

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. Rhwch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich dewis iaith.

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Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Democratic Services

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

Dyddiad/Date: Monday, 7 July 2025

Dear Councillor,

**COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3)**

A meeting of the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Formerly Subject Overview & Scrutiny Committee 3) will be held Hybrid in the Council Chamber - Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB / Remotely via Microsoft Teams on **Monday, 14 July 2025 at 16:00**.

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Members.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008 (including whipping declarations)

3 Approval of Minutes

To receive for approval the minutes of the meetings on 17/02/25 and 07/04/25.

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By receiving this Agenda Pack electronically you will save the Authority approx. £01.44 in printing costs

- 4 Community Asset Transfer (CAT) 17 - 30
 Invitees:
 Councillor Paul Davies - Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment

 Janine Nightingale - Corporate Director – Communities
 Martin Morgans - Interim Head of Operations - Community Services
 Louise Connolly - Community Asset Transfer Officer.
- 5 Porthcawl Regeneration 31 - 48
 Invitees:
 Councillor Neelo Farr - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing.

 Janine Nightingale - Corporate Director – Communities
 Delyth Webb – Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration
 Jacob Lawrence - Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager
 Billy Stark – Principal Regeneration Officer
- 6 Conclusions and Recommendations
- 7 Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination 49 - 52
- 8 Forward Work Programme Update 53 - 74
- 9 Urgent Items

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

Note: This will be a Hybrid meeting and Members and Officers will be attending in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Angel Street Bridgend / Remotely via Microsoft Teams. The meeting will be recorded for subsequent transmission via the Council's internet site which will be available as soon as practicable after the meeting. If you would like to view this meeting live, please contact cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk or tel. 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513 / 643159.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

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

Councillors:

H T Bennett
JPD Blundell
N Clarke
O Clatworthy
RJ Collins
C Davies
C L C Davies
GH Haines
W J Kendall
J E Pratt
G Walter
I Williams
MJ Williams
T Wood

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SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3 - MONDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2025

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3 HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 16:00

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Present

Councillor JPD Blundell – Chairperson

S J Bletsoe

C Davies

I Williams

MJ Williams

Present Virtually

N Clarke
G Walter

RJ Collins
J E Pratt

P W Jenkins

W J Kendall

Apologies for Absence

MJ Kearn

Invitees:

Councillor Paul Davies

Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment

Janine Nightingale
Zak Shell
Stuart Baldwin

Corporate Director – Communities
Head of Operations – Community Services
Climate Change Response Manager

Officers:

Lucy Beard
Stephen Griffiths

Scrutiny Officer
Democratic Services Officer – Committees

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jon-Paul Blundell – Personal – Item 4 – the report refers to decisions made by Cabinet, some which were made when a Member of Cabinet.

95. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 dated 20 January 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record subject to the following comments:</p> <p>Budget Pressures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The decision on the provision of the Future Waste Service had been discussed fully by the Committee and the ongoing role was to monitor the progress of the plan.2. The lease for Bridgend Market was taken out in 1971 by the predecessor local authority, as Bridgend County Borough Council was not established until 1996.
Date Decision Made	17 February 2025

96. Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>Following detailed consideration and discussion with the Cabinet Member and Officers, the Committee made the following comments and Recommendations:</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Committee expressed concern and requested an explanation setting out why the cross-party Member Committee to oversee the Climate Emergency Response Programme, agreed by Cabinet on 30 June 2020, had not been established and instead, that the Subject Overview Scrutiny Committee 3 had been given the remit for Climate Change and Nature and recommended that
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	<p>consideration be given to the cross-party Member Committee being established for the purposes intended.</p> <p>2. The Committee was advised that the Bridgend 2030 Net Zero Carbon Strategy (the Strategy) was under review and that a report would be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Committee providing detail on what had been accomplished, the achievability of the ambitions and the necessary steps to progress it.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the proposed report but expressed their disappointment that it appeared that some aspects of the plan would not work and therefore were taken no further and their concern that there did not appear to be any delivery or decisive action taken in relation to the Strategy which was already at its halfway stage. The Committee therefore recommended that an action plan be put in place to include detail on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timescales; - The objectives and achievement attained; - How the public are being engaged and listened to, including the means by which the community are engaged; and - The possibility of an annual engagement day. <p>3. The Committee discussed the impact of river flooding in the Valley areas causing erosion of the riverbank and encroaching onto gardens, fence lines and properties, acknowledged that it was a worrying situation for those affected and recommended that the Council approach Welsh Government to request some safeguarding for those individuals who may be in danger of flooding to their homes and property in the future.</p> <p>4. Members were advised that the expectations arising from the Senedd Climate Committee's Halting and Reversing the Loss of Nature by 2023 report remain unclear as Welsh Government had yet to respond to the recommendations contained within. The Committee recommended that a letter be written to Welsh Government asking when a response is to be expected, in order to provide an understanding of the potential impact and challenges those recommendations could have on local authorities.</p> <p>5. The Committee requested further detail/information regarding the national position, across all 22 Welsh local authorities, setting out their approach to Climate Change and Decarbonisation. The Committee expressed that it was important that Bridgend's Strategy aligns with other local</p>
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	<p>authorities recognising that carbon capture does not stop at boundary lines. In addition, the Committee discussed the existence of strategic development plans for planning large scale properties and queried why there was no equivalent plan for Net Zero Carbon 2030 and recommended that consideration be given to including this in a future report to the Committee.</p> <p>Additional Information</p> <p>6. The Committee requested a copy of the Climate Change Risk Assessment which was undertaken in partnership with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Service Board (PSB) and highlighted 11 climate risk priority areas across the PSB. The Committee also requested information regarding the actions being taken by the Health Board to respond to the action plan including any works to their buildings within the County Borough to make them more energy efficient.</p> <p>7. The Committee requested further information regarding the Bridgend Local Nature Partnership to include details of its membership, how often it meets and its agenda in order to understand whether it could be used as a key engagement tool.</p> <p><u>Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure</u></p> <p>8. Members discussed Electric Vehicle charging points, how long it took to complete repairs and whose responsibility it was to do so. Whilst the Committee acknowledged that it had been necessary for public bodies to lead the way in installing electric vehicle charging points, there was now an increased demand and need for higher voltage charging points. The Committee therefore requested whether consideration should be given to the Council leaving the market and facilitating the supply by private companies.</p> <p>9. The Committee requested information regarding how much of the £1.4m funding for electric vehicles and infrastructure had been spent on infrastructure, why the Council was not deriving an income from it and regarding the public charging points commissioned by the Cardiff Capital Region on Council land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whether there was shared revenue? - Were there possibilities for revenue generation? - Whether capital expenditure to generate revenue been investigated?
Date Decision Made	17 February 2025

Forward Work Programme Update

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>That the Committee approved the Forward Work Programme (FWP) in Appendix A subject to the inclusion of the recommendations below, noted the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet in Appendix B and noted that the FWP as approved by the Committee would be reported to the next meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p><u>Maesteg Town Hall</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Committee requested:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. That the following be included in the scope of the report:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The potential outcomes and risks to the authority had the Council not taken action;- As much detail as possible, demonstrating what led to the increased costs; and- Detail of the initial value of the project and how much the value increased, at what stage and the reasons why.b. That the current and previous Leaders of the Council be invited to attend the meeting at which the report is scheduled.c. That consideration be given to whether the meeting of the Committee to which the report is scheduled, could take place at Maesteg Town Hall, subject to accessibility and its hybrid meeting capabilities.
Date Decision Made	17 February 2025

Urgent Items

Decision Made	None.
Date Decision Made	17 February 2025

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 6:46pm.

SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3 - MONDAY, 7 APRIL 2025

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3 HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 7 APRIL 2025 AT 16:00

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Present

Councillor MJ Williams – Chairperson for the Meeting

C Davies

I Williams

Present Virtually

S J Bletsoe
P W Jenkins

JPD Blundell
W J Kendall

N Clarke
J E Pratt

RJ Collins
G Walter

Apologies for Absence

Janine Nightingale

Corporate Director for Communities

Invitees:

Councillor Paul Davies

Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment

Zak Shell
Ieuan Sherwood
Paul Smith
Sam Wright-Green
Jordan De Angelis
Maddie Liver

Head Of Operations - Community Services
Group Manager - Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability
Decarbonisation Programme Manager
Senior Manager, Carbon Trust
Senior Manager, Carbon Trust
Analyst, Carbon Trust

Officers:

Stephen Griffiths
Meryl Lawrence

Interim Scrutiny Officer
Senior Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny

Declarations of Interest

None

Appointment of Chair for the Meeting

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> The Committee appointed Cllr MJ Williams as Chairperson for this meeting.
Date Decision Made	7 April 2025

100. Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> Following detailed consideration and discussions with a Cabinet Member and Senior Officers, the Committee made the following recommendations: Recommendations: 1. The Committee discussed the challenges of the Authority achieving Net Zero Carbon 2030 and recommended that consideration be given to approaching the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) to seek clarity as to the current status of strategies to reach net zero by 2030 in the other Welsh local authorities, following which, if other Welsh local authorities are experiencing similar challenges, the Committee further recommended that a follow-up request be made to ask the WLGA to make the Welsh Government aware of the situation and consider extending its net zero carbon strategy from 2030 to align it with that of the UK Government, to reach net zero by 2050. 2. The Committee recommended that the final version of the report by the Carbon Trust provide clarity as to the governance arrangements for the strategy including Member representation, for clear political leadership. 3. The Committee recommended that the strategy include focus on practical and achievable goals and that the carbon footprint of the supply chain be an appropriate priority.
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	4. The Committee recommended that the revised strategy be shared for a 12-week public consultation, as there was a need to engage with the public and obtain views of residents and stakeholders of the county borough.
Date Decision Made	7 April 2025

101. Information Report - Quarter 3 Performance 2024/25

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>The Committee noted the content of the Quarter 3 Performance 2024-25 report, the Corporate Performance Dashboard Quarter 3 2024-25 and the Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2024-25 within the remit of this Committee and had regard to the dashboard and the tracker when considering the Committee's Forward Work Programme report.</p> <p>The Committee discussed WBO 2.2.1, the commitment to increase employment and training opportunities in the County Borough for young people aged 16 to 24 years old which indicated that the commitment is to be removed for 2025-26 because there is no Youth Guarantee monies and recommended that a new Performance Indicator be devised to continue monitoring performance in this crucial area of activity for inclusion in the appropriate section of the Performance dashboard.</p>
Date Decision Made	7 April 2025

102. Forward Work Programme Update

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>That the Committee approved the Forward Work Programme (FWP) in Appendix A subject to the inclusion of the recommendations below, noted the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet in Appendix B and noted that the FWP as approved by the Committee would be reported to the next meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members requested that following the next FWP planning meeting in consultation with the Chair, the FWP include firm commitments for the scheduling of reports to be submitted to specific meetings of the Committee in 2025-26. 2. Members requested that the following reports be added to the FWP and prioritised for scheduling early in 2025-26: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The condition of highways in the County Borough and the status of the road resurfacing programme. b. A report on the three major parks in the County Borough concluded in November 2022 that has not yet been considered by Cabinet, for consideration by this Committee pre decision and confidentially if necessary. 3. Members requested that a report or Briefing be requested to understand the process by which applications are made to the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) where conditions are met for the deletion of a valuation band on a property, removing the requirement to pay Council Tax, and whether Bridgend County Borough Council has options, working with the VOA, or utilising its own resources to address the issue, if the owner has no recourse to public funds.
Date Decision Made	7 April 2025

103. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	7 April 2025

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#).

