth, yn gadarnhaol iawn, o leiaf yn ei Ward neilltuol ef. Teimlai y dylid gwthio am a) setliadau cyllideb tymor hwy, os oedd modd b) adolygiad o fformiwl a Barnett, fel bod Cymru yn cael cyfran deg o gyllid y DU, ac c) diwygio awdurdodau lleol Cymru.</p>	<u>O blaid (y gyllideb ddiwygiedig)</u>	<u>Yn erbyn</u>	<u>Ymatal</u>	12	32	1
<u>O blaid (y gyllideb ddiwygiedig)</u>	<u>Yn erbyn</u>	<u>Ymatal</u>					
12	32	1					

	<p>Tynnodd aelod sylw at y ffaith y byddai'r toriad arfaethedig i'r gwasanaethau cwnsela yn peryglu'r gefnogaeth i blant yn yr ysgol ar adeg pan fo cyfradd ddychrynllyd o uchel o hunan-niwed ymhllith pobl ifanc.</p> <p>Nododd aelod nad oedd unrhyw sôn yn yr adroddiad ymhle y cafwyd hyd i'r dyraniad cyllidebol i adfer y toriad arfaethedig i'r gwasanaeth cerddoriaeth (cyfanswm cost o £726k). Roedd wedi nodi yn adroddiad y Cabinet ar y gyllideb ddrafft a ystyriwyd ym mis Ionawr 2025 nad oedd unrhyw arian 'dros ben' wedi'i grybwyll i'r diben hwn.</p> <p>Dyweddodd y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid y crybwyllyd ym mharagraff 3.6.3 o adroddiad y Cabinet nad oeddem wedi dyrannu holl gyllid y gyllideb ar y pryd, er na soniwyd yn union faint o arian a fyddai dros ben, er mwyn creu rhywfaint o hyblygrwydd wrth bennu'r SATC yn derfynol. Fodd bynnag, dyma lle'r oedd y cyllid ychwanegol wedi dod i allu adfer y toriad arfaethedig i'r gwasanaeth cerddoriaeth.</p> <p>Wedi hynny cynigiwyd, eiliwyd a chytunwyd y dylid cynnal pleidlais ar argymhellion yr adroddiad. Dyma oedd y canlyniad:-</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><u>O blaid (yr argymhelliaid)</u></td> <td><u>Yn erbyn</u></td> <td><u>Ymatal</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>16</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table> <p>Gan hynny,</p> <p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u></p> <p>Cymeradwyo Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig (SATC) 2025-26 i 2028-29, gan gynnwys cyllideb refeniw 2025-26 a Rhaglen Gyfalaf 2024-25 i 2034-35, gan gyfeirio'n benodol at y canlynol:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SATC 2025-26 i 2028-29 (Atodiad 3 yr adroddiad).</li> <li>• Gofyniad Cyllideb Net o £383,338,259 yn 2025-26.</li> <li>• Treth Gyngor Band D o £1,916.96 yn 2025-26 ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr (Tabl 17 y SATC).</li> <li>• Cyllidebau 2025-26 fel y'u dyrannwyd yn unol â Thabl 10 ym mharagraff 4.1.3 o'r SATC.</li> <li>• Y pwysau cyllidebol a amlinellwyd yn Atodiad C ar gyfer 2025-26 i 2028-29.</li> <li>• Y gostyngiadau i'r gyllideb a amlinellwyd yn Atodiad D ar gyfer 2025-26 i 2028-29.</li> </ul>	<u>O blaid (yr argymhelliaid)</u>	<u>Yn erbyn</u>	<u>Ymatal</u>	27	16	0
<u>O blaid (yr argymhelliaid)</u>	<u>Yn erbyn</u>	<u>Ymatal</u>					
27	16	0					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rhaglen Gyfalaf 2024-25 i 2034-35, sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad G y SATC.</li> </ul>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

## 106. Treth Gyngor 2025-26

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p>Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid adroddiad er mwyn rhoi manylion i'r Cyngor am ofyniad y Dreth Gyngor ar gyfer y Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol wedi i'r Cyngor gymeradwyo'r Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig ar 26 Chwefror 2025, ynghyd â gofynion Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru a'r Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned, ac i ofyn i'r Cyngor nodi'r tâl cyfunol ar gyfer pob ardal Cyngor Cymuned am bob band treth gyngor ar gyfer 2025-26.</p> <p>Eglurodd fod Paragraff 3.1.2 (g) o'r Rheolau Gweithdrefn Ariannol (FPRs) yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol iddi argymhell lefel y Dreth Gyngor i'w chodi yn y flwyddyn sydd i ddod. Fel yr awdurdod lleol ar gyfer y Cyngor mae'n rhaid i'r Cyngor hefyd fodloni ei ofyniad o dan Adran 33 a 34 o Ddeddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1992.</p> <p>Roedd y canlynol yn bwyntiau allweddol i'w nodi o'r adroddiad:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cyfanswm y gofyniad Treth Gyngor yw £131,226,134.</li> <li>Cyfanswm y gofyniad Treth Gyngor ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yw £106,698,377.</li> <li>Praesept Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru yw £21,076,848.</li> <li>Cyfanswm y gofyniad Treth Gyngor gan Gynghorau Tref a Chymuned yw £3,450,909.</li> <li>Yr hyn sy'n cyfateb i Fand D yng Nghyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yw £1,916.96.</li> <li>Yr hyn sy'n cyfateb i Fand D ar gyfer Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru yw £378.67.</li> <li>Praesept cyfartalog Cynghorau Cymuned/Tref yw £62.00.</li> <li>Dyma'r codiadau i'r Dreth Gyngor:</li> </ul>
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	<p>o Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr 4.5%  o Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru%  o Cyfartaledd Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned 7.88%</p> <p>Hysbysodd yr Aelod Cabinet - Cyllid a Pherfformiad y cyhoedd ac atgoffodd yr aelodau fod y Dreth Gyngor hefyd yn cynnwys nifer o ardollau, a oedd yn cynnwys Gwasanaethau Crwner Canolog De Cymru, Awdurdod Tân ac Achub De Cymru a Gwasanaeth Amlosgfa Margam ymhliith eraill.</p> <p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Gan fod y Cyngor yn gynharach yn y cyfarfod wedi cymeradwyo'r gofyniad cyllidebol net arfaethedig ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr o £106,698,377 ar gyfer 2025-26 a Threth Gyngor Band D ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr o £1,916.96 ar gyfer 2025-26, cytunodd y Cyngor ymhellach i:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nodi lefel y praecept gan Gomisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru, fel y nodir yn Nhabl 3 yr adroddiad.</li> <li>• nodi cyfanswm taliadau'r Dreth Gyngor ar gyfer eiddo Band D ar gyfer 2025-26 ar gyfer pob un o'r ardaloedd Cyngor Cymuned fel yr amlinellir yn Nhabl 6 a'r tâl cyfunol ar gyfer pob ardal Cyngor Cymuned ar gyfer pob band treth fel yr amlinellir yn Atodiad A (i'r adroddiad).</li> </ul>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

## 107. Strategaeth Gyfalaf 2025-26

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p>Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog Cyllid, Tai a Newid adroddiad ar y Strategaeth Gyfalaf 2025-26 i 2034-35 (Atodiad A yr adroddiad y cyfeiriwyd ato), a oedd yn cynnwys y Dangosyddion Darbodus y mae'r Cyngor yn ei fesur ei hun yn eu herbyn yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol a Datganiad Isafswm Darpariaeth Refeniw Blynnyddol 2025-26 (Adran 7 o Atodiad A), i'w gymeradwyo.</p> <p>Amlygodd yr adroddiad y canlynol:-</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mae deddfwriaeth yn llywodraethu'r rheolaeth ar wariant cyfalaf;</li> <li>• Lluniwyd y Strategaeth Gyfalaf yn unol â Chod Materion Ariannol CIPFA ar gyfer Cyllid Cyfalaf mewn Awdurdodau Lleol;</li> <li>• Mae'r Strategaeth Gyfalaf pennu egwyddorion arweiniol ar gyfer gwariant cyfalaf, a fframwaith ar gyfer rheoli cyllid cyfalaf;</li> <li>• Mae'r Strategaeth Gyfalaf ar hyn o bryd yn seiliedig ar yr wybodaeth ariannol a adroddwyd yn y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig.</li> </ul> <p>Nododd aelod fod cyfanswm o £120m o wariant wedi'i gynnig ar gyfer 2025-26. Mewn perthynas â dyraniad o £82m o'r swm hwn tuag at welliannau addysgol, gofynnodd am fanylion pellach ynghylch yr hyn yr oedd yr arian hwn yn cael ei neilltuo ar ei gyfer.</p> <p>Cadarnhaodd y Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg, Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Phobl Ifanc, mai ar gyfer adeiladau ysgol newydd Band B oedd y ffigur hwn yn bennaf, yn Heronsbridge ar gyfer ysgol arbennig o'r radd flaenaf, ar gyfer ysgol newydd ym Mynydd Cynffig, yn sgil methiant yr adeilad Babanod yno. O ran y Rhaglen Strategol Cymraeg ac Addysg, roedd ysgolion newydd hefyd wedi'u cynnig i gymryd lle Ysgol Bro Ogwr ym Mracla ac yng Nghorneli, gan gynnwys Ysgol Gynradd Afon y Felin.</p> <p>Cyfeiriodd aelod at y Bwrdd Benthyciadau Gwaith Cyhoeddus a'r rheolau sy'n cyfyngu ar y cyllid y gellir ei gyrrchu drwy fenthyciadau, gan gynnwys unrhyw gyfyngiad ar fenthyca ar gyfer gweithgareddau masnachol. Dywedodd na fyddai hynny yn ôl pob tebyg yn atal unrhyw 'gynlluniau gwario i arbed', er enghraift ar ynni solar, a fyddai'n torri ein costau yn hytrach na chynhyrchu refeniw allanol.</p> <p>Dyweddodd y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid y byddai rhywfaint o hyblygrwydd o ran yr uchod, ar yr amod nad oedd yr awdurdod lleol yn ceisio creu unrhyw enillion ariannol o unrhyw gynnig. Ychwanegodd y gallai CBSP hefyd fenthyca er mwyn helpu i wella hyfywedd ariannol y Cyngor ac/neu wasanaeth gwerthfawr, ond ddim i brynu unrhyw adeiladau hapfasnachol, fel yr oedd rhai awdurdodau lleol yn Lloegr wedi gwneud.</p> <p>Nododd aelod fod y Cyngor fis Tachwedd diwethaf wedi ystyried adroddiad yn gofyn am gynnydd yn nyraidiad y gyllideb ar gyfer Ysgol newydd Heronsbridge. Wedyn yng nghyfarfod y Cyngor ym mis Ionawr 2025, cynhaliwyd trafodaeth bellach ar y cynllun hwn, gyda chynnig ychwanegol i symud Tŷ Harwood. Gofynnodd pam nad oedd y cynlluniau hyn wedi'u cynnwys yn yr adroddiad a oedd gerbron yr aelodau heddiw, gan gynnwys unrhyw orwariant a ragamcanwyd ar gyfer y prosiectau.</p> <p>Cadarnhaodd y Dirprwy Bennaeth Cyllid, Tai a Newid fod cyllid ychwanegol wedi'i ymrwymo ar gyfer Ysgol</p>
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	<p>Heronsbridge, ond bod y Cyngor yn disgwyl nes cwblhau Achos Busnes a oedd yn yr arfaeth ar gyfer y cynllun hwn, a fyddai'n cynnwys cyfraniad ar ffurf arian cyfatebol oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru. Mewn perthynas â Thŷ Harwood, ychwanegodd nad oedd cytundeb eto ar unrhyw gyllid ar gyfer y prosiect hwn, ond y gellid cefnogi hyn drwy gyllid grant. Aeth y Dirprwy Arweinydd wedyn yn ei flaen i ymhelaethu ar hyn er budd y Cyngor.</p> <p><b>PENDERFYNWYD:</b> Bod y Cyngor wedi cymeradwyo Strategaeth Gyfalaf 2025-26 i 2034-35, gan gynnwys Dangosyddion Darbodus 2025-26 i 2034-35 a Datganiad Isafswm Darpariaeth Refeniw Blynnyddol (MRP) 2025-26, yn Atodiad A yr adroddiad.</p>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

