

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.

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



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

Dyddiad/Date: Monday, 8 June 2026

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, 15 June 2026 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

5 - 14

To receive for approval the minutes of the meetings of the 03/11/25 and 08/12/25.

By receiving this Agenda Pack electronically you will save the Authority approx. £02.84 in printing costs

- 4 Bathing Water Quality Issues and Impacts of the River Ogmore 15 - 24
- Invitees:
- Councillor John Spanswick - Leader
 Councillor Hywel Williams- Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation
 Councillor Eugene Caparros - Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment (Job Share)
 Councillor Gary Haines - Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment (Job Share)
- Jake Morgan - Chief Executive
 Kelly Watson - Chief Officer - Legal, Regulatory and Electoral Services
 Jason Bale – Operational Manager Enterprise and Specialist Services – Shared Regulatory Services
 Christina Hill – Head of Shared Regulatory Services
- Representatives from Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water
- Representatives from Natural Resources Wales
- 5 Audit Wales Report - Bridgend County Borough Council Planning and Development Service 25 - 68
- Invitees:
- Councillor Colin Davies – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing
- Janine Nightingale – Corporate Director – Communities
 Martin Morgans - Head of Service – Public Realm
- Jonathan Parsons - Group Manager – Planning and Development Services
- 6 Conclusions and Recommendations
- 7 Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination 69 - 72
- 8 Information Report - Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 73 - 120
- 9 Forward Work Programme Update 121 - 142
- 10 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:

JPD Blundell
O Clatworthy
RJ Collins
C L C Davies
P Davies
P Ford
P Jenkins
W J Kendall
M Lewis
J E Pratt
G Walter
I Williams
MJ Williams
T Wood

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COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3) - MONDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2025

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3) HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor JPD Blundell – Chairperson

O Clatworthy
MJ Williams

C Davies
T Wood

GC Haines

I Williams

Present Virtually

H T Bennett
J E Pratt

N Clarke
G Walter

RJ Collins

W J Kendall

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Paul Davies

Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment

Invitees:

Councillor John Spanswick
Janine Nightingale
Martin Morgans
Paul Smith
Stuart Baldwin

Leader
Corporate Director - Communities
Interim Head of Operations - Community Services
Decarbonisation Programme Manager
Climate Change Response Manager

Officers:

Stephen Griffiths
Michael Pitman

Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Norah Clarke – Personal – Item 4 – Owner of an Electric Vehicle.
Councillor John Spanswick – Personal – Item 4 – Family member owns an Electric Vehicle.

120. Net Zero Strategy

	<p>RESOLVED: Following detailed consideration and discussions with a Cabinet Member and Senior Officers, the Committee made the following recommendations and request for additional information:</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Committee discussed that 71% of the Council’s emissions came from the supply chain and recommended that consideration be given to additional resource being allocated to seeking technical expertise to develop a low carbon and local supply chain. 2. The Committee expressed concern regarding the unlikelihood of meeting the 2030 Net Zero target given the funding for the identified cost of £109 Million for implementation that would be needed and recommended that Cabinet reconsider its commitment to the 2030 target, request the Welsh Government (WG) to review their target for Net Zero and provide guidance on how to proceed. 3. The Committee expressed concern about the consultation questionnaire in Appendix 3, in particular that the first question provided responders with the option to ‘Strongly Disagree’ or ‘Disagree’ and recommended that it be reworded and that a question regarding the level of understanding and awareness of Net Zero in the wider community be included. <p><u>Additional information requested:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The Committee requested a copy of any correspondence with WLGA or WG in respect of the following recommendations from its 7 April 2025 meeting: <p><i>“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.”</i></p>
Date Decision Made	3 November 2025

121. Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy

Decision Made	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>Following detailed consideration and discussions with a Cabinet Member and Senior Officers, the Committee made the following recommendations and requests for additional information:</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. The Committee discussed the disparity between the availability, capacity and speed of electric vehicle (EV) chargers in Bridgend supermarkets compared to the town centre and recommended that the strategy, which is to be developed following the consultation, focusses on the need to install affordable EV chargers with greater charging capacity in the town centre, and especially in Rhiw car park, as a matter of urgency.6. The Committee recommended that consideration be given to exploring the feasibility:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. of developing large-scale EV charging stations to be located on industrial estates; andb. and commercial viability of developing a commercial service to provide EV chargers of our own, possibly involving a third-party supplier which could be a source of revenue for the Local Authority.7. The Committee recommended that energy providers are consulted to understand the potential challenges with grid capacity across the Borough if there is a substantial increase in the number of EV chargers, in homes, businesses, town centres and industrial estates.8. The Committee recommended that the consultation needed to address a number of issues:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The demand for and affordability of electric cars across our communities. This could provide valuable data to inform priorities for the roll out of infrastructure as part of a future EV strategy.• The need to consult schools directly across the Borough on the possible use of schools as locations for EV chargers.• The questionnaire needed to provide respondents with an opportunity to supply basic location data (e.g. postcode) to help inform the development of the EV strategy, and especially the potential challenges of rolling out EV charging capacity across the County Borough.
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	<p><u>Additional Information Requested:</u></p> <p>9. The Committee requested the number and capacity of EV charging points in supermarkets in the Borough.</p> <p>10. The Committee queried whether reference to the development of EV infrastructure as part of Section 106 of residential developments in the Local Development Plan is a requirement or a request and requested details regarding the powers available to the Local Authority to ensure the efficient installation of EV charging infrastructure in future.</p>
Date Decision Made	3 November 2025