The meeting closed at 18:36.

Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	14 JULY 2025
Report Title:	COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER (CAT) UPDATE
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES
Responsible Officer:	LOUISE CONNOLLY CAT OFFICER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	This report has no effect on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.
Executive Summary:	<p>This report provides an update on the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) Programme, highlighting progress made. The programme has successfully supported community groups and local councils through the transfer of assets using both internal and external funding to maximise community benefit.</p> <p>These transfers have strengthened local ownership, empowered communities and helped protect valued facilities. The CAT Programme continues to play a key role in supporting local aspirations and delivering positive outcomes for residents across the borough.</p>

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of recent developments within the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) Programme. The report outlines the significant progress achieved to date and identifies some of the challenges encountered throughout the programme.

2. Background

2.1 CAT Policy

- 2.1.1 Bridgend County Borough Council's (BCBC's) current CAT programme was developed over a number of years following recognition dating back to 2014, of the deteriorating condition of BCBC sports and other facilities, due to budgetary pressures and resulting under-investment in assets. At the time a backlog of legacy repair needed in sports pavilions of circa £4 million had been identified.

- 2.1.2 CAT was recognised as a way forward to save facilities from closure and to prioritise needed investment in a manner that was aligned to long term savings.
- 2.1.3 The CAT Task & Finish Group chaired by the Deputy Leader recommended to Cabinet in a report approved on 23 July 2019 that the priority of assets for CAT should be refined so that savings under the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) could be prioritised accordingly:

Priority 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports Pavilions• Playing Fields (excluding school playing fields) and Bowling Greens• Community Centres
Priority 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playgrounds / Play Areas• Free Car Parks• Allotments
Priority 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Miscellaneous Assets

- 2.1.4 The Council's most recent CAT Policy was approved by Cabinet on 23 July 2019 and took account of the recommendations of the CAT Task & Finish Group.
- 2.1.5 The CAT Programme was subject to an internal audit in April 2025 and the programme achieved an outcome of "Substantial Assurance", which indicates that a sound system of governance, risk management and control exists, with internal controls operating effectively and being consistently applied to support the achievement of objectives in the area audited.
- 2.1.6 The internal audit identified two medium priority recommendations, as outlined below:
- a) The latest Welsh Government best practice guidance should be incorporated into the BCBC CAT Policy Document.
 - b) A formal monitoring framework should be developed for all assets that have been transferred to a third party.

2.2 Service Provision and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Savings

- 2.2.1 The MTFS includes £300,000 savings attributed to the Green Spaces Section (more commonly known as the "Parks Department") identified in the 2019-2020 budget from community asset transfers.

2.3 CAT Funding History

- 2.3.1 In 2014-15 Council approved capital funding of £1m to refurbish pavilions and support CATs.
- 2.3.2 The CAT Policy was revised in 2017 to include the following CAT Fund approval thresholds:
- Up to £50k – CAT Steering Group
 - Over £50k - Cabinet
- 2.3.3 In 2021, Cabinet approved new measures to support CAT:

- (1) Replenish the £1m CAT Capital Fund as required (and subject to the availability of finite capital resources)
- (2) Extend the CAT Revenue Fund via Earmarked Reserves, to include pitch and drainage surveys, equipment grants (up to £10k) and a one-off £5k grant for bowls clubs.

2.3.4 Earmarked Reserves were approved in 2020 to provide transitional support for bowls clubs (£50k) and pitch surveys (£25k).

2.3.5 The CAT capital fund was topped up by £500k in June 2022, a further £480k in July 2023 and £500k in November 2024, resulting in total capital allocated of £2.480 million since 2014-15. This is in addition to £495,488 of grant funding, outlined in paragraph 3.4 below.

2.4 CAT Resource Allocation

2.4.1 The Corporate Management Board (CMB) approved the following posts on 14 October 2020:

- CAT Officer (FT)
- CAT Assistant (PT)
- CAT Surveyor (FT)
- CAT Green Spaces Assistant (FT)

2.4.2 These posts were identified as essential to ensure the progression of multiple CATs and to achieve the financial savings under the MTFS.

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 Overall CAT Activity

3.1.1 A total of 50 self-management agreements (leases, tenancies at will and licenses) have been finalised under the CAT programme to date. These have allowed specific assets to be managed on a day-to-day basis and enhanced to ensure they are safeguarded for the benefit of future generations by community groups (see List of Completed CATs at **Appendix A**).

3.1.2 The majority of community groups, particularly sports clubs, are actively engaging with the CAT process and a further 58 enquiries and transfers are in progress.

3.1.3 The current CAT activity levels as of 24 June 2025 are summarised below:

Category	Lease Type	Playing Fields & Pavilions	Other Asset Groups
Completed CAT Transfers	Long Leases	19	5
Completed CAT Transfers	Freehold	0	1
Interim CAT Agreements	Short Term Leases	15	2

Interim CAT Agreements	Licence to Occupy/Tenancy at Will Etc.	7	1
CAT Transfers In Progress	Freehold	0	1
CAT Transfers Approved & In Progress	New	18	1
CAT Transfers Approved & In Progress	Conversion to full lease (from an interim agreement)	14	2
CAT Formal EOIs Received	Awaiting Approval	4	2
CAT Informal EOIs Received	Discussions Ongoing	13	3
Total		90	18

- 3.1.4 It should be noted that the performance indicators for the CAT Programme were updated for the 2025-26 financial year, to include the conversion of short-term leases to longer term leases, as these require ongoing involvement of the CAT Officer to secure a long term transfer with significant support provided to assist groups with their future plans and to ensure the sustainability of the groups and secure the future of the asset for the benefit of future wellbeing.
- 3.1.5 Two brief case studies of completed CATs in respect of Bryncethin RFC and Rest Bay Sports that outline the refurbishment of facilities, local re-generation and benefits to the wider community has been included at **Appendix B** for illustrative purposes.

3.2 CAT Funding Status

- 3.2.1 Cabinet and the CAT Steering Group has to date expended funding totalling £1,435,632.70 from the £2.48 million CAT Capital Fund and committed further funding of £492,211.36 reducing the current available CAT Capital Fund balance to £552,155.94.
- 3.2.2 It is recognised that there are limited funds and competing demands for the authority's capital programme. The risks associated with not investing further in the CAT capital fund are highlighted below:
- Future savings to offset general increased costs in the Parks department and / or creation of future MTFS savings will not be possible.
 - Clubs and organisations who have had their expectations raised regarding CAT and are fully expecting the much-needed investment in facilities, would be let down.
 - Facilities will gradually close as conditions deteriorate to beyond which they can safely be provided for public use.
 - Clubs and organisations who have already undertaken CAT transfer responsibilities, would question why they are continuing to carry the additional cost of running facilities whilst others do not, leading to a potential hand back of facilities and additional budget pressures.

3.3 CAT Resourcing – Staffing

- 3.3.1 As outlined in paragraph 2.4.1, 4 new posts in relation to CAT were approved in October 2020.

3.3.2 The requirements of the CAT Programme have been reviewed and it has been noted that the following support is required to move the programme forward in an efficient manner:

- CAT Officer
- Town and Community Council Liaison Officer
- CAT Green Spaces Assistant
- Temporary Locum Lawyer
- CAT Surveyor

3.3.3 The position of CAT Officer and CAT Green Spaces Assistant are funded via a recurring core budget on an ongoing basis.

3.3.4 A recruitment exercise for the position of Town and Community Council Liaison Officer on a two-year basis is currently underway, funded from an earmarked reserve.

3.3.5 It has been identified that there is sufficient revenue funding available via the CAT EMR to appoint a locum lawyer on a temporary basis, to enable the outstanding leases and legal issues to be addressed, in order to move the programme forward.

3.4 External Funding Opportunities

3.4.1 The development of assets that are in a poor condition that may attract inward investment from external sources not readily available to the Council is also a consideration of the CAT Programme, as this additional funding can help ensure that assets can be safeguarded for future generations.

3.4.2 The previous and current CAT Officers have continued to work with external organisations and other teams/colleagues within the Council to achieve the maximum benefits possible for the groups involved in CATs as well as the wider community as outlined below.

3.4.3 Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) – Park Tennis Courts

The LTA and BCBC worked in partnership to enable 9 tennis courts to be refurbished or built across the County Borough at an estimated cost of £519,469 with funding of £328,238 allocated by the LTA and balance of funding provided under the Council's CAT Fund.

Work on the tennis courts at Heol-y-Cyw, Caedu Park and Maesteg Welfare Park was completed in September / October 2023, and the new tennis courts at Griffin Park completed in June 2024.