#### 108. Strategaeth Rheoli'r Trysorlys 2025-26

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p>Cyflwynodd y Prif Swyddog – Cyllid, Tai a Newid adroddiad i'r dibenion a ganlyn:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyflwyno Strategaeth Gyfalaf 2025-26 i 2034-35 i'r Cyngor. Roedd y Strategaeth yn cynnwys y Dangosyddion Darbodus, a Datganiad Isafswm Darpariaeth Refeniw Blynnyddol 2025-26.</li> <li>• Nodi bod deddfwriaeth yn llywodraethu'r rheolaeth ar wariant cyfalaf.</li> <li>• Cydnabod bod y Strategaeth Gyfalaf wedi'i llunio yn unol â Chod Materion Ariannol CIPFA ar gyfer Cyllid Cyfalaf mewn Awdurdodau Lleol.</li> <li>• Cynghori bod y Strategaeth Gyfalaf yn sefydlu egwyddorion ar gyfer gwariant cyfalaf, a fframwaith ar gyfer rheoli cyllid cyfalaf.</li> <li>• Pwysleisio wrth y Cyngor fod y Strategaeth Gyfalaf ar hyn o bryd yn seiliedig ar wybodaeth ariannol a adroddwyd yn y Strategaeth Ariannol Tymor Canolig.</li> </ul> <p>Eglurodd fod Rheolau Gweithdrefn Ariannol y Cyngor (para 3.5.1) yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Prif Swyddog Cyllid Iunio Strategaeth Gyfalaf i'w chyflwyno gerbron y Cyngor, i'w chymeradwyo cyn dechrau'r flwyddyn ariannol. Rhaid i'r Strategaeth ddangos bod gwariant cyfalaf a phenderfyniadau buddsoddi yn cyd-fynd ag amcanion y gwasanaeth a'u bod yn rhoi ystyriaeth briodol i stiwardiaeth, gwerth am arian, darbodusrwydd, cynaliadwyedd a fforddiadwyedd.</p>
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	<p>Ychwanegodd y Prif Swyddog – Cyllid, Tai a Newid, fod yn rhaid i Strategaeth Gyfalaf gydymffurfio â gofynion Cod Materion Ariannol y Sefydliad Siartredig Cyllid Cyhoeddus a Chyfrifyddiaeth (CIPFA) ar gyfer Cyllid Cyfalaf mewn Awdurdodau Lleol.</p> <p>Aeth yn ei blaen wedyn i ymhelaethu ar rai pwyntiau allweddol yn yr adroddiad er budd yr aelodau, cyn i'r Maer ofyn i'r aelodau a oedd ganddynt unrhyw gwestiynau ar y materion a amlygwyd yn yr adroddiad.</p> <p>Dyweddodd aelod fod materion rheoli trysorlys yn cael eu hystyried yn gyfnodol drwy'r broses Trosolwg a Chraffu. O dudalen 242 o'r adroddiad, nododd fod yna rhestr o ffynonellau cymeradwy y mae'r Awdurdod yn ymwneud â hwy, a oedd yn cynnwys awdurdodau lleol eraill. Nododd ymhellach fod rhai awdurdodau lleol yn Lloegr yn wynebu cyfyngiadau ariannol difrifol, gyda rhai ohonynt hyd yn oed wedi mynd yn fethdalwyr. Gofynnodd felly pa fesurau diogelu oedd gan CBSP yn eu lle i sicrhau, os neu pan fyddwn yn delio'n ariannol ag unrhyw ALI yn Lloegr, ein bod naill ai'n gallu cael yr holl arian yr ydym yn ei fuddsoddi yn ei ôl yn llawn neu ei ailfuddsoddi yn rhywle arall.</p> <p>Cadarnhaodd y Prif Swyddog - Cyllid, Tai a Newid fod gan CBSP hanes cadarn o ran rheoli unrhyw risgiau i'n buddsoddiadau ac, i'r perwyl hwnnw, roedd gennym restr gymeradwy o wrthbartion rheolaidd yr ydym wedi cytuno i fuddsoddi â nhw. Pe bai'r rhestr hon yn newid mewn unrhyw ffordd, byddai angen cymeradwyaeth y Cyngor ar gyfer hynny. Roedd gan CBSP hefyd ddu fesur diogelu arall ar waith, sef cyfyngiad ar unrhyw fuddsoddiad â sefydliad arall (wedi'i gapio) yn ogystal ag uchafswm amser ar gyfer buddsoddiad o'r fath. Roedd y Cyngor hefyd yn derbyn cyngor oddi wrth ei Gynghorwyr Rheoli Trysorlys yngylch pwy i fuddsoddi ynddynt neu i fenthyca iddynt. Roedd y prosesau uchod ar waith, ac felly'n sicrhau bod unrhyw risgiau wedi'u lliniaru hyd yr eithaf.</p> <p>Tynnodd aelod sylw hefyd at y ffaith bod cronfeydd cyfalaf wrth gefn yn lleihau oherwydd yr hinsawdd ariannol bresennol. Efallai y byddai angen i'r Awdurdod fenthyca mwy yn y dyfodol. Ar y cyd â hyn, teimlai y dylai fod yn ofynnol i'r ALI fod mor gywir â phosibl wrth ragweld ac amserlennu prosiectau cyfalaf yn y dyfodol, h.y. o ran eu maint ac o ran amseriad cwblhau'r gwaith.</p> <p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u></p> <p>Bod y Cyngor yn cymeradwyo Strategaeth Gyfalaf 2025-26 i 2034-35, gan gynnwys Dangosyddion Darbodus 2025-26 i 2034-35 a'r Datganiad Isafswm Darpariaeth Refeniw Blynnyddol (MRP) 2025-26, yn Atodiad A yr adroddiad.</p>
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Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025
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**109. Eitemau Brys**

Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Nid oedd unrhyw eitemau brys
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	26 Chwefror 2025

I arsylwi trafodaeth bellach a gynhaliwyd ar yr eitemau uchod, cliciwch ar y [ddolen](#) hon

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 18:36.

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CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 12 MAWRTH 2025

COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAID CYFARFOD O'R CYNGOR A GYNHALIWYD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB AR DYDD MERCHER, 12 MAWRTH 2025 16:00

Presennol

Y Cyngorydd H Griffiths – Cadeirydd

H T Bennett  
S Easterbrook  
RM Granville  
JC Spanswick  
MJ Williams

E L P Caparros  
M J Evans  
GH Haines  
T Thomas  
E D Winstanley

HJ David  
N Farr  
M Jones  
JH Tildesley MBE  
T Wood

P Davies  
W R Goode  
J E Pratt  
HM Williams

Presennol – O Bell

S Aspey  
N Clarke  
P Ford  
D M Hughes  
MJ Kearn  
RL Penhale-Thomas  
G Walter  
R Williams

A R Berrow  
RJ Collins  
J Gebbie  
RM James  
W J Kendall  
R J Smith  
A Wathan

F D Bletsoe  
C Davies  
S J Griffiths  
P W Jenkins  
M Lewis  
I M Spiller  
AJ Williams

S J Bletsoe  
C L C Davies  
M L Hughes  
M R John  
J Llewellyn-Hopkins  
A Ulberini-Williams  
I Williams

Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb

JPD Blundell a/ac D T Harrison

Swyddogion:

Deborah Exton  
Lindsay Harvey  
Rachel Keepins

Dirprwy Bennaeth Cyllid  
Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol – Addysg a Chymorth i Deuluoedd  
Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

Janine Nightingale  
Michael Pitman  
Oscar Roberts  
Mark Shephard  
Kelly Watson

Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Cymunedau  
Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democraidd – Pwyllgorau  
Business Administrative Apprentice - Democratic Services  
Prif Weithredwr  
Prif Swyddog – Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Adnoddau Dynol a Rheoleiddio

#### 110. Cymeradwyo Cofnodion

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Cymeradwyo cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 05/02/2025 fel cofnod gwir a chywir.
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

#### 111. Derbyd y cyhoeddiadau gan:

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Derbyniwyd cyhoeddiadau gan yr Aelodau Cabinet canlynol a'r Prif Weithredwr (Dim angen gwneud/heb wneud penderfyniad): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y Maer;</li><li>• Y Dirprwy Arweinydd a'r Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol ac Iechyd;</li><li>• Prif Weithredwr</li></ul>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

#### 112. Derbyd y cyhoeddiadau gan yr Arweinydd

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Derbyniwyd cyhoeddiadau gan yr Arweinydd (dim angen gwneud/heb wneud penderfyniadau)
Dyddiad Gwneud y	12 Mawrth 2025

Penderfyniad	
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### 113. Trafodiadau Cysylltiedig y Blaid 2024-25 ar gyfer y Datganiad Cyfrifon

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Nododd y Cyngor y gofyniad i'r Aelodau wneud y canlynol:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>datgan unrhyw drafodiadau cysylltiedig y blaid yn ffurfiol ar gyfer blwyddyn ariannol 2024-25;</li><li>llenwi a dyddio'r ffurflen heb fod yn gynharach na 31 Mawrth 2025;</li><li>cyflwyno'r ffurflen erbyn dydd Mercher 9 Ebrill 2025.</li></ul>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

### 114. Rhaglen Fflyd Newydd

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Cymeradwyodd y Cyngor gyllideb gyfalaf o £1.2 miliwn i'w chynnwys yn y rhaglen gyfalaf, i'w hariannu o fenthyca darbodus, er mwyn galluogi'r Rhaglen Fflyd Newydd i barhau.</p>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

### 115. Cymorth Cyfalaf i Brosiect Pafiliwn y Grand Porthcawl

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Y byddai'r Cyngor yn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nodwyd y wybodaeth yn yr adroddiad yn ymwneud â Chytundeb Perchnogion Ardal Adfywio Glan y Dŵr Porthcawl a chostau prosiect Pafiliwn y Grand Porthcawl.</li><li>Cytuno, ar ôl cwblhau'r Cytundeb Perchnogion, adolygu'r rhaglen gyfalaf i gynnwys cyllid</li></ul>
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**CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 12 MAWRTH 2025**

	ychwanegol gwerth £3,867,125 miliwn i gefnogi prosiect Pafiliwn y Grand, Porthcawl.
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

**116. Adroddiad Blynnyddol Panel Annibynnol Cymru ar Gydnabyddiaeth Ariannol 2025-26**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Nododd y Cyngor yr Adroddiad Blynnyddol ar gyfer 2025-2026 a chymeradwyodd y canlynol: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mabwysiadu Penderfyniadau perthnasol y Panel a gynhwysir yn yr Adroddiad Blynnyddol (sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 1);</li> <li>Y swyddi hynny (a ddangosir yn y Rhestr Tâl Aelodau ddiwygiedig yn Rhestr 1 o Atodiad 2) a fydd yn derbyn cyflog uwch / dinesig;</li> <li>Y Rhestr Tâl Aelodau ddiwygiedig (Atodiad 2) ac iddi ddod i rym o 1 Ebrill 2025;</li> <li>Diweddu'r Rhestr Tâl Aelodau gydag unrhyw newidiadau a wnaed wedyn gan y Cyngor yng Nghyfarfod Blynnyddol y Cyngor neu yn ystod blwyddyn y cyngor 2025-2026.</li> </ol>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

**117. Datganiad Polisi Tâl - 2025/26**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Cyngor i gymeradwyo Datganiad Polisi Tâl 2025/2026 sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 1.
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

**118. Rheolau Diwygiedig y Weithdrefn Gcontractau**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD</u> bod y Cyngor yn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) cymeradwyo'r newidiadau i'r Cynllun Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau mewn cysylltiad â swyddogaethau'r Cyngor fel y nodir ym mharagraff 3.2;</li><li>(ii) nodi y bydd Rheolau Diwygiedig y Weithdrefn Gcontractau sydd ynghlwm yn Atodiad 1 yn dod i rym o 1 Ebrill 2025 ymlaen ar yr amod bod y Cabinet yn eu cymeradwyo ar 11 Mawrth 2025;</li><li>(iii) nodi y bydd y Cyfansoddiad yn cael ei addasu i ymgorffori Rheolau diwygiedig y Weithdrefn Gcontractau;</li></ul>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

**119. Adroddiadau Gwybodaeth i'w Nodi**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Bod y Cyngor yn cydnabod cyhoeddi'r adroddiadau y cyfeiriwyd atynt ym mharagraff 3.1 yr adroddiad.</p>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

**120. Derbyn y Cwestiynau canlynol gan:**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Y Cynghorydd Heidi Bennett i'r Aelod Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a'r Amgylchedd - Ymateb wedi'i ddosbarthu i'r Aelodau cyn y cyfarfod.</p>
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	Gofynnwyd cwestiwn atodol gan
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