122. 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 requests 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>The Committee requested that:</p> <p>a. The Maesteg Town Hall report scheduled for 23 February be brought forward to 8 December meeting, in place of the Grand Pavilion report.</p> <p>b. The report on Bridgend Town Centre Regeneration included on the Forward Work Programme be scheduled for consideration as soon as possible.</p> <p>c. A report on water quality and pollution, the capacity of the Penybont Wastewater Treatment Works and plans to meet future demand from significant increases in the number of properties planned from a number of new developments, and that Welsh Water and Natural Resources Wales be invited to attend.</p>
Date Decision Made	3 November 2025

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Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	3 November 2025

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

The meeting closed at 19:10.

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COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3) - MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2025

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3) HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2025 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor JPD Blundell – Chairperson

H T Bennett
T Wood

N Clarke

O Clatworthy

MJ Williams

Present Virtually

RJ Collins
G Walter

C Davies

W J Kendall

J E Pratt

Apologies for Absence

GC Haines and I Williams

Invitees

Councillor Neelo Farr

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing

Janine Nightingale
Delyth Webb
Jacob Lawrence

Corporate Director - Communities
Group Manager - Strategic Regeneration
Principal Regeneration Officer

Officers:

Stephen Griffiths
Oscar Roberts

Interim Scrutiny Officer
Democratic Services Officer - Committees

Declarations of Interest

Cllr N Clarke – item 4 – Personal – Volunteer for the RNLI.

Cllr J E Pratt – Item 4 – Prejudicial – Member of the Development Control Committee

124. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>That the minutes of the meetings of the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting dated 29 September 2025 and 3 October 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
Date Decision Made	8 December 2025

125. Porthcawl Regeneration

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>Following consideration of the report and detailed discussions with a Cabinet Member and Senior Officers the Committee made the following recommendations and requests for additional information:</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Committee expressed concern regarding the sufficiency of GPs and capacity of the Medical Centre to meet increased demand for the provision of health care in Porthcawl following the projected increase to the numbers of residential properties from the proposed development, and recommended that a letter be sent from the Committee to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board setting out these concerns and the need for close collaboration, communication, and partnership between the Welsh Government, the Council and Health Board, to ensure the smooth delivery of sufficient medical service provision in Porthcawl. <p>Requests for Additional Information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The Committee requested that the presentation made by the Corporate Director – Communities at the start of the meeting be circulated to Members of the Committee. 3. The Committee requested that details of the traffic modelling report associated with the development be circulated to Members of the Committee. 4. The Committee discussed clarity regarding the legal status of Griffin Park and requested that the
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	<p>Corporate Director – Communities prepare a written paper for Members including details of charitable status and any historic covenants associated with that land together with a link to the report and decision of the Call-In of the Cabinet Decision: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration: Appropriation of Land at Griffin Park and Sandy Bay, which was considered by Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 on 3 November 2022.</p> <p>5. Given the potential future report to Cabinet upon upfront financing of the public realm works of the development, the Committee requested that it include a range of possible options in addition to borrowing and requested the opportunity to consider the report for pre-decision or to receive a Member Briefing beforehand.</p>
Date Decision Made	8 December 2025

126. 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 following, 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>That a report on the Bridgend Town Centre Masterplan be brought to the Committee for consideration as soon as possible.</p>
Date Decision Made	8 December 2025

127. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	8 December 2025

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

The meeting closed at 18:14.

Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	15 JUNE 2026
Report Title:	BATHING WATER QUALITY ISSUES AND IMPACTS OF THE RIVER OGMORE
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, REGULATORY AND ELECTORAL SERVICES
Responsible Officer:	JASON BALE - OPERATIONAL MANAGER - SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	THERE IS NO EFFECT UPON THE COUNCIL’S POLICY FRAMEWORK OR PROCEDURE RULES AS A RESULT OF THIS REPORT.
Executive Summary:	<p>The Council has three designated bathing beaches within its administrative area.</p> <p>Bathing water quality is a crucial aspect of public health and environmental protection, and the beaches in Bridgend play a key role in supporting the local economy, in particular the thriving tourism industry around Porthcawl, in addition to the well-being of local residents who frequent the waters.</p> <p>The Bathing Water Regulations introduces a classification system with stringent water quality standards and puts an emphasis on providing information to the public. Welsh Government is legally required to inform members of the public about bathing water management, bathing water quality, and potential threats to bathing water quality and public health. Waters are classified based on samples taken from the previous four years to even out effects of extreme situations.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is responsible for monitoring and reporting against the standards in the Regulations. Samples are analysed for two types of bacteria, which indicate pollution from sewage or livestock. Polluted water can have impacts on human health,</p>