3.4.4 Sports Wales Court Collaboration Project

In January 2024, five Expressions of interest were submitted to Sports Wales under the Court Collaboration scheme which seeks to refurbish existing facilities such as tennis and basketball courts that are in a poor condition. Two projects were subsequently approved for Maesteg Welfare Park (former tennis courts) and Caedu Park (former basketball court). Total funding of £167,250 was allocated by Sports Wales for these projects estimated to cost £223,000 with a contribution of 25% being

provided by BCBC. These two projects have been progressed and currently under construction.

Further opportunities have also been identified for the 2026-27 funding round and will be progressed in line with the funder's schedule.

3.4.5 Bryntirion Comprehensive School Project

The CAT Officer had worked with the Corporate Director for Education, Early Years & Young People, the Manager (sustainable communities for learning) and the members of the School Modernisation Board to prepare funding applications to the Cymru Football Foundation and Sport Wales for the replacement of an existing artificial pitch at Bryntirion Comprehensive School which was deemed as end of life. If successful, the project will bring £560,000 of external capital funding into the authority and encompass a new pitch and floodlights for the school, with booking available for clubs in the community via a system managed by the school.

3.4.6 Shared Prosperity Fund Projects

The CAT Officer has worked closely with the Resilient Communities, Regeneration and Porthcawl Regeneration teams to identify opportunities for both BCBC and the community groups/Town and Community Councils to benefit from. Some of the projects explored and commissioned by BCBC directly are outlined in the table below:

Project	Project Outline	Value
Aberfields All-Weather Pitch	Proposals for an all-weather pitch at Aberfields (the Planka) via the Community Feasibility Fund.	£20,000
Bridgend Energy Efficiency Surveys	Energy Efficiency Surveys (EES) for 40 community centres and sports pavilions.	£40,000
Sports and Community Facilities Improvement Project	The commissioning of the Sports and Community Facilities Improvement Project enabled building condition surveys, suitability assessments and action plans to be produced in relation to 15 locations across the borough.	£40,000
Newbridge North Project	An application was made to the community feasibility fund for feasibility study to consider a potential dual use pavilion, café and toilets & usage of a disused bowls green in the North area of Newbridge fields.	£35,000
Military Hub Design & Feasibility	An EOI was approved by the Grant Approval Panel for the consideration of a replacement facility for the Sea Cadets, Army Cadets and Air Cadets in Porthcawl.	£18,500

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

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

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

- 5.1 The activity of the CAT Programme assists in the achievement of the following corporate wellbeing objectives both directly and indirectly:

- **A Prosperous Place with thriving communities** – Protecting our landscapes and open spaces and providing opportunities for culture, leisure and play.
- **Creating modern, seamless public services** – Improving how we engage with people, listening to views, acting on them, modernising, and becoming a more efficient council, as well as improving partnership working with partners, the third sector and Town and Community Councils.

- 5.2 The activity of the CAT Programme assists in the achievement of the following Well-Being of future Generations (Wales) Act objectives, both directly and indirectly:

- A prosperous Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- Cohesive communities

- 5.3 It should be noted that the CAT Programme also aligns with multiple objectives under the following policies and procedures:

- The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-Being Plan (2023 -2028)
- Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 - Play Sufficiency Duty
- Climate Change Response Programme

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 6.1 The CAT programme enables the community to take ownership of their facilities, including existing buildings that may be performing poorly (in terms of both thermally poor building fabric and inefficient plant and machinery) to be refurbished or replaced with new solutions incorporating energy-smart designs and space efficient building. The programme will ultimately be of benefit to the climate change agenda by saving energy and reducing the carbon footprint.
- 6.2 There is also potential to carry out additional, renewable energy, works to pavilions in conjunction with the community groups involved in the transfers, both utilising their own expertise and that of external specialists (such as Ynni Cymru and EGIN).

- 6.3 All CATs are subject to consideration by the Countryside Manager and where the presence of bats or other wildlife is identified, suitable assessments and surveys are undertaken to ensure controls are put in place to protect the ecology of the green space areas involved.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

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

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 Cabinet and the CAT Steering Group has to date expended funding totalling £1,435,632.70 from the £2.48 million CAT Capital Fund and committed further funding of £492,211.36 reducing the current available CAT Capital Fund balance to £552,155.94.
- 8.2 Based on anticipated funding applications of £921,650, demand on the CAT capital budget could exceed the available funding by £369,494. Consequently, unless further funding is awarded, some CATs may not be able to be progressed.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 Members of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:-
- Note the content of this report relating to the progress being made by the CAT Programme and provide comments on the work undertaken to date and the way forward outlined herein.
 - Note that the leveraging of external funding to progress with projects both independently of the community groups and in partnership should be continued.

Background documents

None

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY OF COMPLETED COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS (CATS)
SELF-MANAGEMENT: TRANSFERS UNDER LONG-TERM LEASE, SHORT-TERM LEASE, FREEHOLD, TENANCY AT WILL & LICENCES TO OCCUPY

Asset	Community Group	Date Finalised	Areas Transferred
Llys Gwyn Play Park	Coity Higher Community Council	17/06/25	Play Area
Heol-Y-Cyw Playing Fields	Heol Y Cyw RFC	29/04/25	2x Rugby Pitches
Evanstown Welfare Park	Gilfach Goch Bowls Club	01/02/25	Bowling Green x1
Coytrahen (Philip Squire) Community Centre	Coytrahen Community Association	24/05/24	Community Centre x1
Pyle Swimming Pool (Land to Rear)	Pyle Community Council	13/03/24	Green Space
Garth Park	Maesteg Celtic Sports Facilities Ltd.	01/02/24	Rugby Pitch x2 & Cricket Ground x1
Llangynwyd Playing Fields	Llangynwyd Rangers	24/01/24	Football Pitch x2
Llangynwyd Playing Fields	Llangynwyd Rangers	24/01/24	Pavilion x1
Cae Gof Playing Fields	Cefn Cribwr Athletic Club (Rugby & Bowls Clubs)	25/10/23	Rugby Pitches x2, Bowls Pavilion x1 & Disused Tennis Courts x1
Bridgend Municipal Bowls Club	Bridgend Municipal Bowls Club	18/10/23	Bowling Green x2 & Pavilion x1
Bettws Playing Fields	Bettws FC	02/08/23	Football Pitch x2
Croft Goch	Kenfig Hill RFC	24/05/23	Rugby Pitch x1
Evanstown Welfare Park	Gilfach Goch RFC	15/03/23	Rugby Pitch x1 & Training Area x1
Blandy Park Playing Fields	Garw SBGC	29/07/22	Pavilion x1 & Football Pitch x1
Griffin Park (North)	Porthcawl Town Council	07/07/22	Bowling Green x1, Pavilion x1, Park x1 & Playground x1
South Parade Playing Fields	Maesteg Harlequins	30/05/22	Rugby Pitch x3
Croft Goch	Kenfig Hill RFC	31/03/22	Football Training Area x1
Coychurch Playground	Coychurch Lower Community Council	18/03/22	Play Area x1
Tudor Park Playing Fields	Maesteg Park AFC	28/01/22	Football Pitch x1

Asset	Community Group	Date Finalised	Areas Transferred
Cwm Garw Playing Fields	Carn Rovers	10/09/21	Pavilion x1 & Football Pitch x1
Pen y Fai Playing Fields & Kickabout Area	Newcastle Community Council	02/08/21	Green Space
Rosemount Gardens	Pyle Community Council	25/06/21	Sitting out area
Pencoed Recreation Ground	Pencoed Town Council	28/05/21	Rugby Pitch x1 & Football Pitch x1
Woodlands Park, Pencoed	Pencoed Athletic BGC	28/05/21	Pavilion x1 & Football Pitch x4
Waun Cimla Play Park	Pyle Community Council	18/03/21	Green Space
Rest Bay Playing Fields	Rest Bay Sports (FC Porthcawl & Porthcawl Utd.)	04/12/20	Football Pitches x2, Dual Use Pitch x1 & Pavilion x1
Caedu / Ogmore Park	Ogmore Vale Bowling Club	13/11/20	Bowling Green x1
Waunbont Bowls Green	Pontycymmer Bowling club	13/11/20	Bowling Green x1
Waunllwyd Bowls Green & Pavilion	Wyndham Bowling Club	13/11/20	Bowling Green x1
Waunllwyd Pavilion	Wyndham Bowling Club	13/11/20	Pavilion x1
Maesteg Welfare Park	Maesteg Welfare Bowls Club	06/11/20	Bowling Green x1
Cae Gof Bowling Green	Cefn Cribwr Athletic Club (Rugby & Bowls Clubs)	01/11/20	Bowling Green x1
Litchard Park Playground	Coity Higher Community Council	10/07/20	Play Area x1
Pencoed Recreation Ground	Pencoed Town Council	11/03/20	Pavilion x1
Caerau Welfare Park	Caerau Welfare Bowling Club & Caerau Bowling Club	27/02/20	Bowling Green x1
Caerau Community Centre	Caerau Development Trust	18/02/20	Community Centre x1
Griffin Park	Porthcawl Town Council	15/01/20	Public Toilets
North Cornelly Community Centre	Cornelly Community Council	29/03/19	Community Centre x1
John Street, Porthcawl	Porthcawl Town Council	14/03/19	Public Toilets
Pencoed Recreation Ground	Pencoed Town Council	14/02/19	Former Tennis Courts (Skatepark & MUGA)
Coed Bach Playground	Pencoed Town Council	07/12/18	Play Area x1
Great Western Avenue Playing Fields	Coity Higher Community Council	03/07/18	Play Area x1

Asset	Community Group	Date Finalised	Areas Transferred
Bryntirion & Laleston Playing Fields	Laleston Community Council	01/07/18	Community Centre x1
Bryncethin Playing Fields	Bryncethin RFC	09/05/18	Pavilion x1 & Rugby Pitch x1
Pandy Crescent, Pyle	Pyle Community Council	08/12/17	Play Area x1
Brackla Community Centre	Brackla Community Council	18/11/15	Community Centre x1
Kenfig Hill & Pyle Bowls Club	Kenfig Hill & Pyle Bowls Club	23/07/07	Bowling Green & Pavilion (Bowls)
Wildmill Community Centre	Wildmill Community Life Centre Ltd	04/07/06	Community Centre x1
Pencoed Bowling Green	Pencoed Bowls Club	03/09/01	Bowling Green x1
Pencoed Bowling Green	Pencoed Bowls Club	03/09/01	Pavilion x1

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Bridgend County Borough Council Case Studies : Completed CATs



BRYNCETHIN PLAYING FIELD & PAVILION (BRYNCETHIN RFC)

Bryncethin RFC was founded in 1890 and has senior, youth, under-16, three mini teams, a ladies touch rugby team and a mixed age, sex and ability team. The club is a member of the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) and presently plays in the WRU Division Five South Central.