## 121. Hysbysiad o Gynnig a Gynigiwyd gan y Cyngor ydy Gary Haines

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	Amlinelloedd y Cyngor ydy Gary Haines ei Hysbysiad o Gynnig, a'i eiriad fel a ganlyn:  <b>Cynnig i Ddychwelyd Refeniw Ystâd y Goron i Lywodraeth Cymru</b>  Cyflwynir y cynnig hwn i gydnabod hawl Cymru i reoli ac elwa ar ei chyfoeth naturiol ei hun, gan sicrhau bod lles economaidd a chymdeithasol ei dinasyddion yn cael blaenoriaeth.  <b>Mae'r Cyngor hwn</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Yn cydnabod bod Ystâd y Goron yng Nghymru yn cynhyrchu refeniw sylweddol o adnoddau naturiol Cymru, gan gynnwys gwynt ar y môr, adnoddau morol, a daliadau tir.</li><li>2. Yn nodi bod refeniw o Ystâd y Goron yng Nghymru yn cael ei gasglu a'i reoli ar hyn o bryd gan Drysorlys y DU, gyda'r elw yn cael ei ddyrannu i Lywodraeth y DU.</li><li>3. Yn cydnabod bod yr Alban wedi llwyddo i sicrhau datganoli refeniw Ystâd y Goron, gan sicrhau bod yr incwm a gynhyrchir o asedau'r Alban yn cael ei ail-fuddsoddi yn economi a chymunedau'r Alban.</li><li>4. Yn credu y dylid dychwelyd y refeniw a gynhyrchir o asedau Ystâd y Goron Cymru i Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau ei fod yn cael ei ail-fuddsoddi mewn datblygu cymdeithasol ac economaidd yng Nghymru.</li><li>5. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i ddatganoli refeniw Ystâd y Goron i Lywodraeth Cymru, gan alluogi buddsoddiad uniongyrchol mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus hanfodol, tai, prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy, a chyfleoedd economaidd i gymunedau ledled Cymru.</li><li>6. Yn annog Lywodraeth Cymru i eirioli dros ddychwelyd y cyllid hwn a datblygu fframwaith strategol</li></ol>
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	<p>ar gyfer ei ddefnyddio wrth fynd i'r afael ag anghenion cymdeithasol, lliniaru tlodi, a chefnogi twf cynaliadwy yng Nghymru.</p> <p><b>Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn penderfynu:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cefnogi pob mesur sy'n ceisio datganoli Ystâd y Goron yng Nghymru.</li><li>Galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i gymryd rhan mewn trafodaethau ystyrlon ynghylch dosbarthiad teg y refeniw a gynhyrchir o adnoddau naturiol Cymru.</li></ol> <p><b>PENDERFYNWYD:</b></p>
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

## 122. Hysbysiad o Gynnig a Gynigiwyd gan y Cyngor ydy Jane Gebbie, Dirprwy Arweinydd

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<p>Amlinelloedd y Cyngor ydy Jane Gebbie ei Hysbysiad o Gynnig, a'i eiriaid fel a ganlyn:</p> <p>Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn nodi'r canlynol:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Y cynnydd sylweddol yn yr angen am fwyd brys yn Sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, gyda Banc Bwyd Sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn darparu mwy nag 8,000 o barseli bwyd brys yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf, cynnydd o 21% o'i gymharu â'r un cyfnod yn 2018/19.</li><li>Mae 62% o fuddiolwyr Banc Bwyd Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn gartrefi â phlant ac mae 28% o'r rheini yn deuluoedd â 3 neu fwy o blant. Mae hyn yn dangos bod cyfran uwch o aelwydydd â phlant yn wynebu newyn, tlodi a chaledi.</li><li>Mae tua 5 o bob 6 aelwyd incwm isel ar Gredyd Cynhwysol yn mynd heb o leiaf un o'r hanfodion fel bwyd, cartref cynnes neu nwyddau ymolchi [1], sy'n dangos nad yw'r system nawdd cymdeithasol yn</li></ul>
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	<p>darparu digon i bobl fforddio'r hanfodion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mae 9.3 miliwn o bobl yn y DU yn wynebu newyn a chaledi, sy'n golygu bod eu haelwyd fwy na 25% yn is na llinell dodi'r Comisiwn Metrig Cymdeithasol. Mae hyn yn cynrychioli un o bob saith o bobl yn y DU, ac un o bob pump o blant. Heb weithredu, rhagwelir y bydd 425,000 yn rhagor o bobl yn wynebu newyn a chaledi erbyn 2026/27 [2].</li><li>• Mae'r Cyngor yn penderfynu:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cefnogi'r gwaith o hyrwyddo'r ymgyrch gan Fanc Bwyd Sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Trussell a Sefydliad Joseph Roundtree i gyflwyno Gwarant Hanfodion [3], deddf a fyddai'n sicrhau bod y gyfradd sylfaenol o gymorth nawdd cymdeithasol bob amser yn ddigon i fforddio'r hanfodion sydd eu hangen ar bob un o honom i fyw.</li><li>- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at y Canghellor ac Ysgrifennydd yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau o blaid cyflwyno Gwarant Hanfodion.</li><li>- Gofyn i Arweinydd y Cyngor ysgrifennu at Chris Elmore AS Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Stephen Kinnock AS Aberafan Maesteg a Chris Bryant AS Rhondda ac Ogwr, i ofyn iddynt ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog Gwladol dros Ddiogelwch Bwyd a Materion Gwledig, yn ogystal â Changhellor ac Ysgrifennydd yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, o blaid cyflwyno Gwarant Hanfodion.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>[1] Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree: <a href="https://www.jrf.org.uk/social-security/guarantee-our-essentials-reforming-universal-credit-to-ensure-we-can-all-afford-the">https://www.jrf.org.uk/social-security/guarantee-our-essentials-reforming-universal-credit-to-ensure-we-can-all-afford-the</a></p> <p>[2] The Cost of Hunger and Hardship, Trussell, 2024: <a href="https://www.trussell.org.uk/news-and-research/publications/report/the-cost-of-hunger-and-hardship">https://www.trussell.org.uk/news-and-research/publications/report/the-cost-of-hunger-and-hardship</a></p> <p>[3] <a href="https://www.trussell.org.uk/support-us/guarantee-our-essentials">https://www.trussell.org.uk/support-us/guarantee-our-essentials</a></p> <p><u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u></p>
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**CYNGOR - DYDD MERCHER, 12 MAWRTH 2025**

Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025
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**123. Eitemau Brys**

Y Penderfyniad a Wnaed	<u>PENDERFYNWYD:</u> Nid oedd unrhyw eitemau brys i'w trafod.
Dyddiad Gwneud y Penderfyniad	12 Mawrth 2025

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# Agenda Item 6

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>9 APRIL 2025</b>
<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>CORPORATE PLAN REVIEW FOR 2025/26</b>
<b>Report Owner / Corporate Director:</b>	<b>CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>ALEX RAWLIN, CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER</b>
<b>Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:</b>	<b>Council priorities in the Corporate Plan / Delivery Plan inform Service Plans which form part of the Policy Framework. The Performance Framework forms part of the Policy Framework.</b>
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>This report sets out an updated Corporate Plan Delivery Plan for 2025/26 to reflect the Council's current budget, operating environment and priorities. It recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An updated, reprioritised and reduced Corporate Plan Delivery Plan.</li><li>• A reduction of wellbeing objectives from 7 to 4 (with some merged or subsumed into others).</li><li>• Integrating the key measures of the Council's 'Ways of Working' into the new Wellbeing Objectives.</li><li>• A reduction of aims from 41 to 21 with a better balance of performance indicators and commitments against them and a better balance of measures for each directorate.</li><li>• A reduction of Performance Indicators from 108 to 65 (with updated targets against them for the year ahead).</li><li>• A reduction of commitments from 80 to 61.</li></ul>

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report outlines an updated Corporate Plan Delivery Plan for 2025/26 for Council approval.

## 2. Background

2.1 Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has a high level, five-year Corporate Plan 2023-28. The Council took a new approach for 2023 and did not include commitments or performance indicators in the Corporate Plan. Instead, the Council developed a one-year delivery plan to allow for increased agility and flexibility to a rapidly changing operating environment.

2.2 In late 2024, the Council developed financial plans and scenarios on the basis that there are likely to be severe budget pressures in the coming year. In December 2024, it was confirmed that the Council's budget for 2025/26 will be better than the planning scenarios used but national projections show Welsh Government financial settlements to local authorities will be more challenging from 2026/27. For the coming year, the priorities have been to provide additional funding for services facing demand issues and reducing savings required.

2.3 Corporate Management Board (CMB) have made it clear to Cabinet, Council, staff, and trade unions that budget pressures continue (albeit at a slower pace than anticipated) and the Council still needs to move towards a new operating model. This will also need to be carefully communicated to local residents in coming months.

2.4 The Corporate Plan is now 2 years old and embedded in the organisation. It is becoming clear what works well and what does not. CMB, Cabinet CMB and scrutiny committees all agree that the current Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP) is too large and insufficiently focused on priorities. Some of the main issues identified through 2024 were:

- There is an imbalance between Wellbeing Objectives (WBOs) / aims with a huge body of evidence against them and others with very little - each has equal status in self-assessment.
- There are too many Performance Indicators (PIs) / commitments outside the Council's control.
- Some commitments / PIs are coming to an end - funding is stopping or work completed.
- It was difficult to evidence WBO3 – the Valleys, and the existing evidence did not reflect Members' views.
- There is duplication - some commitments are duplicated as similar PIs and some commitments appear in more than one WBO.
- The Ways of Working (WoW) should be incorporated into the new Wellbeing Objectives, including workforce measures / working with partners.

2.5 At the end of quarter three of 2024-25, following discussions on priorities for spending and budgets in 2025/26, work began to start reviewing operational priorities.

2.6 In January 2025, CMB considered a number of options for review of the Corporate Plan. They agreed to review the existing Corporate Plan Delivery Plan, with a clear aim of reducing the number of priorities and measures. They agreed the following principles for the review of the CPDP:

- A smaller, more focused delivery plan
- More focused on genuine corporate priorities

- Each Wellbeing Objective, Aim, Performance Indicator (PI) and Commitment should be tested to ensure it is still a priority and the following do not apply:
  - The work is completed
  - The work is largely outside the Council's control
  - A PI and commitment duplicate each other
  - The work is unfunded / unstaffed
  - The work is proving difficult to evidence
  - Officers / Members have already agreed that it is not a priority
- PIs do not have to form part of the CPDP just because they are statutory for the Council to measure.

2.7 In February 2025, Directorate Management Teams reviewed the Wellbeing Objectives, aims, PIs and commitments against the above principles. On 19 February 2025, Heads of Service / CMB met together to test the balance of the CPDP, reduce duplication and fill any gaps.

**3. Current situation / proposal**

3.1 The product of this review is a significantly reduced CPDP which is included at **Appendix 1**. In this –

- Wellbeing Objectives are reduced from 7 to 4 with some merged or subsumed into others. The four that remain focus on –
  - A prosperous place with thriving communities
  - Creating modern, seamless public services
  - Enabling people to meet their potential
  - Supporting our most vulnerable
- Aims are reduced from 41 to 20.
- PIs are reduced from 108 to 65
- Commitments are reduced from 80 to 61

3.2 The draft CPDP was considered by Cabinet / Corporate Management Board (CCMB) and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) in March 2025, and their comments integrated. A COSC recommendation included separating the housing aim into two (one for disabled facilities grants and one for homelessness), and the valley / town centres aim into two. Although a good, thoughtful suggestion, this has not been done as –

- It would increase the number of aims
- The new, split out aims would be fairly narrow and specific when we aim to make them broader and more similar in size
- There would only be 2-3 PIs / commitments against each aim – a problem we are trying to move away from with this CPDP

3.3 The updated CPDP is substantially reduced in size and improved in the following ways –

- There is a shorter, clearer set of priorities that focuses on genuine corporate / strategic priorities that are -
  - Resourced / funded
  - Not duplicated
  - Largely within the Council's control
  - Able to be evidenced each quarter / year
- It is more balanced
  - equally sized wellbeing objectives and aims
  - similarly sized contributions from each directorate
- It will be easier to communicate to staff, partners and the public
- It will be clearer to manage / report performance

3.4 In the past, targets have been taken through political sign off separately from the CPDP. CMB asked in 2024 that this process be streamlined, and the two should go through political sign-off together. This change is incorporated into the process, and the targets are included in **Appendix 2**.