Old Pavilion

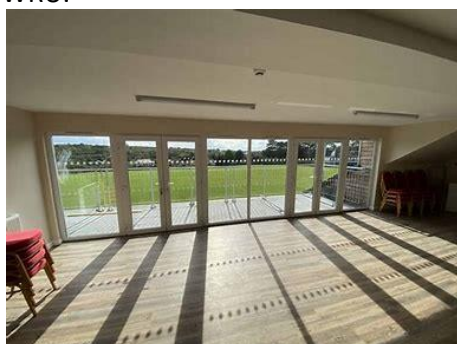
The Club was awarded a 35-year lease in October 2018. Bryncethin RFC has transformed the dilapidated pavilion at Bryncethin Playing Fields into a community hub. The work included an extension, an additional second storey and car park. The building element of the project cost £550K. With BCBC providing funding of £110K from the CAT Fund and £56K via S.106 monies. The balance of funding was received from Welsh Government (Community Facilities Programme and Rural Development Fund), the National Lottery (People and Places Fund) and the WRU.



Refurbished Pavilion



Building Works in progress



The project was designed by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Phil Jones, a retired chartered surveyor. The work on the pavilion was completed in June 2019 with an official opening on 19 July 2019.



Bridgend County Borough Council

Case Studies : Completed CATs



REST BAY PLAYING FIELDS & PAVILION (REST BAY SPORTS)

Rest Bay Sports (RBS) is formed from two clubs FC Porthcawl and Porthcawl United FC that share the facilities at Rest Bay Playing Fields, Porthcawl. FC Porthcawl is a relatively new team that was only formed in 2016 with the senior team playing in the Port Talbot & District Premier League. Porthcawl United FC has junior and youth teams that are made up of varying age groups with membership of more than 300 and consisting of both girls and boys.



Old Pavilion

RBS was awarded a 5-year lease by the Council in December 2020 and have transformed the outdated pavilion at Rest Bay Playing Fields into a sports / community hub. The work included adding an additional second storey to the building. The building works commenced in February 2020 and are due to be completed in September 2020 when an official opening is planned.

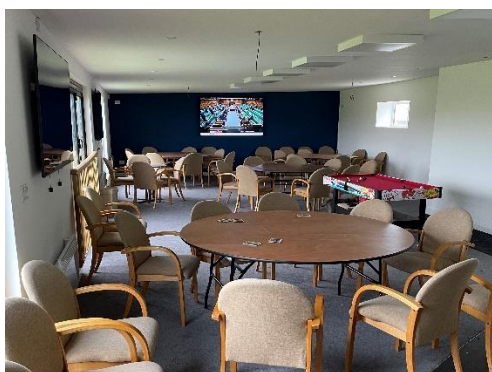


Refurbished Pavilion



Building Works in progress

Building work undertaken have been valued at approximately £120K which includes in kind labour and donations of materials with BCBC providing funding of £45,220 for building works and a further £10,000 towards the cost of pitch maintenance equipment from the CAT Fund.



Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	14 JULY 2025
Report Title:	PORTHCAWL REGENERATION
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES
Responsible Officer:	JACOB LAWRENCE PORTHCAWL REGENERATION PROGRAMME MANAGER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	The Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme (PWRS) is a strategically important regeneration opportunity that will deliver upon the policies within the Local Development Plan.
Executive Summary:	The report provides an update on the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Programme with particular focus on the recent consultation carried out in connection with the proposed masterplan.

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the Porthcawl Regeneration Programme with particular focus on the work that has been progressed over the last 2 years since a report was presented to Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 in February 2023. The report provides a summary of the consultation responses received in connection with the proposed masterplan and key areas of evolution to the masterplan that are being explored in response to this consultation. Consideration and recommendations from scrutiny are sought in order to further guide the masterplan and regeneration within the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Area (PWRA) moving forwards.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Porthcawl Regeneration Programme incorporates a wide range of past, current and future planned projects of various scales. Where appropriate projects are subject to non-statutory and statutory consultations.

2.2 Reports providing updates and seeking approval are provided to Cabinet and Council at the appropriate times. Notable reports to Cabinet and Council in recent times, in addition to a 2023 report to Scrutiny, are listed below. This suite of reports demonstrates the governance and decision making process that has been applied to projects that form part of the programme.

- 15 September 2020 Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme Salt Lake and Sandy Bay Sites
- 15 December 2020 Report to Cabinet: Cosy Corner
- 19 January 2021 Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme Sale of the Food Store Site
- 20 July 2021 Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme Proposed Compulsory Purchase Order
- 19 October 2021 Report to Cabinet: Cosy Corner Tourism Attractor Destination Funding
- 8 March 2022 Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Placemaking Strategy and Programme Update
- 14 June 2022 Report to Cabinet: Levelling Up Fund Priority Projects
- 20 July 2022 Report to Council: Report of The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change Capital Programme Outturn 2021-22 and Quarter 1 Update 2022-23
- 18 October 2022 Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration: Appropriation of Land at Griffin Park and Sandy Bay
- 19 October 2022 Report to Council: Replacement Local Development Plan Submission Document
- 13 December 2022 confidential report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Regeneration
- 8 February 2023 Report to Council: Porthcawl Metrolink
- 20 February 2023 Report to Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3: Porthcawl Regeneration

- 18 July 2023 Confidential Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Regeneration
- 19 November 2024 Confidential Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Update
- 4 February 2025 Report to Cabinet: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Compulsory Purchase Order General Vesting Declaration
- 11 March 2025 Confidential Report to Cabinet: Owners Agreement for Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration and Porthcawl Pavilion Contract
- 12 March 2025 Report to Council: Capital Support For The Grand Pavilion Porthcawl Project

2.3 In addition to the aforementioned Cabinet and Council reports Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) local members are regularly briefed on projects that form part of the Porthcawl Regeneration Programme in order to ensure they are fully informed in relation to progress and key updates. This allows for local members to provide up to date and accurate information to their constituents. There is also an internal BCBC Officer level programme board that provides governance and oversight prior to any decisions being taken to Cabinet or Full Council.

2.4 Whilst comprising various individual projects of varying scales the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Area (PWRA) collectively seeks to deliver large scale transformational regeneration of the Porthcawl Waterfront. As outlined through the Local Development Plan, the future development of the PWRA is proposed to include provision of up to circa 1,100 homes, new open space, transport infrastructure, community facilities, commercial / leisure development and a new school. Whilst a number of individual projects will continue to be delivered by BCBC, such as previous projects including the improvements to Eastern Promenade and Western Breakwater and Cosy Corner in addition to the current Grand Pavilion project, a substantial amount of this large scale development is expected to be delivered by third party developers. Such developers will be appointed following compliant public sector disposal and procurement processes that will take place in due course. Cabinet and, where appropriate, Council approval will be sought prior to any such procurement or disposal taking place and any such future Cabinet decisions will be able to be called in by Scrutiny as appropriate.

3. Current situation/proposal

Overall Programme Update

- 3.1 The Porthcawl Placemaking Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2022 and provides a framework to guide high quality mixed use development across the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Area (PWRA). The Porthcawl Placemaking Strategy builds upon the previous Local Development Plan (LDP) and the newly adopted Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) allocation for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Area.
- 3.2 The Placemaking Strategy was formulated in order to ensure that the future development of the PWRA was strategically aligned with the Council's aspirations to deliver development of the highest quality and responds to the wide-ranging needs of both the current community and future generations
- 3.3 Whilst the Placemaking Strategy provides a framework for future phases of development and informed the next steps to be taken in the programme, significant progress has already been made in relation to several key projects that represent the first phases of the regeneration and are intended to act as catalyst for future phases. Specific details in connection with of each of these recently completed and ongoing projects were provided within the February 2023 report to Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3. Since this report was produced further progress has been made as outlined within the table below.

Project / Workstream	Summary of Current Status
Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)	<p>On 19 December 2023 the Welsh Ministers confirmed The Bridgend County Borough Council (Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.</p> <p>Cabinet approval to make the General Vesting Declaration was given in February 2025.</p>
Appropriation of land at Griffin Park and Sandy Bay	Legal process now complete following requisite Cabinet approval and advertisement of intended appropriation.

Placemaking strategy	Approved by Cabinet and provides baseline to inform masterplan. The masterplan seeks to build on and improve on the parameters set out within the placemaking strategy.
Open Space Concept Design	Work complete and used to inform Masterplan.
Masterplan	<p>Being developed jointly between BCBC and Welsh Government (WG).</p> <p>Public consultation carried out in February 2025. Masterplan currently subject to evolution and refinement in response to consultation.</p> <p>Updated Masterplan to be the subject of Pre Application Consultation (PAC) at the end of 2025 prior to submission of a planning application late 2025 / early 2026.</p>
Eastern Promenade and Western Breakwater sea defences	Works completed Summer of 2023
Cosy Corner	<p>Main build completed and all units now occupied.</p> <p>New play equipment installed in April 2025.</p>
Food retail store	<p>Opened July 2023.</p> <p>All associated pedestrian and active travel improvements including new crossings now complete.</p>
Metro link	Construction completed with the facility opened in November 2024.
Grand Pavilion (GP)	Initial strip out / enabling works and paint removal now complete. Main works contract awarded in May 2025.

Partnership with Welsh Government (WG)	<p>WG acquired fun fair and beach land in March 2023 and Owners Agreement (OA) novated / varied across to include WG.</p> <p>OA extended across full extent of PWRA in March 2025 – this agreement has secured substantial additional funds for both PWRA and GP.</p>
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- 3.4 The partnership with Welsh Government (WG) and the new Owners Agreement (OA) that is now in place between the parties, provides a platform for BCBC and WG to work together with their respective roles as public sector bodies ensuring the regeneration plans can evolve to represent the optimum outcome for current and future generations. This partnership allows the PWRA to be looked at in a more holistic way with significant weight being able to be attributed to social value as well as still balancing the Local Government Act section 123 duty to obtain best value for any land disposal. The parties also have an obligation to ensure plans are credible, deliverable and policy compliant.
- 3.5 Whilst the detailed terms of the BCBC / WG OA remain exempt from publication a March 2025 report to Council made reference to the previous approvals from Cabinet in connection with the OA as follows:
- In December 2022 prior authorisation was given by Cabinet to allow a deed of variation and deed of novation to the original OA upon WG purchasing the land previously owned by the Evans family and subject to the original OA. Following the WG purchase in March 2023 this resulted in WG being party to the Owners Agreement as varied alongside BCBC.
 - In July 2024 Cabinet resolved to delegate authority to the Corporate Director Communities in consultation with the Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy, to finalise the contractual terms, to amend the terms of the Owners Agreement and to agree the amended terms with Welsh Government; also to formally enter into a new Owners Agreement with Welsh Government and to execute all necessary documentation to create the new Owners Agreement.

- Further approvals were also given by Cabinet in November 2024 and March 2025 in relation to the detailed terms of the new OA and use of monies secured via the new OA.
- The new OA applies to the full extent of the PWRA and includes a shared title arrangement for Salt Lake and Hillsboro North resulting, in BCBC and WG jointly owning this land.
- On completion of the OA payment of £3,867,125 was made to BCBC from Welsh Government and in line with the March 2025 Council approval these monies are being deployed to support the Grand Pavilion project.
- The new OA and resultant ability to work alongside Welsh Government has enabled significant progress to be made on the regeneration programme and enables a joint approach to delivery and has placemaking and enhancement of the Porthcawl community as a driver as opposed to a purely commercial and market driven approach.

3.6 It is within the context of the above that the Porthcawl Waterfront Masterplan has been developed and progressed. An overarching objective of the Masterplan is to build on the positive progress and platform provided by the Placemaking Strategy with a view to ensuring the now sole public sector ownership results in an optimally balanced scheme that delivers transformational regeneration that benefits current and future generations of locals and visitors alike.

Porthcawl Waterfront Masterplan

3.7 As outlined previously, the Porthcawl Placemaking Strategy was prepared in order to ensure that the future development of the PWRA is aligned with the Council's aspirations to deliver development of the highest quality and responds to the wide-ranging needs of both the current community and future generations. Since this work was completed and following the WG acquisition of the fun fair site and resultant BCBC/ WG partnership that has been established, a Masterplan and Design Code was jointly commissioned. The principal purpose of the work is to build on the success of the placemaking strategy and capture the parties shared objectives for the development. The Masterplan and Design Code will also provide a platform to progress a planning application and subsequent disposal of the site to developers in a series of coordinated phases. By having a Masterplan and Design Code in place BCBC and WG will be able to ensure a high degree of control with respect to the nature, scale and quality of development that is brought forward throughout the lifecycle of the planned regeneration.

- 3.8 The first stage of the Masterplan work has involved looking back again at the Placemaking Strategy consultation responses with a view to identify areas where the new ownership position allows a revised approach to areas such as housing numbers / typologies, open space, leisure /commercial opportunities and parking provision. In summary for the Placemaking Strategy the consultation identified the following key issues / themes:
- Concern over the amount of residential development.
 - Need for appropriate car parking provision.
 - Desire for provision of leisure facilities.
 - Desire for provision of community facilities.
 - Concerned over the extent of public open space.
- 3.9 Whilst the above matters represent some of the core areas of concern expressed by the public to the initial proposals presented at public consultation stage it was equally evident that the following proposals within the Placemaking Strategy framework for development were either fully or broadly supported:
- Pedestrianisation of Eastern Promenade.
 - Extension of Dock Street with associated piazza.
 - Delivery of housing to meet local needs.
 - Extension of Griffin Park.
 - Construction of a multi storey car park.
- 3.10 In response to the Placemaking Strategy consultation officers worked to investigate what potential amendments to the indicative approach identified at consultation stage could be explored. These amendments were focused on ensuring the nature and scale of development identified within the draft placemaking strategy responded to the concerns and aspirations of the public. When considering any such potential amendments it is incumbent on the Council to ensure the framework for development identified within the placemaking strategy remained in accord with matters such as planning policy and the need for any strategy to be credible, deliverable and financially viable. Within this context the following core amendments were made to the indicative mix and distribution of uses identified within the PWRA.
- Creation of a circa 200m long and 70m wide linear park along the Salt Lake seafront.

- Enlarged area of open space adjoining the pedestrianised extension to Dock Street and adjoining piazza.
 - Reduction in the area of land on Salt Lake earmarked for housing by approximately a third.
- 3.11 The aforementioned amendments to the approach to the nature and extent of various uses within the placemaking strategy represented a significant shift in response to the key aspirations of the public as conveyed through the consultation process. With particular reference to the linear park proposed along the Salt Lake seafront, this area is capable of accommodating a variety of recreational, leisure and community uses for both current and future generations. It is also pertinent to note that the Placemaking Strategy framework for development was predicated on up to 1,100 homes with this being a significant reduction compared to the circa 1,500 homes that were allocated within the 2007 Supplementary Planning Guidance that previously applied to the PWRA.
- 3.12 It is important to recognise that at the point in time at which the Placemaking Strategy was developed the land at Sandy Bay and Coney Beach was subject to an OA between BCBC and the Evans family. Given this OA included a private landowner it had commercial based objectives that had a bearing on the form of development that could be considered viable and deliverable across this part of the PWRA. Now the full extent of the PWRA is bound by the BCBC / WG OA there is an ability to take a more holistic view and consider further evolution to the framework for development established via the Masterplan. This approach was not possible to the same extent at the Placemaking Strategy stage.
- 3.13 Following a review of the Placemaking Strategy consultation and taking the Placemaking Strategy as approved as a starting point the consultation stage Masterplan included several areas of further evolution and enhancement compared to the Placemaking Strategy with the principal areas of change being as follows:
- Increased open space provision across the PWRA including the introduction of a substantial area of public realm at the southern part of the former Sandy Bay Caravan park site.
 - Additional surface parking on the Coney Beach site to the north of the planned access road. This additional surface provision obviates need for a Multi Storey Car Park.
 - Relocated access road with the alignment now to the south of the former Monster Park (This change responds to previous consultation responses from Mackworth Road residents and has the added benefit of preserving more trees).

- Introduction of more diverse leisure opportunities of various scales across the PWRA.
- Introduction of a landscaped buffer along the eastern edge of Sandy Bay.
- Introduction of a motorhome area.
- Enlarged school site that extends closer to the beach.
- Additional / improved linkages between Eastern Promenade and the Town Centre.

Masterplan Consultation

- 3.14 The Masterplan has been subject to both stakeholder engagement and full public consultation with a summary of each stage provided under separate headings below.

Stakeholder Engagement Stage

- 3.15 Early engagement with key stakeholders on the Emerging Vision Priorities took place between 24 September 2024 and 3 December 2024 and fed into the designs that were consulted on during the Masterplan consultation. Through a combination of a workshops and a survey, local stakeholders and community groups were asked to provide their thoughts on the priorities, key themes and improvements they would like to see within the Masterplan. A link to the online feedback survey was provided to all attendees with the link also circulated to a wider number of local groups. This feedback survey was designed to yield further engagement and insight into the key drivers for the local community prior to the Masterplan being developed and presented at public consultation stage. A total of 38 responses to the online feedback forms were received. A presentation was also given to Porthcawl Town Council on 21 October 2024 and feedback was gathered during the course of a subsequent discussion.
- 3.16 In summary the key issues and themes that were most commonly raised throughout the stakeholder engagement stage and online feedback form responses were as follows:
- A strong preference emerged for retaining and expanding public open spaces.
 - Attendees supported the potential provision of additional open space to the south of Sandy Bay and ensuring public spaces are well-connected rather than scattered.
 - The importance of active and engaging spaces, including sports areas, a bohemian-style hub, and usable public art, was also emphasised.

- Concerns were raised about ensuring safe, accessible areas for children.
- Housing and community needs were a major focus, with discussions around the number of homes, affordability, and sustainability.
- There was broad agreement that development should prioritise local needs rather than being profit-driven.
- Concerns were expressed over potential proliferation of second homes and emphasised the need for a balanced housing mix, including extra care schemes for older residents and homes suitable for young locals.
- The consensus among stakeholders was that the development should integrate well with existing community infrastructure, ensuring accessibility to schools, healthcare, and local shops.
- Ensuring a high level of environmental and coastal resilience was seen as a critical issue moving forward.
- Transport and connectivity featured prominently in discussions, with a focus on parking provision, the future role of the Metro system, and the need for improved cycling and pedestrian routes.
- The importance of practical parking solutions—particularly for visitors and tourists—was emphasised.
- Tourism and economic development were seen as key drivers for the town’s success, with strong support for enhanced motorhome provisions and visitor accommodation to boost the local economy.
- There was also interest in developing a water sports and wellness hub to position Porthcawl as a “surf town.”
- Concerns were raised about ensuring tourism continues throughout the regeneration phases, with a request for a structured phasing plan to avoid disruption.

Public Consultation

3.17 The non-statutory consultation on the Masterplan and Design Code took place between Monday 13 January and Friday 28 February 2025. This section provides a summary of the communications and engagement activity during the consultation. Prior to the event a variety of consultation tools and communication channels were used to encourage participation in the consultation from stakeholders and the local community which are set out below.