**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. Wellbeing of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Wellbeing Objectives**

5.1 This report proposes a review of 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 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 Review of the Corporate Priorities is entirely informed by and in line with the Council's agreed budget for 2025/26.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 It is recommended that Council:

- Approves the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan for 2025/26 in **Appendix 1**;
- Approves the performance indicator targets for 2025/26 in **Appendix 2**.

## **Background documents**

None.

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## Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2025-26

## Wellbeing Objective One - A prosperous place with thriving communities

Aim	Performance indicators	Commitments / projects
Moving towards net zero carbon, and improving our energy efficiency	<p>DCO23.05 Reduction in emissions (across our buildings, fleet &amp; equipment, streetlighting, business travel, commuting, homeworking, waste, procured goods and services) (COMM)</p> <p>DCO20.01 Annual Gas Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (COMM)</p> <p>DCO20.02 Annual Electricity Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (COMM)</p> <p>CED57 - Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) pollution in the air (micrograms per m<sup>3</sup>) (CEX SRS)</p>	<p>Invest in energy efficiency improvements to the Council's estate and assets. (COMM)</p> <p>Implement our Air Quality Action Plan and monitor its effectiveness in improving air quality along Park Street (CEX SRS)</p>
Protect landscapes and open spaces	<p>DCO23.06 Number of blue flag beaches (COMM)</p> <p>DCO23.07 Number of green flag parks and green spaces (COMM)</p>	<p>Deliver projects such as woodland enhancement, develop and protect our natural environment in partnership with our communities and key stakeholders as part of our Bridgend Biodiversity Plan (COMM)</p>
Promote the conditions for economic growth and prosperity	<p>DCO23.03 Number of businesses receiving support through Shared Prosperity Funding (COMM)</p> <p>DCO23.04 Number of business start-ups assisted (COMM)</p>	<p>Develop funding bids enhance the economy and stimulate new job opportunities (COMM)</p> <p>Invest in business start-ups in the County Borough by providing both professional and grant support, supporting key growth sectors like research and development, finance and the green economy (COMM)</p> <p>Invest an additional £7.75m of Shared Prosperity Funding in projects in the County Borough by 2026, with third sector partners, including in people and skills, supporting local businesses, and developing communities and place (COMM)</p> <p>Improve sustainable and active travel choices, to increase connectivity and greener travel choices in line with our strategic transport projects (COMM)</p>

<b>Page 2</b> Regenerate our town centres and Valleys	DCO23.01 Number of commercial properties assisted through the enhancement grant scheme (COMM)	Deliver a Transforming Towns programme of investment across our town centres in partnership with Welsh Government over the next two years to improve the economic sustainability of our town centres (COMM) Continue to deliver a commercial property enhancement grant for all valley high streets, to bring vacant properties back into use and improve local centres. (COMM) Redevelop the Ewenny Road site, including new and affordable homes, an enterprise hub, open space and green infrastructure, in partnership with the adjoining landowner. (COMM)
Reduce, reuse or recycle as much waste as possible	DCO20.05 Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling (COMM) PAM/030 Percentage of waste reused, recycled, or composted (COMM) PAM/010 Percentage of streets that are clean (COMM)	Bring our Waste Service in-house (COMM)
Provide opportunities for culture, leisure, and play	SSWB67 Participation in the national free swimming initiative for 16 and under (SSWB) DCO23.10 Number of play areas that have been refurbished (COMM) Number of active users across target population groups via health & wellbeing leisure membership provision. (SSWB)	Redevelop Porthcawl Grand Pavilion to increase the use of the new facilities and extend social and leisure facilities, in partnership with Awen Cultural Trust. (COMM) Continue the children's play areas refurbishment programme and make sure inclusive play equipment is provided to allow opportunities for all. (COMM) Enlarge the Food and Fun Programme for summer 2025 (EEYYP) Develop whole Council action plan and networks to support the submission of the Play Sufficiency Assessment to Welsh Government. (SSWB) Develop active wellbeing offer for targeted groups (SSWB) Develop the Healthy Living Partnership Strategy (SSWB) Develop the Libraries, Culture and Community hub Strategy (SSWB) Maintain performance against Welsh public library standards (SSWB)

## Wellbeing Objective Two - Creating modern, seamless public services

Page 35	Aim	Performance indicators		Commitments / projects
Improving how we engage with people, listening to views & acting on them.	<p>CED59 Level of engagement (Welsh / English)</p> <p>a) across consultations</p> <p>b) with corporate communications to residents (CEX)</p> <p>Percentage of complaints closed within timescales (CEX)</p>	<p>Improve how we communicate and engage with residents, including children and young people to help us become more customer focused and responsive. (CEX)</p> <p>Improve the way we gather and use resident views (CEX)</p> <p>Improve the way we gather and use staff views (CEX)</p> <p>Improve the way we handle and learn from corporate complaints and compliments (CEX)</p> <p>Implement the strategic equality plan action plan (CEX)</p>		
Offer more information and services online, and in local areas.	<p>CED5 Percentage first call resolutions (via Customer Contact Centre) (CEX)</p> <p>CED51 Number of online transactions using the digital platform (CEX)</p>	<p>Continue to review the corporate front door to streamline, standardise, and enhance entry points into the council whilst improving the resolution at the first point of contact. (CEX)</p>		
Modernise and become a more efficient council	<p>CORPB5 Percentage of staff that have completed a Personal Review/Appraisal (excluding school staff) (CEX/All)</p> <p>PAM/001 Number of working days/shifts lost to sickness absence per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee (CEX/All)</p> <p>DCO16.8 Number of council owned assets transferred to the community for running (CATs) (COMM)</p>	<p>Approve and implement the new digital strategy (CEX)</p> <p>Continue to rationalise the corporate estate (COMM)</p> <p>Invest in Community Asset Transfers and support clubs and Community Groups with equipment grants to improve and safeguard the facilities. (COMM)</p>		
Improve partnership working with partners, the third sector and Town and Community Councils	<p>CED62 Percentage of Assia service users reporting increased feelings of safety at their exit evaluation (CEX)</p> <p>CED63 Percentage of high-risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 48 hours. (CEX)</p> <p>CED64 Percentage of medium risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 72 hours. (CEX)</p> <p>Number of active referrals supported by Local Community Coordinators (SSWB)</p> <p>Number of children and young adults supported during school holidays (SSWB)</p>	<p>Develop a new regional agreement for working with frail older people between health boards and councils (SSWB)</p> <p>Complete the town and community council arrangements review (CEX)</p> <p>Work co-productively with our communities to develop their own solutions and become more resilient. (SSWB)</p>		

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## Wellbeing Objective three - Enabling people to meet their potential

Aim	Performance indicators	Commitments / projects
Provide an effective Childcare and Early Years Offer	DEFS160 Number of two-year-olds accessing childcare through the Flying Start programme (EEYYP)	<p>Provide effective leadership and management of maintained Early Years settings ensuring that outcomes in Care Inspectorate Wales inspections are at least 'good'. (EEYYP)</p> <p>Offer effective support and challenge to funded non-maintained Early Years settings ensuring that outcomes in joint inspections are at least 'good'. (EEYYP)</p>
Provide safe, supportive schools with high quality teaching	<p>PAM032 Average 'Capped 9' score for pupils in Year 11 (EEYYP)</p> <p>EDU016a/PAM007 Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (EEYYP)</p> <p>EDU016b/PAM008 Percentage of Pupil attendance in secondary schools (EEYYP)</p> <p>EDU010a Percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the school year in primary schools (EEYYP)</p> <p>EDU010b Percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the school year in secondary schools (EEYYP)</p> <p>DEFS155 Percentage of schools that have self-evaluated themselves as 'green' as part of their annual safeguarding audit (EEYYP)</p>	<p>Help schools achieve their improvement plans by analysing needs and offering training to address this, ensuring that all schools will be judged by Estyn as 'not requiring any follow-up' (EEYYP)</p> <p>Make additional digital learning training available to all school staff to improve teaching and learning in our schools (EEYYP)</p> <p>Improve the digital offer to young people, including youth led interactive website (EEYYP)</p>
Provide Welsh medium education opportunities	<p>DEFS138 - Percentage of Year 1 pupils taught through the medium of Welsh (EEYYP)</p> <p>DEFS157 - Percentage of learners studying for assessed qualifications through the medium of Welsh at the end of Key Stage 4 (Year 11) (EEYYP)</p> <p>DEFS158 - Number of learners studying for Welsh as a second language (EEYYP)</p>	Deliver the actions in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) (EEYYP)

<b>Page 5</b> <b>Modernise school buildings</b>		Enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry new-build school. (EEYYP) Provide a new-build for Mynydd Cynffig Primary School. (EEYYP) Enlarge Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr to a two form-entry new-build school. (EEYYP) Provide a new two-form entry English-medium school to replace the existing Afon Y Felin and Corneli Primary Schools. (EEYYP) Relocate Heronsbridge School to a new-build 300-place school. (EEYYP)
<b>Be good parents to our care experienced children</b>	Percentage of care leavers who have completed at least 3 consecutive months of employment, education or training in the 24 months since leaving care (SSWB)  CH/052 Percentage care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year (SSWB)	Work with partners to deliver improved outcomes for care experienced children through the delivery of actions in the corporate parenting action plan and informed by the views of our children and young people (SSWB)  Support the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Strategy in schools.(EEYYP)
<b>Help people get the skills they need for work</b>	DEFS82 Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment (COMM)  DEFS80 Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme supported into education or training (COMM)  PAM046 Percentage of Year 11 leavers not in education, training, or employment (NEET) (EEYYP)	Increase employment and training opportunities in the County Borough. (COMM)  Employability Bridgend will work with funders and partners to deliver a comprehensive employability and skills programme (COMM)

## Wellbeing Objective four - Supporting our most vulnerable

Aim	Performance indicators	Commitments / projects
Provide high-quality children's & adults social services / early help services	<p>SSWB78 Timeliness of visits to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Children who are care experienced.</li> <li>b) Children on the child protection register. (SSWB)</li> </ul> <p>SSWB39 Number of care experienced children (SSWB)</p> <p>CH/026 Number of children on the child protection register (SSWB)</p> <p>SSWB57 Percentage of enquiries to the Adult Social Care front door which result in information and advice only</p> <p>Percentage of reablement packages implemented with a positive outcome (SSWB)</p> <p>DEFS29 Percentage of completed Team Around the Family (TAF) plans closed with a successful outcome (SSWB)</p> <p>SSWB75 Number of people delayed in their transfer of care on the 'discharge to recover and assess' pathways (SSWB)</p>	<p>Support the wellbeing of unpaid carers, including young carers, to have a life beyond caring through delivery of the carer's action plan. (SSWB)</p> <p>Improve Children's Services by delivering the actions in our three-year strategic plan. (SSWB)</p> <p>Improve adult social care by delivering the actions in our three-year strategic plan (SSWB)</p> <p>Change the way our social workers work to build on people's strengths and reflect what matters to our most vulnerable citizens, the relationships they have and help them achieve their potential. (SSWB)</p> <p>Address the gaps in Adult Social Care provider services by implementing the priority commissioning areas identified in our commissioning strategies and detailed service reviews (SSWB)</p> <p>Address the gaps in Childrens and Family Services provider services and respond to the Eliminating Profit/Health &amp; Social Care Bill by implementing the priority commissioning areas identified in the Placement Commissioning strategy (SSWB)</p> <p>Ensure that children and families can access support from the right service at the right time with the aim of preventing their needs from escalating. (SSWB)</p> <p>Employ and develop a well-motivated, well supported, qualified social care workforce in the Council and with partners. Fill vacancies in our social care services and reduce dependence on agency workers. (SSWB)</p>
Support people in poverty	<p>CED43 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)</p> <p>CED44 Percentage of people supported through FASS who have received advice and support in managing or reducing household debt (CEX)</p>	<p>Support eligible residents to receive the financial help available to them. (CEX)</p>