- Dedicated project website
- Invitation email to local stakeholders
- Press release
- Posters distributed to local businesses and schools

- 3.18 A full day public exhibition was held in the Hi Tide from 9am to 730pm on 3 February 2025. In total 923 members of the public attended.
- 3.19 Following the exhibition the consultation boards were made available on the dedicated project website in addition to physical copies of the boards being displayed on John Street and outside the Hi Tide.
- 3.20 Feedback forms were available at the event with an electronic version available online from 3 February until 28 February 2025. 235 online responses were received with a further 73 hard copies of the feedback form submitted via the freepost address.
- 3.21 Responses via email and post were also able to be made and in total 108 emails were received with no postal submissions other than the 73 feedback forms noted above.
- 3.22 In summary the key issues / themes that were most commonly raised throughout the public exhibition and within written feedback submitted were as follows:

Open space, green infrastructure, and play facilities

- Positive feedback on the amount of open space and distribution of play facilities, with acknowledgment that prior engagement feedback had been considered.
- Support for a continuous promenade to enhance active travel and walkability.
- Integration of the dunes into a well-being and nature-focused offer.
- Expansion of green space through the centre of the site was welcomed.

Flood defences and coastal access

- General support for modernising the flood defences and the improved beach access they would provide.
- Recognition of the importance of maintaining RNLI access to the beach via Mackworth Road.

Housing and density

- Concerns over the proposed 1,100 homes, particularly regarding high densities on Salt Lake.
- Preference to reduce the number of new homes on Sandy Bay.

- Building heights of up to six storeys on Salt Lake were considered excessive by many.
- 50% affordable housing was generally supported, with a preference for shared ownership and housing for over-55s, but less support for social rent.
- Strong preference for a mix of homes, including family-sized properties. Some feedback suggested that elevations appeared too high-density, and more detached properties would be welcomed.

Connectivity and transport

- Strong support for improved links to the town centre.
- Concerns over access to Sandy Bay from New Road, with calls to limit it.
- General support for a seasonal park and ride strategy, utilising edge-of-town parking areas.
- Loss of public parking spaces raised concerns, particularly in relation to key events.

Public realm, movement, and infrastructure

- Support for removing vehicle access to the Eastern Prom, with an emphasis on creating a pedestrian-friendly environment.
- Mixed opinions on architectural styles: Some support for contemporary designs from younger participants, but a general desire to align new buildings with the existing vernacular and character.
- Concerns over the location of the skate park and pump track, with suggestions they may become too sandy and should be relocated.
- Wind effects on residential properties, particularly in Sandy Bay, were raised as a concern.
- Queries on the movement of dunes and the potential impact of sand on the wider Sandy Bay scheme.
- Drainage limitations and foul network capacity were highlighted as issues.
- Concerns over contamination of the ground on both Salt Lake and Sandy Bay.

Leisure, tourism, and community facilities

- Extensive opportunities for seasonal events and pop-up uses were widely supported, particularly on the Eastern Prom.
- Inclusion of space for a hotel and community uses in Salt Lake Harbour was welcomed.

- Queries about the future of holiday homes and concerns about the loss of space for mobile homes during key events.
- Requirement for a leisure centre was raised, with recognition that this could be market-tested as part of Savills' exercise.
- Concerns over the future of Newton Primary School, with residents seeking clarity on how the land could be utilised.

Roads and site layout

- Concerns over the spine road going through Monster Park, with suggestions to merge it with the High Tide access to minimise loss of trees and habitat.
- Support for including parking in a podium arrangement.

Health and essential services

- Access to health services was a major concern, with frustration directed at the Health Board.
- Calls for clarity on how the development would accommodate healthcare needs.

Environmental considerations

- Ecological impacts of the development were raised, particularly regarding bird species.
- Queries about the potential to fill the 'bowl' with site-won materials.
- While the loss of the bowl did not feature strongly, its use as a running resource was noted, prompting consideration of how to integrate this narrative into future plans.

3.23 At the time of this report work is being progress to amend the masterplan in a manner which responds to the above matters alongside the completion of further technical work. When considering any amendments it is incumbent on BCBC and WG to ensure the plan remains in line with prevailing planning policies. As part of this work the masterplan must remain financially viable as otherwise it will not be capable of being delivered and the opportunity to bring forward transformational regeneration for current and future generations will not be realised. In summary the key areas where amendments are being considered relate to the following

- Reduction in housing numbers whilst still remaining in accord with the prevailing planning policy position
- Review of building heights

- Review and refinement of open spaces- ensuring the right balance between, quality, scale, character usability, connectivity and quantity of spaces. Long term management / maintenance of spaces also must be considered to ensure they are fit for purpose for current and future generations.
- Expression of interest / soft marketing to inform leisure elements – the findings of this will directly inform the leisure elements of the masterplan

3.24 The next iteration of the Masterplan will be subject to consultation at Pre Application Consultation (PAC) stage with the findings of this due to be reported to Cabinet prior to the submission of a planning application. Further detail regarding the anticipated next steps and headline programme is included under separate heading below.

Anticipated next steps and headline programme

3.25 The PWRA project is at a pivotal stage and following feedback from Scrutiny it is intended that a revised Masterplan is prepared. This Masterplan will be supported by a detailed design code that will together form the mainstay of an outline planning application. Subject to the outcome of any planning application it is anticipated that the first phase of development will be marketed during the summer of 2026 with construction to commence onsite following sale to a housebuilder and reserved matters approval being obtained. Throughout this period there are various other workstreams and milestones as outlined within the headline programme below. This programme will continue to be developed in partnership with WG and refined over the coming months. As such the programme remains dynamic in nature so whilst headline dates are identified these may be subject to change.

Key Date	Milestone
November 2025	Commencement of Pre Application Consultation (PAC)
December 2025 / January 2026	Outline Planning Application Submission Submission of prior notification application for demolition of fun fair site buildings
March 2026	Fun fair closure and WG take Vacant Possession of funfair site

March 2026 – August 2026	Pre demolition intrusive surveys within fun fair site
June 2026	Anticipated Planning application determination
June 2026- October 2026	Procurement of demolition contractor and award of contract subject to planning / prior notification outcome
July 2026	Marketing of first phase for disposal
November 2026 – March 2027	Estimated duration of fun fair site building demolition (subject to outcome of planning application/ prior notification of demolition application)
November 2026- March 2027	Preferred bidder (following site marketing) to obtain reserved matters approval)
March 2027 Onwards	Construction of first phase of development commences

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

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

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

- 5.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment based on the 5 ways of working has been considered and there are no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.
- Long term - The Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration scheme is a strategic development scheme which has the potential to add vibrancy to the locality

through the provision of new housing, leisure and tourism opportunities, as well as retail and commercial developments; set within appropriate open space, parking and public realm.

- Prevention – the current Waterfront sites are largely unoccupied and under-utilised and detract from the attractiveness of the area.
- Integration – the Waterfront development will integrate with and access the existing town centre, sea front and leisure developments.
- Collaboration – the Council will continue to collaborate with residents, visitors and end users of this project to ensure successful and sustainable development and outcomes.
- Involvement – ongoing engagement with the community will be an important facet of this project.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 Taking action to support decarbonisation is critically important in order to protect and sustain the environment over the long term. The delivery of regeneration of a previously developed PWRA site within existing settlement boundaries represents an inherently sustainable form of development which results in reduced carbon emissions compared to the development of out of settlement greenfield land.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

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

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report which provides an overview and update to Scrutiny.
- 8.2 Whilst the masterplan includes a significant number of large scale individual and interlinked development projects, its preparation and publication does not constitute approval of any additional capital or revenue expenditure and therefore there are no direct financial implications arising for BCBC from this report. All financial considerations will need to be considered on a project by project basis and further reports will be taken to Cabinet and/or Council as appropriate. Given the nature and scale of projects that form part of the overall regeneration programme it is important to recognise that their delivery will be reliant on a combination of external grant funding and capital receipts generated by the Council when disposing of parts of the site.

9. Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that the Committee note and provide feedback on the following ;

- The important background work and governance to this programme.
- The evolution of the Masterplan in relation to the significant consultation and the key areas where potential amendments are being explored.
- Note the forward programme, and the opportunity for further engagement and information relating to the regeneration.

Background Documents:

None

Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	14 JULY 2025
Report Title:	CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPION NOMINATION
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL & REGULATORY SERVICES, HR & CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	MERYL LAWRENCE SENIOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER – SCRUTINY
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	The work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and monitoring of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend. Any changes to the structure of the Scrutiny Committees and the procedures relating to them would require the Bridgend County Borough Council Constitution to be updated.
Executive Summary:	<p>Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards care experienced children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004.</p> <p>The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'Corporate Parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for care experienced children and young people in Bridgend.</p> <p>In order to further develop and enhance the Council's Corporate Parenting role with its partners, a Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting comprising all Members of Cabinet was established by Cabinet on 4 November 2008.</p> <p>The Committee is being asked to nominate one Member as its Corporate Parenting Champion to represent the Committee as an invitee at meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.</p>

1. Purpose of Report

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

2. Background

- 2.1 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards care experienced children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'Corporate Parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for care experienced children and young people in Bridgend.
- 2.2 In order to further develop and enhance the Council's Corporate Parenting role with its partners, a Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting comprising all Members of Cabinet was established by Cabinet on 4 November 2008.
- 2.3 The inaugural meeting of the Cabinet Committee was held on 27 November 2008 where it was agreed that the Cabinet Committee will meet quarterly. The terms of reference for the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting are:
 - to ensure that care experienced children and young people are seen as a priority by the whole of the Authority and by the Children and Young People's Partnership;
 - to seek the views of children and young people in shaping and influencing the parenting they receive;
 - to ensure that appropriate policies, opportunities and procedures are in place;
 - to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Authority in its role as Corporate Parent against Welsh Government guidance.
- 2.4 At its inaugural meeting, the Cabinet Committee requested that a Corporate Parenting "Champion" be nominated from each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to become invitees to the Cabinet Committee.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The Committee is requested to nominate one Member as its Corporate Parenting Champion to represent the Committee as an invitee at meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.
- 3.2 The role of the Corporate Parenting Champion is to represent their Overview and Scrutiny Committee, partaking in discussions with Cabinet over items relating to care experienced children and young people.
- 3.3 It is also suggested that in this role each Champion considers how all services within the remit of Scrutiny affect care experienced children and young people and encourage their own Committee to bear their Corporate Parenting role in mind when participating in Scrutiny.

- 3.4 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

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

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

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

- 5.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 Ways of Working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 Ways of Working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:
- Long Term – The establishment of the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee demonstrates the Authority's long-term commitment to improving and strengthening their role as Corporate Parents to care experienced children and young people.
 - Prevention – The Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee are preventative in their nature and ensure that appropriate policies, opportunities and procedures are in place for all care experienced children and young people.
 - Integration – This report supports all the Well-being Objectives.
 - Collaboration – All Members are Corporate Parents and this report supports collaborative working with Cabinet and Members of Scrutiny and emphasises the role of Corporate Parents for all Elected Members.
 - Involvement – Corporate Parent Champions provide practical support and guidance to care experienced children and young people to ensure they achieve their well-being goals.

- 5.2 Nomination of a Corporate Parenting Champion assists in the achievement of the following of the Council's 4 Wellbeing Objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:-

3. Enabling people to meet their potential

Provide an effective Childcare and Early Years Offer, provide safe, supportive schools with high quality teaching, provide Welsh medium education opportunities,

be good parents to our care experienced children and help people get the skills they need for work.

4.Supporting our most vulnerable

Providing high-quality children's and adults social services and early help services, supporting people in poverty, supporting people facing homelessness to find a place to live, supporting children with additional learning needs and safeguard and protect people who are at risk of harm.

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

6.1 There are no Climate Change or Nature Implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 The Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting addresses any impact on children or young people within the care of the Authority, under the Council's responsibility as a Corporate Parent. Safeguarding is everyone's business and means protecting peoples' health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

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

Background documents

None.

Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	14 JULY 2025
Report Title:	FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL & REGULATORY SERVICES, HR & CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	MERYL LAWRENCE SENIOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER – SCRUTINY
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	The work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.
Executive Summary:	The Council's Constitution requires each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to develop and implement a Forward Work Programme for the Committee. The Committee is asked to consider and agree its Forward Work Programme, identify any specific information it wishes to be included in and any invitees they wish to attend for the reports for the next two Committee meetings, identify any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the criteria set out in the report, and consider the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet for this Committee.

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) Present the Committee with the Forward Work Programme attached as **(Appendix A)** for consideration and approval;
- b) Request any specific information the Committee identifies to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) Request the Committee to identify whether there are presently any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 3.5 of this report;

- d) Present the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet (**Appendix B**) to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at previous meetings;
- e) Advise that the Committee's Forward Work Programme as approved will be reported to the next meeting of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) for information, together with those from the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees, following their consideration in this cycle of Committee meetings.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Constitution requires each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to develop and implement a Forward Work Programme for the Committee.
- 2.2 The Council's Constitution also provides for each of the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees to propose items for the Forward Work Programme having regard for the Council's Corporate Priorities and Risk Management framework. Where a matter for consideration by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee also falls within the remit of one or more other Committees, the decision as to which Committee will consider it will be resolved by the respective Chairs or, if they fail to agree, the Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Best Practice / Guidance

- 2.3 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's (CfGS) Good Scrutiny Guide recognises the importance of the Forward Work Programme. In order to 'lead and own the process', it states that Councillors should have ownership of their Committee's work programme, and be involved in developing, monitoring and evaluating it. The Good Scrutiny Guide also states that, in order to make an impact, the scrutiny workload should be coordinated and integrated into corporate processes, to ensure that it contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.
- 2.4 Forward Work Programmes need to be manageable to maximize the effective use of the limited time and resources of Scrutiny Committees. It is not possible to include every topic proposed. Successful Scrutiny is about looking at the right topic in the right way and Members need to be selective, while also being able to demonstrate clear arguments for including or excluding topics.
- 2.5 The CfGS's guide to effective work programming 'A Cunning Plan?' makes the following reference to the importance of good work programming:

'Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well it can help lay the foundations for targeted, incisive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done badly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any work done is likely to be minimal.'

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 Following the approval of the schedule of Scrutiny Committee meeting dates at the Annual Meeting of Council on 14 May 2025, the standing statutory reports to Scrutiny Committees of: the Corporate Plan, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget, Performance and Budget Monitoring, etc. have been mapped to the appropriate timely meeting dates into a Forward Work Programme.
- 3.2 The Forward Work Programmes for each Scrutiny Committee have been prepared using a number of difference sources, including:
- Corporate Risk Assessment;
 - Directorate Business Plans;
 - Previous Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme report topics / minutes;
 - Committee / Member proposed topics;
 - Policy Framework;
 - Cabinet Work Programme;
 - Discussions with Corporate Directors;
 - Performance Team regarding the timing of performance information.
- 3.3 There are items where there is a statutory duty for Policy Framework documents to be considered by Scrutiny, e.g., the MTFS including draft budget proposals scheduled for consideration in January 2026, following which COSC will make conclusions and recommendations in a report on the overall strategic overview of Cabinet's draft Budget proposals to the meeting of Cabinet in February 2026.
- 3.4 An effective Forward Work Programme will identify the issues that the Committee wishes to focus on during the year and provide a clear plan. However, at each meeting the Committee will have an opportunity to review this as the Forward Work Programme Update will be a standing item on the Agenda, detailing which items are scheduled for future meetings and be requested to clarify any information to be included in reports and the list of invitees. The Forward Work Programme will remain flexible and will be reported to each COSC meeting for information.

Identification of Further Items

- 3.5 The Committee are reminded that the Scrutiny selection criteria used by Scrutiny Committee Members to consider, select and prioritise items emphasises the need to consider issues such as impact, risk, performance, budget and community perception when identifying topics for investigation to maximise the impact scrutiny can have on a topic and the outcomes for people. The criteria which can help the Committee come to a decision on whether to include a referred topic, are set out below:

Recommended Criteria for Selecting Scrutiny Topics:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| PUBLIC INTEREST: | The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny; |
| ABILITY TO CHANGE: | Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence, and add value to; |

PERFORMANCE:	Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council is not performing well;
EXTENT:	Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the County Borough, or a large number of the Authority's service users or its population;
REPLICATION:	Work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort.

Reasons to Reject Scrutiny Topics:

- The issue is already being addressed / being examined elsewhere and change is imminent.
- The topic would be better addressed elsewhere (and can be referred there).
- Scrutiny involvement would have limited / no impact upon outcomes.
- The topic may be sub-judice or prejudicial.
- The topic is too broad to make a review realistic and needs refining / scoping.
- New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected within the next year.
- The topic area is currently subject to inspection or has recently undergone substantial change / reconfiguration.

Corporate Parenting

- 3.6 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards care experienced children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'Corporate Parent', therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for care experienced children and young people in Bridgend.
- 37 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how each item they consider affects care experienced children and young people, and in what way can the Committee assist in these areas.
- 3.8 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.
- 3.9 The Forward Work Programme for the Committee is attached as **Appendix A** for the Committee's consideration.
- 3.10 The Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at previous meetings is attached as **Appendix B**.
- 4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)**
- 4.1 The Protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in

the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

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

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

5.2 When setting its Forward Work Programme, the Committee should consider how each item they propose to scrutinise assists in the achievement of the Council's 4 Wellbeing Objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** as follows:

1. A prosperous place with thriving communities
2. Creating modern, seamless public services
3. Enabling people to meet their potential
4. Supporting our most vulnerable

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

6.1 The Committee should consider how each item they scrutinise affects climate change, the Council's Net Zero Carbon 2030 target and how it meets the Council's commitments to protect and sustain the environment over the long term. There are no Climate Change or Nature Implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 The Committee should consider how each item they scrutinise affects care experienced children and young people, and in what way the Committee can assist in these areas. Safeguarding is everyone's business and means protecting peoples' health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. There are no Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

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

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to:
- a) Consider and approve the Forward Work Programme for the Committee in **Appendix A**.
 - b) Identify any specific information the Committee wishes to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
 - c) Identify whether there are presently any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 3.5 of this report.
 - d) Note the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet in **Appendix B** to track outstanding responses to the Committee's recommendations made at previous meetings;
 - e) Note that the Committee's Forward Work Programme as approved will be reported to the next meeting of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information, together with those from the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees, following their consideration in this cycle of Committee meetings.

Background documents

None.

Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
2025-26 Draft Forward Work Programme

Monday, 14 July 2025 at 4pm		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Community Asset Transfers	<p>Position Update</p> <p>Outcome of review recommended by SOSC 3 to be undertaken by the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) Steering Group to assess and review the Council's current CAT programme, considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Its impact - Success stories - Good practice researched from other Welsh local authorities - Reflection on lessons learned 	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Interim Head of Operations – Communities; and Community Asset Transfer Officer.</p>
Porthcawl Regeneration Masterplan	<p>Public Consultation Feedback from Feb/March 2025</p> <p>and</p> <p>Pre-Planning Consultation</p>	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration; and Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager.</p>

Monday, 29 September 2025 at 4pm		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What we did - Lessons Learned - Progress Update - How the system has changed - A look back and a look forward. 	<u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing; <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Interim Head of Operations – Communities; and Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability.
Social Housing Allocation Policy	Pre-Decision	<u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing; <u>Officers</u> Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change; Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager; and Housing Solutions Team Manager.

Monday, 3 November 2025 at 4pm		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Net Zero Strategy Review	Pre-Decision	<u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment; <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Interim Head of Operations – Communities; Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability; Decarbonisation Programme Manager; and <u>External</u> Representatives from Carbon Trust.
Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	Pre-Decision	<u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment; <u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Interim Head of Operations – Communities; and Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability.