<p>Page 39</p> <p>Support people with housing needs</p>	<p>PAM/012 Percentage of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless (CEX)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>PAM/015 Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) (CEX)</p> <p>DOPS41 Percentage of people who feel they can live more independently as a result of receiving a DFG in their home (CEX)</p> <p>CED60 Number of additional affordable homes provided by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) across the County Borough (CEX)</p>	<p>Continue to improve our housing and homelessness service to reduce homelessness across the borough through implementation of the agreed action plan (CEX)</p> <p>Continue to target those long-term empty properties that have the most detrimental impact on the community, focusing on the Top 20. (CEX)</p>
<p>Support children with additional learning needs</p>	<p>DEFS170 Percentage of new local authority Individual Development Plans (IDPs) delivered via the online IDP system (EEYYP)</p> <p>DEFS171 Number of pupils on the waiting lists for specialist provision (EEYYP)</p> <p>DEFS172 Percentage of year 9 pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) with a transition plan in place, that have had an annual review by 31 March of each current school year. (EEYYP)</p>	<p>Implement the online IDP (Individual Development Plan) system for local authority and school-based IDPs. (EEYYP)</p> <p>Develop a five-year plan to meet increasing demand on support services, specialist provision and schools (EEYYP)</p>
<p>Safeguard and protect people at risk of harm</p>	<p>SSWB77 Percentage of Adult safeguarding inquiries which receive initial response within 7 working days (SSWB)</p> <p>CH/003 Percentage of Childrens referrals where decision is made within 24 hours (SSWB)</p> <p>SSWB62 Percentage of child protection investigations completed within required-timescales (SSWB)</p> <p>SSWB63 Average waiting time on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) waiting list (SSWB)</p>	<p>Work as One Council to effectively safeguard children and adults at risk (SSWB)</p> <p>Identify children who are more likely to offend and provide them with support to reduce offending behaviour. (EEYYP)</p>

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## Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2025-26 – Performance Indicator Targets

### WBO1 - A prosperous place with thriving communities

Moving towards net zero carbon, and improving our energy efficiency

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO23.05 Reduction in emissions (across our buildings, fleet & equipment, streetlighting, business travel, commuting, homeworking, waste, procured goods and services) (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	4.3%	5%	5%	To see a reduction in emissions and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.01 Annual Gas Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	21,966,783 kWh	20,868,443 kWh	20,000,000 kWh	To see reduction in energy consumption levels and progress our corporate energy efficiency
DCO20.02 Annual Electricity Consumption across the Authority (kWh) (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	15,210,536 kWh	14,450,009 kWh	14,000,000 kWh	
CED57 Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) pollution in the air (micrograms per m <sup>3</sup> ) (CEX SRS) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	40.8	40	40	This is the legal air quality objective for NO <sub>2</sub> .

### Protect landscapes and open spaces

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO23.07 Number of green flag parks and green spaces (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	2	2	2	Target set to maintain current high standards
DCO23.06 Number of blue flag beaches (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	3	3	3	Target set to maintain current high standards

## Promote the conditions for economic growth and prosperity

Page	Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO23.03 Number of businesses receiving support through Shared Prosperity Funding (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	25	21	15	This is the final year of the funding so will attempt to maximise the benefits locally where possible with reduced funding available.	
DCO23.04 Number of business start-ups assisted (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	219	53	30	Continue to assist and capitalise on the strong new business demand	

## Regenerate our town centres and Valleys

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO23.01 Number of commercial properties assisted through the enhancement grant scheme (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	4	2	4	To allocate the grant appropriately to successful applicants in line with funding terms

## Reduce, reuse or recycle as much waste as possible

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DCO20.05 Percentage of street cleansing waste prepared for recycling (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	41.12%	40%	40%	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve
PAM/030 Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	71.94%	70%	70%	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve
PAM/010 Percentage of streets that are clean (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	99.97%	99%	99%	To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve

## Provide opportunities for culture, leisure, and play

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
SSWB67 Participation in the national free swimming initiative for 16 and under (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	19,659	16,000	20,000	Reduced/more targeted programme due to increasing costs.

DCO23.10 Number of play areas refurbished (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	0	22	40	Target set in line with programme of works for the year
NEW - Number of active users across target population groups via health & wellbeing leisure membership provision. (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New	New	700	New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to set future target.

## WBO2 - Creating modern, seamless public services

Improving how we engage with people, listening to views & acting on them.

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
CED59 Level of engagement with residents: a) across consultations b) with corporate communications using the digital communications platform (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	a)7,946 b)972,384	a)8,300 b)972,500	a) 8,800 b) 1million	To ensure the Council is engaging well at all levels across the area
NEW – Percentage of Complaints closed within timescales (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New	New	80%	Baseline target. To be reviewed during the lifecycle of the Corporate Plan to reflect the corporate customer function.

Offer more information and services online, and in local areas.

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
CED5 Percentage first call resolutions (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	69.17%	75.92%	75.92%	Target retained, to increase the number of calls resolved at the first point of contact
CED51 Number of online transactions using the digital platform (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	72,500	72,500	24-25 actual	To increase online transactions by customers to promote channel shift

## Modernise and become a more efficient council

Page	Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
16	DCO16.8 Number of Council owned assets transferred to the community for running (CATs) or transferred from a short-term agreement to a long-term agreement for running during the year (COMM) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	7	10	10	To continue to deliver the CAT programme across the County
	PAM/001 Number of working days/shifts lost to sickness absence per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee (CEX/ALL) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	12.37 days	No target	No target	To reduce sickness levels across the organisation
	CORPB5 Percentage of staff that have completed a Personal Review/Appraisal (excluding school staff) (CEX/ALL) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	60.89%	80%	80%	Target set to ensure all eligible staff have an annual review

## Improve partnership working with partners, the third sector and Town and Community Councils

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
CED62 Percentage of Assia service users reporting increased feelings of safety at their exit evaluation (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New 2024-25	100%	100%	Safety planning, targeting hardening and safety measures carried out with all service users throughout support and before exiting the service
CED63 Percentage of high-risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 48 hours (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New 2024-25	100%	100%	Contact within 48 hours is identified best practice (in line with Leading Lights accreditation)
CED64 Percentage of medium risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 72 hours (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New 2024-25	100%	100%	Contact within 72 hours is identified best practice (in line with Leading Lights accreditation)
New - Number of active referrals supported by Local Community Coordinators (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New	New	600	New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to set future target.
New - Number of children and young adults supported during school holidays (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New	New	950	New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to set future target.

## WBO3 - Enabling people to meet their potential

### Provide an effective Childcare and Early Years Offer

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS160 Number of two-year-olds accessing childcare through the Flying Start programme (EEYYP) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	530	570	620	The target reflects the positive investment made in the expansion of the Flying Start programme.

### Provide safe, supportive schools with high quality teaching

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
PAM032 Average 'Capped 9' score for pupils in Year 11 (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	361.5	363.0	360.0	Targets have been reviewed since the realignment of the interim measures to pre-covid levels.
EDU016 Percentage pupil attendance in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) primary schools</li> <li>b) secondary schools (EEYYP)</li> </ul> <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	a) 91.5% b) 87.9%	a) 93% b) 90%	a) 94% b) 92%	Target set to improve pupil attendance. 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.
EDU010 Percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the school year in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) primary schools</li> <li>b) secondary schools (EEYYP)</li> </ul> <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	a) 0.024% b) 0.165%	a) 0.03% b) 0.15%	a) 0.03% b) 0.15%	Exclusions remain a priority for the local authority and schools as pupil behaviour becomes increasingly challenging.
DEFS155 Percentage of schools that have self-evaluated themselves as 'green' as part of their annual safeguarding audit (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	95%	100%	100%	Target set line with guidance, to ensure schools are exercising their legal safeguarding obligations.

## Provide Welsh medium education opportunities

Page	Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS138	Percentage of Year 1 pupils taught through the medium of Welsh (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	8.56%	8.7%	8.85%	Target to increase learners studying through the medium of Welsh as per 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 (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	6.62%	7.16%	7.20%	
DEFS158	Number of learners studying for Welsh as a second language (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	11	20	17	School budget cuts may impact schools' ability to run courses in person. A hybrid model has been offered to schools but not all students are comfortable with virtual learning environments.

## Be good parents to our care experienced children

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
New - Percentage of care leavers who have completed at least 3 consecutive months of employment, education or training in the 24 months since leaving care (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	63.64%	New	65%	To continue to improve performance
CH/052 Percentage care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	7.17%	10%	10%	To maintain performance

## Help people get the skills they need for work

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS80 Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme supported into education or training (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	76	409	219	Target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year therefore targets are not comparable and there has been a significant change in funding for 25/26

DEFS82 Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment (COMM) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i> 	366	233	290	Target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year therefore targets are not comparable and there has been a significant change in funding for 25/26
PAM046 Percentage of Year 11 leavers not in education, training, or employment (NEET) (EEYYP) <i>(Annual Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	1.4	1.5%	2%	The target has increased in recognition of the increasing needs that young people are currently presenting with. The increase is in line with a national rise in numbers of pupils presenting as NEET.

## WBO4 - Supporting our most vulnerable

### Providing high-quality children's and adults social services and early help services

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
SSWB78 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) 85.31 b) 86.77	a) 87% b) 87%	a) 87% b) 87%	To continue to maintain performance
SSWB39 Number of care experienced children (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	370	350	325	Continue to safely reduce the number of Care Experienced Children
CH/026 Number of children on the child protection register (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	189	175	120	Sustain safe reduction in the Child Protection Register
SSWB57 Percentage of enquiries to the Adult Social Care front door which result in information and advice only (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	74.88%	75%	83%	The model is being embedded and we will seek to continue to improve performance.

New - Percentage of reablement packages implemented with a positive outcome (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	80.90%	New	69%	This reflects the current population needs, taking in to account seasonal fluctuations in people's health.
DS29 Percentage of completed Team Around the Family (TAF) plans closed with a successful outcome (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	83%	87%	87%	To continue to improve performance.
SSWB75 Number of people recorded as delayed on the national pathway of care (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	104	71	90	This reflects the current population needs, taking in to account seasonal fluctuations in people's health.

### Supporting people in poverty

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
CED43 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>	92%	85%	85%	Target retained. The 2024/25 target was increased in line with the re-commissioning of the service to improve outcomes for recipients of the service. The service will maintain these outcomes throughout the next year.
CED44 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>	93%	85%	85%	

### Supporting people facing homelessness to find a place to live

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
PAM/012 Percentage of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	11%	20%	20%	Target set at realistic level considering the 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>	29%	10%	20%	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.
PAM/015 Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) (CEX) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	552.73 days	210 days	542 days	Target includes six months to approve grant award and a further twelve months to complete the DFG, this is based on the exponential demand on the service which has significantly increased the waiting time against the available capital to deliver the adaptations on an annual basis.
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>	98%	98%	98%	Target retained. To continue to achieve a positive outcome for grant recipients in living more independently.
CED60 Number of additional affordable homes provided by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) across the County Borough (CEX) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	64	110	110	Working with RSL's to utilise capital income streams, such as the Social Housing Grant (SHG) – to develop 500 units over a 5-year programme.

### Supporting children with additional learning needs

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
DEFS170 Percentage of new local authority individual development plans (IDPs) delivered using the online IDP system (EEYYP) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New 2024-25	100%	100%	While there have been some issues getting the online IDP system operating we are committed to transferring all IDPs to the new online system as soon as possible to comply with the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act.
DEFS171 Number of pupils on the waiting lists for specialist provision (EEYYP) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	23	10	10	Placing pupils in specialist provision at the earliest opportunity ensures that all of their educational needs are met. Throughout the year waiting lists may fluctuate as pupils can be added at any time. We aim to see a trend

P D E S 172 Percentage of year 9 pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) with a transition plan in place, that have had an annual review by 31 March of each current school year. <i>(EEYYP) (Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	New 2024-25	100%	100%	of decreasing numbers on the waiting list over time. This target is the end-of-year target.
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### Safeguard and protect people who are at risk of harm

Performance Indicator Description	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Target	2025-26 Target	Rationale for Target
SSWB77 Percentage of Adult safeguarding inquiries which receive initial response within 7 working days (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	81.85%	85%	85%	The 7 days response relates to the Local Authority and other key partners. We will continue to improve our own performance and those of our partners.
CH/003 Percentage of Childrens referrals where decision is made within 24 hours (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	99.69%	100%	99.5%	To sustain high performance and ensure children are protected from harm and target takes account of occasional system glitches.
SSWB62 Percentage of child protection investigations completed within required timescales (SSWB) <i>(Annual Indicator, higher preferred)</i>	77.78%	75%	80%	To continue to improve performance
SSWB63 Average waiting time on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) waiting list (SSWB) <i>(Quarterly Indicator, lower preferred)</i>	16 days	16 days	24 days	2023/24 was not a typical year due to additional commissioned resources to reduce the backlog. Current performance stands at 24 days- so we would recommend that for this year.

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>9 APRIL 2025</b>
<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY REVIEW</b>
<b>Report Owner / Corporate Director:</b>	<b>CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL &amp; REGULATORY SERVICES, HR &amp; CORPORATE POLICY</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>RACHEL KEEPINS – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER</b>
<b>Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:</b>	<b>Any change to the structure of the Scrutiny Committees will require amendments to the Constitution.</b>
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p><b>This report provides Council with options for new Scrutiny arrangements, in response to Audit Wales' recommendations arising from their 'Bridgend County Borough Council - Review of Decision Making Arrangements' report, published in October 2024.</b></p> <p><b>The report also presents Members with the Scrutiny Protocol following a Scrutiny Review undertaken in 2024, for approval.</b></p>

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) Provide Council with an update on work being undertaken in response to Audit Wales' recommendations arising from their 'Bridgend County Borough Council - Review of Decision Making Arrangements' report, published in October 2024, including options for new Scrutiny arrangements for Members' consideration;
- b) Seek Council's approval of the Scrutiny Protocol following a Scrutiny Review undertaken in 2024.

## 2. Background

2.1 In June 2024, the Welsh Local Government Association supported a review of scrutiny in Bridgend. This was carried out by an external consultant who spoke to various Members and Officers. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the result of that review. The main recommendations are set out below:

- Draft and agree a protocol for effective scrutiny
- Document and schedule a revised Forward Work Programme (FWP) process
- Ensure more timely use of pre-decision scrutiny
- Establish purpose, scope and focus for each scrutiny item

- Develop evaluation mechanisms
- Ensure training and development programmes cover key areas

2.2 In addition, Audit Wales undertook a [Review of Decision Making Arrangements](#) across the Council. The audit concluded that the Council generally has proper decision-making arrangements in place but weaknesses in forward planning and pre-decision scrutiny are undermining their effectiveness.

2.3 There were three recommendations from the Review of Decision Making Arrangements that related to scrutiny:

- The Council should ensure that its published Forward Work Programme for committees is accessible, comprehensive, and covers a longer time frame than the current 4-month period to give more opportunity for robust pre-decision scrutiny and provide greater transparency around the decision-making process for both Members and the public.
- The Council should ensure that there is clarity on the role of scrutiny in the decision-making process. The lack of clarity on the role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OVSCs), particularly in relation to pre-decision scrutiny is limiting OVSCs' ability to contribute fully and effectively to the decision-making process.
- The Council should ensure that it provides greater transparency regarding the remit of the different OVSCs. Naming the committees 1, 2 and 3 does not help with transparency of the remit of the committees, particularly from a public perspective. It is also a potential barrier to encouraging public involvement in the scrutiny process.

### **Current Scrutiny Structure**

2.4 According to the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's (CfGS) "The Good Scrutiny Guide" (the Guide) there is no one 'best' model for a scrutiny committee structure and it is very difficult to compare with other local authorities and try and replicate. According to the Guide, 'Scrutiny's structures are often a reflection of the culture in which scrutiny operates and the role which has been agreed for it.'

2.5 The Guide, however, highlights the following few common models:

- a) A single committee which does all the work. This is more common in smaller authorities, this approach sees all scrutiny work happening in a single, formal space.
- b) A single committee commissioning task and finish groups (such as Research and Evaluation Panels). Here, a committee provides coordination of a number of task and finish groups – the committee will usually also undertake its own substantive work.
- c) A two-committee system dividing substantive topics between them (e.g. "people" and "places")
- d) A two-committee system dividing issues between them differently (e.g. "policy development" and "performance")
- e) Multiple committees (sometimes involving a corporate committee which "leads" the function, sometimes not).

2.6 In Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) we have had multiple committees since 2017. At that time, there was a full review and restructure of the scrutiny arrangements which was subsequently approved by Council on 28 June 2017. This resulted in a centralised structure whereby the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) would oversee the overall Forward Work Programme for each Overview and Scrutiny Committee and consider and delegate priorities to the relevant committee for that topic where necessary in the interest of avoiding duplication of effort.

2.7 The current structure has the following Committees:

- Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1
- Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2
- Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3

2.8 The scrutiny function sits within Democratic Services and is supported by 1 Senior Scrutiny Officer and 1.8 full time equivalent (fte) Scrutiny Officers. Due to other changes made to the wider Democratic Services team, the Scrutiny Officers are also responsible for the minutes produced, recording of all meetings and the uploading of these recordings to the Council's website. They also produce decision records and offer all meetings on a hybrid basis in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. This requires 2 Scrutiny Officers to be present at each meeting, with 1 in the chamber and 1 providing electronic support.

### **3. Current situation/ proposal**

3.1 In light of these reviews and recommendations highlighted above, Officers have reviewed the scrutiny structure currently operating in BCBC noting that there is no definitive guide to how a scrutiny function should be set up. Across Wales, there are a variety of structures in place and it is a matter for each Council to determine what suits their organisation. Set out below are some potential options that have been considered for BCBC moving forward:

#### **Option 1 – No Change to Structure**

Maintain the current set up with COSC and 3 SOSCs which cover the 3 themes of Education, Social Services and Communities but have the flexibility to consider other items not in line with these themes. This includes 3 remunerated Chairs with COSC Chair appointed by the Members of the Committee from one of the Chairpersons of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees,

#### Pros

- Allows items to be considered in their entirety without worrying about straying into another's remit.
- Four committees allows for easy allocation when required, for example, when it comes to consideration of the annual draft budget proposals – i.e. four committees and four Directorates. It also allows for the efficient allocation of call-ins to any upcoming scrutiny committee meeting due to the cross-cutting nature of existing meetings and avoids requiring extra meetings to be called and extra demands placed on the service.

- Members build up in-depth specialist knowledge regarding the statutory framework and delivery arrangements of a service area which is helpful when scrutinising reports responding to Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW), Estyn, Audit Wales and reports regarding service statutory responsibilities. Experience has shown that Members are more engaged in a committee related to their area(s) of knowledge and interest, which makes for more effective scrutiny, focussed recommendations and better outcomes.

#### Cons

- Audit Wales have said that the 'Subject' Committees do not provide clear transparency of their remits.

#### **Option 2**

Maintain 4 Committees with COSC and three formally themed Committees: 'Education, Social Services and Communities' or similar, to address Audit Wales' recommendation. There would need to be consideration of the allocation to each committee to ensure there was an even workload balance. COSC would consider corporate items such as budget and performance and would allocate items on the FWP. This would also address the Audit Wales recommendation to make the roles of the committees more transparent.

#### Pros

- Addresses the Audit Wales concern regarding transparency of remits of scrutiny committees.
- Four committees replicates the Council's structure providing simple and clear roles and remits where needed, such as for draft budget proposals.
- Members build up in-depth specialist knowledge regarding the statutory framework and delivery arrangements of a service area which is helpful when scrutinising reports responding to CIW, Estyn, Audit Wales and reports regarding service statutory responsibilities. Experience has shown that Members are more engaged in a committee related to their area(s) of knowledge and interest, which makes for more effective scrutiny, focussed recommendations and better outcomes.

#### Cons

- Currently we often have topics that are not wholly within the remit of a Directorate, so naming the committees may remove this flexibility for allocating such topics to a single committee in the future. There could be a caveat agreed however that allows a committee to stray slightly into another's remit in order to consider the item in its entirety.
- If entirely replicating the Directorates, there are some aspects that sit under the Chief Executive's Directorate that would not really fall within the remit of a COSC, the main example being Housing and Homelessness, which has usually been allocated to SOSC 3. This could be overcome however by having a list of service areas under each committee's remit rather than to simply replicate the four Directorates. This would also overcome any future issues of service areas potentially moving into a different directorate.

- Could potentially limit where call-ins can be allocated and require additional meetings and resources, unless a caveat is agreed for this.

### **Option 3**

Maintain COSC and reduce to 2 SOSCs where all committees would consider a range of items as prioritised by COSC. There would be a general agreement that Committee 1 incorporates the majority of education items within it in order to assist the Educational Representatives but it would not be exclusively dealing with Education.

#### Pros

- Members would gain a better overall understanding of service areas across the Council by considering a range of items.

#### Cons

- Reducing the number of committees means the membership of each committee would potentially increase. Larger committees can lead to less effective scrutiny.
- Members would not build up expertise in a specific area as they would be considering reports on a range of service areas.

### **Option 4**

Maintain COSC and have 2 themed committees. There could be the option of using the CfGS suggestion of 'People' and 'Places'. 'People' would incorporate areas such as Children and Adult's Social Care, Education, and Community Safety with 'Place' covering areas such as Transport, Environment, Economic Development, Regeneration and Community Services. There would need to be consideration of the allocation to each committee to ensure there was an even workload balance. COSC would consider corporate items such as budget and performance and would allocate items on the FWP. This would also address the Audit Wales recommendation to make the roles of the committees more transparent.

#### Pros

- Addresses the Audit Wales concern regarding transparency of remits of scrutiny committees.

#### Cons

- Reducing the number of committees means the membership would potentially increase. This could lead to less effective scrutiny.
- Prioritisation of items for Forward work programming could prove difficult with competing priorities from more than one Directorate and Cabinet Member.
- May limit the capacity to deal with pre-decision items if a number come forward that need to be considered by the same committee.

### **Option 5**

One main scrutiny committee with Working Groups and Research and Evaluation Panels falling out of it.

Pros

- Members could potentially gain a better understanding of a range of service areas across the Council.

Cons

- Would increase the administrative processes with increased time spent setting up and co-ordinating the Panels.
- Members do not get the opportunity to build up an in-depth knowledge basis of a full-service area.
- Would require Members to commit to the Panel(s) and Group Leaders would need to ensure their Members were prepared to Chair.

### **Additional Considerations**

3.2 There are various factors to consider with each option. There will not necessarily be a reduction in workloads if the committees are reduced and there would need to be an amended schedule of meetings to support all items that need to be considered. A change in the number of committees will also require a review of the membership both to ensure the committee provides effective scrutiny, and to allow a number of Members the opportunity to be involved.

3.3 Further work will then be needed on the names and remits of the committees. Audit Wales suggested that greater transparency regarding their remit was needed as the naming of the committees as 1, 2, 3 did not help from a public perspective. Officers have considered some possible examples including 'Corporate Performance and Resources', 'Education and Young People', 'Social Care and Wellbeing', 'People and Wellbeing, Place and Prosperity'. There may also be opportunity to align the scrutiny structure with the Council's Wellbeing Objectives. The final naming and remit will depend on the structure adopted. The setting of remits will also have to have provision for items which overlap committees and a process for dealing with call-in items.

3.4 The number of Members sitting on an OVSC has changed throughout the various structures with membership ranging from 16 to 10 Members. Presently, the membership of each OVSC is 12 Members. It has previously been considered that 16 Members is too large and Members didn't find meetings as effective. It also led to meetings being much longer, with less focused outcomes. In contrast to this, additional Members would like to be involved in scrutiny but are restricted due to the political balance allocation.

### **Budget Scrutiny**

3.5 Consideration also needs to be given as to how the scrutiny of the Budget process is taken forward under any revised structure. The current system includes a dedicated Budget Research and Evaluation Panel (BREP), plus detailed scrutiny of the draft budget by each individual OVSC who feed back to COSC to provide

overall recommendations to Cabinet. This process results in an intense period of scrutiny in early January; this is resource intensive for officers and Members and there has been cross party feedback that the sessions are repetitive and overlap in subject matters.

3.6 If an option was recommended that maintained COSC as a corporate committee with oversight of the budget, it would provide an opportunity to revisit the budget scrutiny process. An option could be allocating budget scrutiny exclusively to COSC; this could involve a working group being established with representatives from all OVSCs and chaired by the Chair of COSC. The group would feedback to COSC and this would reduce duplication and allow for in depth scrutiny to be undertaken throughout the budget setting process with meaningful engagement between Cabinet and Scrutiny. This option would however result in additional responsibilities for the Chair of COSC who would also chair the budget working group. If this proposal was agreed, Members are requested to consider whether the increased workload and additional responsibilities of the Chair would necessitate the post being remunerated, noting that this will have implications on the Council's Schedule of Remuneration and other senior salary entitlements. In accordance with the formula used under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, should Council approve four remunerated Scrutiny Chairs, these would be allocated to the following political groups:

2 x Labour  
1 x Bridgend County Independents  
1 x Democratic Alliance

### **Preferred Option and Reasons for Preferred Option**

3.7 The Scrutiny structure options set out in paragraph 3.1 were considered by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 17 March 2025 whereby they made the following recommendation:

*Of the options presented within the report, the Committee unanimously favoured and recommended option 2; to retain 4 Scrutiny Committees with the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and three formally themed Committees: 'Education, Social Services and Communities' or similar. This was on condition that the caveats contained in the report were included in that the names and remits of the Committees would not preclude a Committee from scrutinising an item in its entirety should any aspect stray slightly into the remit of another.*

*The Committee also discussed matters such as the length of meetings and agendas, engagement of Members, the number of meetings, resources and the workload and numbers of Chairs, but agreed that these matters would need to be discussed further at Council and in relative Political Group meetings.*

*Members requested that the Committee Structure Options and the Scrutiny protocol be shared with all Political Group Members by Chairs and Group Leaders, as well as the 3 Independent Members not affiliated with any Group, as soon as possible before the meeting of Council.*

3.8 It is proposed that Council endorse the recommendations of COSC and approve the revised scrutiny structure as outlined at option 2 above providing focused remits that reflect the Council's priorities and reduce areas of duplication.