Monday, 8 December 2025 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Porthcawl Grand Pavilion		<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration; and Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager.</p> <p><u>External</u> Director of Development and Partnerships – Awen</p>

Monday, 23 February 2026 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Maesteg Town Hall TBC	<p>Lessons learned</p> <p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reasons for the overall project cost; - Detail of what led to the increased cost and challenges encountered; and - An appraisal of what could have changed or been done differently. 	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration.</p>

Monday, 20 April 2026 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Condition of the Highways and Status of Road Resurfacing Programme	<p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repairs, maintenance and prioritisation process; - Road resurfacing and potholes; - Network management of utilities; and - The development of internal metrics for repairs and closing referrals. 	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Interim Head of Operations – Communities; Group Manager – Highways and Green Spaces; and Highways Network Manager.</p>

Briefings and Workshops:

Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Future Waste Services		All Member Briefing To be scheduled Early 2026
Corporate Joint Committees Regional Responsibilities		All Member Briefing Date to be confirmed

**Items to be Scheduled to the Committee's Forward Work Programme -
To be discussed in next Scrutiny Forward Work Programme Planning Meeting**

- Communities Directorate Target Operating Model (TOM) – Autumn 2025 TBC
- Bridgend Town Centre Masterplan and Regeneration
- Council's Preparedness to Respond to Storms and Adverse Weather
To Include:
 - Preventative measures against foreseeable damage;
 - Impact of adverse weather and any fallout (e.g. loss of power) on vulnerable residents;
 - Invitees from Communities and Social Services; and
 - Information shared during internal and Local Resilience Forum debrief sessions held following Storm Darragh and any other inclement weather events.
- Car Parking Charging Review
To Include:
 - Outcome of the review;
 - Free parking offers; and
 - The difference in revenue between the free parking period and a full charging model.
- Major Parks in the Borough
- Valleys to Coast
- Sickness levels and its effect on decision-making - Quarterly Performance Reports are scrutinised by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Information reports to be provided

- Audit Wales 'Springing Forward Asset Management Inspection Report' – including associated Action Plan

Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee**RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2024-2025**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
2 December 2024	Housing and Homelessness	<p>Members discussed how vital the Welsh Government Housing Support Grant funding had been, the freezing of the Grant had applied significant pressure across Wales and 18 months ago regular meetings between the 22 Welsh local authorities regarding Homelessness had ceased, which had previously been attended by a network of individuals who could provide operational feedback to Welsh Government.</p> <p>The Committee requested information regarding the nature and title of the previously held meetings and recommended that following receipt of the information requested, that a letter be sent from the Committee to Welsh Government to request the reasons for discontinuing the meetings, whether there were plans to restart them and if not, the reason why.</p>	Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 July 2025.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s35499/OSC32December2024ResponsestoRecommendationsandRequestsforInformation.docx.pdf

APPENDIX B

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
2 December 2024	Housing and Homelessness	<p>The Committee discussed the issue of vacant and derelict buildings in the borough and enquired whether there were any schemes or strategies that could potentially enable the Local Authority to take control of such empty buildings to turn them into social housing.</p> <p>The Committee recommended that when a Council owned property becomes vacant, all options should be explored including whether it could be utilised by another part of the Authority e.g. for repurposing as housing accommodation, prior to consideration of whether it is declared surplus, marketed for sale, or disposed of otherwise.</p> <p>The Committee highlighted the importance of the Authority looking at inventive ways of working with partners to bring properties back in to use which could inevitably reduce the costs.</p>	Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 July 2025.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s35499/OSC32December2024ResponsestoRecommendationsandRequestsforInformation.docx.pdf
2 December 2024	Housing and Homelessness	The Committee expressed concern that the proposed level of social housing would only address 50% of the	Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s35499/OSC32December2024ResponsestoRecommendationsandRequestsforInformation.docx.pdf

APPENDIX B

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		<p>current waiting list and asked whether there was an opportunity to review the figures and submit another bid in the Local Development Plan (LDP) process.</p> <p>Members were advised that following the Local Development Plan (LDP) being adopted this year, a local housing and marketing assessment would be undertaken every two to three years which would provide up to date figures to enable negotiation for the right mix and type of housing, however the actual review for the LDP would be 4 years from its adoption.</p> <p>The Committee recommended that Members be encouraged to examine the updated figures from the Local Housing and Marketing Assessment when considering the review of the LDP in 4 years' time, and that given Members' concern at hearing in the meeting of a development not meeting all of its percentage target to build social housing, that the proposed housing percentage targets be</p>		circulated 1 July 2025.	024ResponsestoRecommendationsandRequestsforInformation.docx.pdf

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		adhered to rigorously throughout the Planning process.			
2 December 2024	Housing and Homelessness	<p>The Committee requested further information regarding the primary capital funding stream for the development of affordable housing, the Social Housing Grant, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Details of the local SHG partners worked with; b. A breakdown of the allocation of costs; c. What the costs were used for; d. Details of how the Council looks at the developments bid for; e. Whether the developments bid for were delivered on time and at the original contract price. 	Head of Partnerships and Housing	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 1 July 2025.	https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s35499/OSC32December2024ResponsestoRecommendationsandRequestsforInformation.docx.pdf
20 January 2025	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025-26 to 2028-20	Members requested figures to show the income, expenditure and overall cost to Bridgend County Borough Council for burial services.	Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change/ Corporate Director for Communities	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 7 July 2025.	Complete
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity	The Committee expressed concern and requested an explanation setting out why the cross-party Member Committee to oversee the Climate	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	

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	Bridgend County Borough	Emergency Response Programme, agreed by Cabinet on 30 June 2020, had not been established and instead, that the Subject Overview Scrutiny Committee 3 had been given the remit for Climate Change and Nature and recommended that consideration be given to the cross-party Member Committee being established for the purposes intended.	Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Chased.	
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	<p>The Committee was advised that the Bridgend 2030 Net Zero Carbon Strategy (the Strategy) was under review and that a report would be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Committee providing detail on what had been accomplished, the achievability of the ambitions and the necessary steps to progress it.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the proposed report but expressed their disappointment that it appeared that some aspects of the plan would not work and therefore were taken no further and their concern that there did not appear to be any delivery or decisive action taken in relation to the Strategy which was already at its</p>	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	<p>Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.</p> <p>Chased.</p>	

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		<p>halfway stage. The Committee therefore recommended that an action plan be put in place to include detail on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timescales; - The objectives and achievement attained; - How the public are being engaged and listened to, including the means by which the community are engaged; and - The possibility of an annual engagement day. 			
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	The Committee discussed the impact of river flooding in the Valley areas causing erosion of the riverbank and encroaching onto gardens, fence lines and properties, acknowledged that it was a worrying situation for those affected and recommended that the Council approach Welsh Government to request some safeguarding for those individuals who may be in danger of flooding to their homes and property in the future.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	

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17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	Members were advised that the expectations arising from the Senedd Climate Committee's Halting and Reversing the Loss of Nature by 2023 report remain unclear as Welsh Government had yet to respond to the recommendations contained within. The Committee recommended that a letter be written to Welsh Government asking when a response is to be expected, in order to provide an understanding of the potential impact and challenges those recommendations could have on local authorities.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	The Committee requested further detail/information regarding the national position, across all 22 Welsh local authorities, setting out their approach to Climate Change and Decarbonisation. The Committee expressed that it was important that Bridgend's Strategy aligns with other local authorities recognising that carbon capture does not stop at boundary lines. In addition, the Committee discussed the existence of strategic development plans for	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	

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		planning large scale properties and queried why there was no equivalent plan for Net Zero Carbon 2030 and recommended that consideration be given to including this in a future report to the Committee.			
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	The Committee requested a copy of the Climate Change Risk Assessment which was undertaken in partnership with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Service Board (PSB) and highlighted 11 climate risk priority areas across the PSB. The Committee also requested information regarding the actions being taken by the Health Board to respond to the action plan including any works to their buildings within the County Borough to make them more energy efficient.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	The Committee requested further information regarding the Bridgend Local Nature Partnership to include details of its membership, how often it meets and its agenda in order to understand whether it could be used as a key engagement tool.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	

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17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	Members discussed Electric Vehicle charging points, how long it took to complete repairs and whose responsibility it was to do so. Whilst the Committee acknowledged that it had been necessary for public bodies to lead the way in installing electric vehicle charging points, there was now an increased demand and need for higher voltage charging points. The Committee therefore requested whether consideration should be given to the Council leaving the market and facilitating the supply by private companies.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	
17 February 2025	Climate Change Response and Decarbonisation Activity Bridgend County Borough	The Committee requested information regarding how much of the £1.4m funding for electric vehicles and infrastructure had been spent on infrastructure, why the Council was not deriving an income from it and regarding the public charging points commissioned by the Cardiff Capital Region on Council land: - Whether there was shared revenue?	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Climate Change Response Manager	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Were there possibilities for revenue generation? - Whether capital expenditure to generate revenue been investigated? 			
7 April 2025	Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review	<p>The Committee discussed the challenges of the Authority achieving Net Zero Carbon 2030 and recommended that consideration be given to approaching the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) to seek clarity as to the current status of strategies to reach net zero by 2030 in the other Welsh local authorities, following which, if other Welsh local authorities are experiencing similar challenges, the Committee further recommended that a follow-up request be made to ask the WLGA to make the Welsh Government aware of the situation and consider extending its net zero carbon strategy from 2030 to align it with that of the UK Government, to reach net zero by 2050.</p>	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	<p>Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.</p> <p>Chased.</p>	

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7 April 2025	Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review	The Committee recommended that the final version of the report by the Carbon Trust provide clarity as to the governance arrangements for the strategy including Member representation, for clear political leadership.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	
7 April 2025	Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review	The Committee recommended that the strategy include focus on practical and achievable goals and that the carbon footprint of the supply chain be an appropriate priority.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	
7 April 2025	Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review	The Committee recommended that the revised strategy be shared for a 12-week public consultation, as there was a need to engage with the public and obtain views of residents and stakeholders of the county borough.	Corporate Director for Communities/ Head of Operations – Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources and Sustainability	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided. Chased.	

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7 April 2025	Information Report- Quarter 3 Performance 2024/25	The Committee discussed WBO 2.2.1, the commitment to increase employment and training opportunities in the County Borough for young people aged 16 to 24 years old which indicated that the commitment is to be removed for 2025-26 because there is no Youth Guarantee monies and recommended that a new Performance Indicator be devised to continue monitoring performance in this crucial area of activity for inclusion in the appropriate section of the Performance dashboard.	Corporate Director - Education, Early Years & Young People/ Corporate Policy & Performance Manager/ Corporate Performance Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 7 July 2025.	Complete
7 April 2025	Bridgend County Borough Net Zero Strategy Review	Members requested that a written response be requested to understand the process by which applications are made to the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) where conditions are met for the deletion of a valuation band on a property, removing the requirement to pay Council Tax, and whether Bridgend County Borough Council has options, working with the VOA, or utilising its own resources to address the issue, if the owner has no recourse to public funds.	Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 7 July 2025.	Complete