## **Additional Proposals**

3.9 As outlined at paragraph 3.4 above, it is proposed that to balance the views on Committee membership, the OVSC Committee membership also be amended to 14 Members. To mitigate against the potential ineffectiveness of lengthy meetings, it is also proposed that the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules be amended within the Constitution to recommend that meetings must not continue beyond 3 hours in duration with the proviso that the Chair may relax the rule if this is felt necessary to facilitate further discussion prior to a decision being made.

## **Scrutiny Forward Work Programme**

3.10 There has already been improvement in the way the scrutiny FWP is developed. Scrutiny Chairs are clear that items on FWPs need to be aligned with the Council's Wellbeing Objectives and they meet with relevant Corporate Directors to ensure relevant items are brought to Scrutiny. A process has also been developed for referrals from the Governance and Audit Committee to be considered by SOSCs if appropriate.

3.11 The development of the FWP will continue with a view to aligning more closely with the Cabinet FWP and the publication of a six-month FWP in line with the Audit Wales recommendation. This will assist in meaningful pre-decision scrutiny on key topics. Pre- decision scrutiny is considered to be the tool which has maximum impact. This allows scrutiny members to act in its "critical friend" role and contribute to the development of policies before a final decision by Cabinet. Effective pre-decision scrutiny may also reduce the need for call-ins, which should be used as a last resort.

3.12 It was also recognised that to get the best outcome from scrutiny the committee should be clear on its purpose, scope and focus. This is being developed as part of the FWP where the rationale for considering a topic should be clearly identified and communicated to the officers preparing the report for scrutiny. The committee should be clear which areas they want to focus on and what their objectives are in considering the item. This focus will be reiterated by officers in pre-meetings.

3.13 By setting clear focus and objectives there will also be more opportunity to evaluate the scrutiny function. The mechanisms for doing this evaluation will be developed fully when a structure is agreed. Any evaluation will form part of the Annual Scrutiny Report presented to COSC and Council.

## **Member Training**

3.14 The training of all Elected Members is a function of the Democratic Services Committee. However, more tailored options have been identified for scrutiny members including refresher training on 'Scrutiny - Critical Analysis and Questioning Skills' and 'Chairing', the latter of which is being offered to all of the Authority's Committee chairs. 'Local Authority Decision Making Arrangements' training has also been rolled out via an external provider, covering an overview of Local Authority Governance, as well as roles and responsibilities of Cabinet, Scrutiny and Governance and Audit Committees. It is also planned to take up the WLGA offer of a self-assessment of scrutiny arrangements which is a new two-part Improvement

Programme. This, however, might be more effective after some of the changes above have been introduced and will then assist with evaluating and evidencing the impact of Bridgend's scrutiny arrangements and whether there are areas for further improvement. Other areas for training include social media training for members which is being progressed, in addition to regular suggestions and requests from both Members and Senior Officers for briefing sessions and scrutiny related training, such as the new Estyn Framework.

### **Scrutiny Protocol**

3.15 In response to one of the recommendations from the Scrutiny Review undertaken in 2024 a Protocol for Effective Scrutiny has been developed and is attached at **Appendix 2**. This sets out the expectations of Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Corporate Management Board.

## **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.

5.2 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 Ways of Working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The scrutiny function contributes to the 5 Ways of Working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and how they contribute to the Council developing its own five ways of working, driving and measuring those ways of working.

5.3 The scrutiny arrangements assists in the achievement of the Council's 7 Well-being Objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, listed below:

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

## **6. Climate Change Implications**

6.1 Climate Change continues to form part of Scrutiny's priorities and links with various aspects of the Scrutiny's Committees' Forward Work Programme.

## **7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications**

7.1 Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting continue to form part of Scrutiny's priorities and aspects of their Forward Work Programme.

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 Should there be additional remunerated Scrutiny Chairs proposed, this would need to be formally considered and agreed at a further Council meeting to agree an amendment to the Schedule of Remuneration as the allowance would have to come from within the existing Members budget, which would result in the removal of allowances for other roles.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 Council is recommended to:

- i. Note the progress made in relation to the Audit Wales recommendations as part of their 'Review of Decision-Making Arrangements' in Bridgend;
- ii. Note the structure options presented within this report and the recommendations of COSC and approve option 2 as the agreed scrutiny structure for implementation following the Annual Meeting of Council on 14 May 2025;
- iii. Determine whether an additional remunerated Chair is required and if so, agree this in principle with a final decision to be made at the AGM, following necessary amendments to the Schedule of Remuneration, noting that this will be met from the existing Member budget, which will result in the removal of other senior salary allowances;
- iv. Approve a change to the membership of each OVSC to 14 Members to take effect as part of the agreed scrutiny structure;
- v. Approve the Scrutiny Protocol, attached at **Appendix 2** for subsequent circulation and signing by all Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Corporate Management Board;
- vi. Note that a report will be presented to the AGM seeking approval to amend the Constitution to incorporate the revised Terms of Reference, Membership and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as a result of the revised structure, noting that COSC will now lead on Budget Scrutiny.

## **Background documents**

None.

# Improving Scrutiny - feedback and actions

**Huw Rees**

**03 June 2024**

# Recommended Actions (1)

1. Draft and agree a protocol for effective scrutiny
2. Document and schedule a revised FWP process
3. Ensure more timely use of pre-decision scrutiny
4. Establish purpose, scope and focus for each scrutiny item
  - Set out in covering reports
  - Use pre-meets to reinforce

# Recommended Actions (2)

## 5. Develop evaluation mechanisms

- Survey Members once a protocol is established (gap analysis)
- Introduce post-scrutiny reflection on practise
- Renew recommendation monitoring and impact evaluation

## 6. Ensure training and development programmes cover:

- Induction and CPD on effective scrutiny
- Critical analysis, questioning and chairing
- Appropriate use of social media

**Impartial**  
**Respectful**  
**Focussed**

Collaborative  
Positive  
Objective  
Challenging  
Open  
Professional

Supportive  
Owned  
Engaging  
Constructive  
Purposeful

Cooperative  
Trusting  
Inclusive  
Transparent

# Protocol - coverage

1. Definition of scrutiny
2. Behaviours and values
  - e.g. Respectful, constructive etc.
3. Principles
  - e.g. Aligned, Strategic, Improvement focussed, Clear purpose, Timely, Objective, non-political etc.

# Protocol - coverage

## 4. Engagement

e.g. with FWP process, with scrutiny team, regular scheduled briefings, attendance expectations etc.

## 5. Information sharing (incl. reports)

e.g. Access, Quality, Timeliness, Confidentiality

## 6. Meeting conduct

e.g. Impartiality, timekeeping, maintaining focus, personal and collective responsibility etc.

# Protocol - coverage

## 7. Recommendations

e.g. Clear purpose and focus, Responses, Timeliness, Monitoring etc

## 8. Dispute resolution

e.g. adjudication, mediation, roles

Others...?

# Effective budget scrutiny = Good governance

- Whole council responsibility - fiduciary duty
- Cabinet – design and deliver a balanced budget (transparently)
- Scrutiny – mechanism for non-executive oversight of budget matters (constructively)

# Budget scrutiny – a process not an event

*CfPS – “much budget scrutiny focuses on review, in committee, of a draft budget a matter of weeks before it is submitted to full council for approval – this is not an effective way to conduct oversight.”*

- An incremental process, and a continuing duty
- Means of building knowledge and understanding with which to scrutinise
- Opportunity to question assumptions, scenarios and options
- Scrutiny cannot fulfil its role if it's not engaged throughout – limits ability to influence changes

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# **BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL SCRUTINY PROTOCOL**

**A Protocol between Scrutiny Members, the Executive  
and Corporate Management Board**



This Scrutiny protocol is an agreement between Members and Officers (including the Executive and Corporate Management Board) which provides a commitment to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function and arrangements to ensure it operates effectively and to the highest possible standard.

This protocol sets out the agreed values and principles of scrutiny for the Council as well as methods for successful engagement and information sharing in order to achieve a collaborative and professional scrutiny process that adds tangible value and assists the Council in achieving its objectives.

The protocol also emphasises appropriate methods of conduct for all parties and how to overcome disputes should they arise.

In adopting the provisions set out in this Scrutiny Protocol, all parties will ensure it is committed to ensuring a positive scrutiny culture that is impartial, respectful and is focused on driving improvement for the benefit of the public and our communities.

### **Definition of Scrutiny**

Scrutiny is a non-political, constructive method of influencing the decisions and policies of the Council and ensuring they are sound, fit for purpose and in the best interests of the public. It provides a platform for positive collaboration between the Executive and all other Members in order to achieve improvement in services, whilst at the same time delivering the accountability and transparency that is so vital in the Council's decision making-process.

### **1. Principles**

#### **1.1    Outcome and Improvement focused**

Effective Scrutiny is the responsibility of the whole Council. It is most effective when it is focused and seeks to achieve clear outcomes, where its forward work programme and activities are outcome driven.

Scrutiny drives improvement and needs to act and be seen as a ‘**critical friend**,’ identifying where decisions could be improved and how to prevent mistakes being made or repeated. Scrutiny is about challenging the accepted ways of doing things and acting as a champion for developing a culture of improvement in the local area.

Overview and scrutiny committees have statutory powers to scrutinise decisions the executive is planning to take, those it plans to implement, and those that have already been taken/implemented. It is recognised that the most influential and positive method of Scrutiny is **pre-decision scrutiny**. Through engagement and work programming activity pre-decision scrutiny can:

- **challenge assumptions and make evidence gathering more robust** - scrutiny can gather evidence and look at projections relating to the impact of the decision – financial, social, economic, environmental – and consider whether those projections and assumptions are objectively justified;
- **develop realistic plans and targets** – scrutiny can help to develop challenging but realistic targets that will be impartial and focused on outcomes rather than output;
- **secure ownership and buy-in to the final decision** – engaging with scrutiny will help the executive to understand the expectations of the wider group of elected councillors and, by extension, the expectations of residents;
- **engage with and satisfy the public** – scrutiny can help the council to understand local needs, through public engagement led by councillors in their community leadership role.

## 1.2 Strategically aligned – ‘One Council’

To achieve maximum impact from its outcomes, scrutiny must recognise that its activities and FWP should be strategically aligned with that of the whole Council. While the executive should not direct scrutiny’s priorities, scrutiny work will need to reflect at least some of the executive’s priorities in order to ensure that it is adding value.

In order to prioritise items in the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme, Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Senior Officers must take into account:

- Methods – the various tools and methods that scrutiny can employ to carry out its work. Choices here can influence prioritisation (and vice versa);
- Timing – the right moment for scrutiny will differ from subject to subject and will depend on the topic and the stage it is at. It is vital that this is considered to prevent any time wasted by the Scrutiny Committee, Officers and the Executive and to ensure that when items do come before Scrutiny, there is the opportunity for value to be added from the time and effort given by all.

An effective scrutiny work programme will look to incorporate a range of methods and timings.

### 1.3 Realistic

Having realistic expectations applies to all those involved in the scrutiny process in:

- **Topic choice** – Any chosen topic needs to be one the committee can realistically influence. The Scrutiny criteria attached to this protocol can assist with this and ensure that topics are not too broad, too narrow (such as a ward related issue) and something that the Committee can have a direct and positive influence over.
- **Methods** – All involved in the Scrutiny process must be realistic about what is achievable within the resources available – whether this be the capacity of the Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Officer, or the relevant Service Area Officers;
- **Developing realistic plans and targets** – pre-decision scrutiny can help to impartially develop challenging targets that will focus on outcomes (the results of activities) rather than outputs (the activities themselves that help achieve the outcomes). However, whilst an important part of the scrutiny role is providing challenge, Members need to be aware that any targets need to be realistic and practical. To be effective, both sides require the humility to listen and understand in order to collaboratively develop achievable outcomes;
- **Developing Recommendations** – All recommendations should be evidence based and realistic and have account for the financial requirements;
- **Developing the Council's Budget** – A joint understanding of the expectations relating to the budget are paramount, both in terms of Scrutiny Members being realistic about what budget constraints there are and what is actually achievable, as well as realistic expectations placed on Scrutiny Members in their consideration of the budget. Scrutiny Members should trust the information presented to them and understand that the Executive may sometimes have additional information due to their specific roles and responsibilities. Good budget scrutiny recognises the importance of engagement throughout, giving the Scrutiny Members the opportunity to influence changes. It should not, however be used as a method for producing an alternative budget.

### 1.4 Non-political

Scrutiny membership comes from Elected Members whose insights are a fundamental to review decisions which can be politically contentious. However, **the focus should be on forward thinking and enabling positive outcomes for the residents of Bridgend**. Effective scrutiny should not apportion blame and should not be a forum for political point-scoring.

Formal committee meetings provide a vital opportunity for scrutiny members to question the executive and officers. Scrutiny members from all Groups should **adopt an independent mind-set** to ensure their carry out their scrutiny role effectively.

### 1.5 Clear purpose and Objectives

The purpose of scrutiny is to provide **recommendations for improvement**, so it is important to be clear what the outcome of any item should be. Scrutiny therefore has to

have **clearly defined objectives** from the point they set the items on their FWP. Clear objectives also ensures witnesses can be fully prepared for attending the meeting.

### 1.5.1 FWP

- It is the responsibility of the Committee to be clear about why topics have been chosen for their FWP and demonstrate, as highlighted above, how they are aligned with the Council's priorities.
- There may be instances where the Cabinet might request scrutiny input on an item, as a form of pre-decision, for example. Again, it is the responsibility of Cabinet to provide evidence of the rationale behind such suggestion, with a clear purpose defined in these requests to enable Scrutiny Members to make an informed decision on whether to add the item to their FWP.
- Scrutiny Chairs, Cabinet Members and CMB have the responsibility of attending FWP planning meeting. These meetings provide a vital role in ensuring the effectiveness of scrutiny as they enable conversations over detail of the FWP, clarifying the exact purpose and information required for each item.
- In order to achieve the best from each Committee meeting, and reduce the need for additional information requests, Cabinet and Officers should ensure that draft reports are received by the scrutiny team in accordance with the report approval schedule. This will ensure that the information contained within the report meets the needs of the Committee in order that they can achieve their intended outcome.

### 1.5.2 Pre-meetings

Pre-meetings should be attended by all Scrutiny members so that the Committee can agree and define their focus and overall objectives for the meeting and what they expect to achieve as outcomes. It is also essential to enable the Chair to plan and run the meeting effectively and efficiently.

### 1.5.3 Committee meetings

It is agreed that good planning and objective setting can assist during a Committee meeting in the following ways:

- Targeted Questioning – enabling Scrutiny Members to work towards a common target in their questioning;
- Summing Up - Discussions can then be easily summarised at the end of the meeting and in the minutes, with a focus on actions, post-meeting communication and follow-up work;
- Conclusions and Recommendations - Findings and conclusions can be more easily converted into clear, concrete recommendations at the meeting.

## **2. Behaviours, values and meeting conduct**

**2.1** In order for Scrutiny to be effective and focused it must be conducted constructively and respectfully and foster positive working relationships with all participants involved.

Constructive, professional relationships require continued communication between Scrutiny Members, the Council's Executive, Officers, and partners.

**2.2** Distinct and defined roles are important to ensure its success and those involved in the Scrutiny process must be mindful of this at all times:

- The Executive should not influence the work of the scrutiny committee;
- The Chair of the scrutiny committee should determine the nature and extent of an Executive member's participation in a scrutiny meeting;
- Scrutiny Members should always act impartial regardless of their political affiliation.
- All Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Officers should approach scrutiny as a 'critical friend' not a de facto 'opposition';
- Any measures to change or strengthen the operation of overview and scrutiny should be considered by all Members. The Executive or senior officers cannot unilaterally change scrutiny's processes.

## **2.3 Personal and Collective Responsibility**

The organisational culture, behaviours and attitudes of an authority will largely determine whether its scrutiny function succeeds or fails. Creating a strong organisational culture supports scrutiny work that can add real value. In contrast, low levels of support for and engagement with the scrutiny function often lead to poor quality and ill-focused work that serves to reinforce the perception that it is of little worth or relevance.

There must be a willingness to work with scrutiny as an equal partner – to engage at a meaningful time, to provide it with all relevant information and to properly consider any recommendations.

There needs to be a recognition that there is a collective responsibility to make scrutiny work.

## **2.4 The Role of the Chair**

The Chair of a scrutiny committee should seek to provide, through strong leadership, a good environment for the constructive challenge of decision-makers. They should foster discussion and encourage all concerned stakeholders to be involved in the process, while ensuring that all opinions are expressed in a constructive manner that contributes to the intended outcomes of the process.

Statutory guidance says the chair should possess the ability to lead and build a sense of teamwork and consensus among committee members.

The chair is also responsible for ensuring that the scrutiny process – within and outside the context of formal committee meetings – is managed in a way that creates a fair and balanced environment, keeping the scrutiny process free from political influence and allowing for the effective scrutiny of all evidence that is produced.

The chair also has a role in ensuring that the constitution, including the member code of conduct and committee procedure rules are complied with.

### **2.5 Timekeeping**

Ultimately it is the Scrutiny Chair's responsibility to manage the agenda in a committee meeting, ensuring the debate remains focused, on track and to time. Preparation is key to ensuring that the time available is used in the most effective manner. Pre-meetings are a useful preparation tool to decide how to conduct the questioning.

In order to keep to time in meetings, Members and Officers should also prioritise and plan any information they need to prepare or read before meetings in order that they can participate fully in the discussion.

In addition, Officers should only provide a short briefing with the key information and detail provided within the report, allowing more time to be spent on analysis and discussion. This is supported by the commitment identified above that the Committee identify a clear and accurate purpose for each item and Officers provide early drafts of reports to the Scrutiny team to ensure the information contained therein fits the needs of the Committee.

Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Senior Officers also have a joint role in ensuring; questions and answers are targeted, appropriate and succinct; Scrutiny meetings are not used as a platform for political statements.

### **2.6 Managing Disagreement**

Effective scrutiny involves looking at issues that can be politically contentious. On occasion the Executive may not agree with the findings or recommendations of a scrutiny committee. Both the Executive and Scrutiny should work together to mitigate this by establishing an open and honest forum for debate.

Scrutiny Chairs take an active role in leading and directing the discussion and managing any disagreement. In practice, this is likely to require scrutiny chairs working proactively to identify any potentially contentious issues and plan how to manage them.

#### **2.6.1 Roles when managing disputes**

Where disagreements and disputes do occur within a committee meeting, it is the responsibility of the Chair to try and manage this. All Overview and Scrutiny Chairs should therefore ensure they have attended Chair Skills training. Some useful points to consider when handling conflict include:

- Clarifying objectives and responsibilities
- Promoting understanding on all sides

- Focusing on the rational - facts not feelings
- Generate alternatives
- Defer the issue to another meeting/Research and Evaluation Panel
- Use humour (appropriately!)
- Take a break

It is also the responsibility of the Chair to enforce 'the rules', recognising that all Members and Officers must operate within both a legal and ethical framework. This would include abiding by the Overview and Scrutiny Rules and Procedures as laid out in the Council's constitution, as well as the relevant Member and Officer Codes of Conduct.

Where breaches of the Council's Rules, Procedures or Code of Conduct occur in meetings they should firstly be reported to the Monitoring Officer, (or in their absence, the Deputy Monitoring Officer). The Monitoring Officer can consider the alleged breach and advise on the appropriate course of action if necessary.

The Scrutiny Officer will support overview and scrutiny committees and their members, and provide support and advice to officers and councillors in relation to overview and scrutiny committees.

Similarly, it is part of the function of the Head of Democratic Services to provide support and advice in relation to the functions of the authority's overview and scrutiny committee(s), to members of the authority, members of the executive and officers as well as to promote the role of the authority's overview and scrutiny committee(s).

### **3      Budget Scrutiny engagement**

Effective Budget Scrutiny underpins good governance and is the responsibility and duty of the whole Council where:

- Cabinet design and deliver a balanced budget (transparently); and
- Scrutiny forms the mechanism for non-executive oversight of budget matters (constructively)

Budget Scrutiny should be a continuous engagement process between Scrutiny Members and the Executive.

It is important to remember that effective scrutiny can improve the evidence base for decisions as well as ensuring that decisions are transparent and in accordance with the needs of the local community.

### **4. Recommendations**

Recommendations should be high quality and timely to ensure the impact of Scrutiny is effective and has a meaningful impact.

Scrutiny's engagement in an issue should always be focussed on outcomes and recommendations are the key element. Considering items to be "noted" it is not an effective use of time or resources. Ultimately, Scrutiny in its entirety should be underpinned by having a clear idea about the return on investment of the work it is undertaking.

Recommendations should have a clear focus on outcomes “on the ground”, on a measurable change which you can use to measure the return on investment of the scrutiny work. The focus should be on who benefits, and when?

Recommendations should be evidence-based, specific and realistic enough to be implemented.

Recommendations should be addressed to a specific person or group identifying responsibility for delivering on a recommendation to ensure it is implemented.

Recommendations should be financially realistic. Where a recommendation involves additional expenditure, it may increase the force of the recommendation if funding sources can be recognised, however, it should not be required for scrutiny to fully cost all of its recommendations; this is an issue for the Executive.

Scrutiny Members should be prepared to speak to the Executive, senior Officers and to partners about recommendations where there may be queries, concerns, or to check factual accuracy. However, it must be understood and accepted that the decision as to what recommendations are submitted remains at the absolute discretion of Scrutiny Members. Such discussions can help to ensure that recommendations are more robust and realistic, and ultimately accepted by the Executive, and go on to be implemented.

Open-ended recommendations, where acceptance does not actually commit decision-makers to further action, should be avoided. For example, “The executive should consider...” or “The executive should investigate further...”

Recommendations should not be used to ask for responses to additional queries.

#### **4.1 Responses to recommendations**

Recommendations should be prepared and circulated to the relevant Cabinet member and officers at the conclusion of the meeting, and in any event no later than 5 working days following the meeting with a request that responses are returned within 10 working days.

The response to a recommendation from should consist of:

- an acceptance or not of the recommendation. If the recommendation is not accepted / partially accepted the rationale should be clearly set out.
- if accepted a timetable of actions should be set out with a view to formal review of progress within a defined period.

The response to the recommendations will be reported back to the scrutiny meetings within at one of the next two meetings.

Scrutiny will monitor and evaluate recommendations once they are implemented following updates from the relevant Cabinet member / Officer.

Formal recommendations reported to a Cabinet meeting will be responded to within two months of them being made. The relevant Scrutiny Chair will attend Cabinet to present the recommendations and answer any questions that arise.

## **5. Evaluating Scrutiny**

Being able to articulate scrutiny's "value added" is important to contribute to the development of a culture where scrutiny is welcomed and encouraged. Positive impacts of scrutiny should also be celebrated as contributing to sound decision-making and good governance.

Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Senior Officers will regularly be engaged as to their views on Scrutiny as part of a self-evaluation process. The Scrutiny protocol itself will also be regularly reviewed to ensure it is kept up to date and reflects the current Scrutiny processes and practices.

This information will be used to prepare the Statutory Annual Report on Scrutiny.

## **6. Commitments of Scrutiny Members, the Executive and Corporate Management Board**

- A commitment to upholding democratic principles of transparency, accountability, and inclusivity;
- A commitment to the scrutiny process as an integral element of good governance;
- A commitment from all involved in scrutiny to work as equal partners with respect for each role involved to ensure it is effective;
- A commitment to ensure Scrutiny is non-political, impartial and strives to be a positive, helpful and collaborative process of the Council;
- A commitment to collaborative working and planning that focuses on realistic, timely outcomes and improvements;
- A commitment to self-evaluation and positive improvement of the Scrutiny process that centres on enhancing its impact for the benefit of the public and the community.

**Table for Signatures and Date.....etc**