	<p>including causing stomach upsets and diarrhoea if swallowed.</p> <p>Whilst the Bridgend County Borough Council is not responsible for bathing water quality, its officers and elected members can have a role working with the regulators NRW and Dwr Cymru to seek improvements over a reasonable period.</p> <p>The report therefore explains the proposed arrangements to assist in improving bathing waters and the overall water quality within Bridgend's catchment areas and the Council's role in this.</p>
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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to ensure that Members of the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and wider elected members are aware of the most recent bathing water classifications at designated bathing beaches within Bridgend County Borough Council and to advise of the collaborative arrangements in place to identify pollution sources and measures to improve bathing water quality and wider water quality within the River Ogmore catchment area in the future.

2. Background

- 2.1. Bathing water quality is a crucial aspect of public health and environmental protection. Within Bridgend County Borough Council, there are a number of designated bathing water beaches and these play a key role in supporting the local economy, in particular the thriving tourism industry around Porthcawl, in addition to the well-being of local residents who frequent the waters.
- 2.2. In Wales, the management and regulation of bathing waters have undergone revisions to ensure enhanced protection for both human health and the environment. The first European bathing water legislation, in the form of the Bathing Water Directive, came into force in 1976. The revised Bathing Water Directive was adopted in 2006, and 2015 was the first year it was fully implemented in the UK. Management and surveillance methods for bathing waters were changed and new tighter microbiological standards brought in.
- 2.3. Welsh Government sets the policy frameworks and legislative measures to govern bathing water quality.

- 2.4. The Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC which put in place a mechanism to identify bathing waters in the UK forms part of retained European Union law in Wales. The Bathing Water Regulations 2013 specify the statutory requirements associated with the management of bathing waters in Wales.
- 2.5. The Regulations require the Welsh Government to annually identify popular bathing areas in Wales. The objective of the Regulations is to protect bathers' health and inform bathers of potential health hazards associated with poor water quality. Bather numbers is the main criteria which the Welsh Government will apply when considering whether it is appropriate to designate a site as a bathing water. Any infrastructure or facilities provided, or other measures taken to promote bathing at the site will also be considered.
- 2.6. Once a bathing water has been designated, the water quality is monitored by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) during the bathing season, which runs from 1st May to 30th of September.
- 2.7. The Bathing Water Regulations introduced a classification system with stringent water quality standards and put an emphasis on providing information to the public. Welsh Government has to inform members of the public about bathing water management, bathing water quality, and potential threats to bathing water quality and public health. Waters are classified based on samples taken from the previous four years¹ in order to even out effects of extreme situations.
- 2.8. Designated bathing waters are classified as excellent, good, sufficient or poor depending on water quality sampling results. The bathing water quality classifications are based on two microbiological parameters: intestinal enterococci and E.coli
- 2.9. NRW is the principal environmental agency in Wales tasked with overseeing various aspects of natural resource management, including water quality. Its roles and responsibilities regarding the bathing water regulations comprise of the following:
- Conducting regular monitoring and assessment of bathing water quality at designated sites.
 - Providing data and analysis to inform decision-making processes related to bathing water management.
 - Implementing measures to mitigate pollution sources and improve water quality where necessary.
 - Collaborating with local authorities, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, and other stakeholders to achieve shared objectives in maintaining bathing water standards.

¹ There are no pass/fail standards for individual water samples, instead the classification is based on a statistical measure of all samples, known as a percentile. Percentiles use the range of all samples taken to estimate the probability of higher results occurring. The classification uses either the 95% or 90% percentile depending on the classification. (Further details on the how classifications are determined can found here_ - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1675/schedule/5/made>

- 2.10. NRW is responsible for monitoring and reporting against the standards in the Regulations. Samples are analysed for two types of bacteria, which indicate pollution from sewage or livestock. Polluted water can have impacts on human health, with numerous epidemiological studies directly linking recreational water uses, with gastrointestinal illnesses.
- 2.11. Local authorities in Wales are responsible for managing and regulating bathing waters within their jurisdictions. Their roles include:
- Managing designated bathing water sites in accordance with regulatory requirements.
 - Implementing pollution prevention measures and addressing sources of contamination within their areas of control.
 - Collaborating with NRW, Welsh Government, and other stakeholders to develop local strategies for improving bathing water quality.
 - Providing information and guidance to the public regarding safe bathing practices and water quality standards.
- 2.12. As the primary provider of water and wastewater services in Wales, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) plays a crucial role in ensuring compliance with bathing water regulations. Its responsibilities include:
- Operating and maintaining wastewater treatment facilities to minimise discharges and pollutants entering bathing waters.
 - Implementing infrastructure upgrades and pollution control measures to enhance water quality.
 - Collaborating with regulatory authorities and stakeholders to monitor and address issues affecting bathing water quality.
 - Engaging in public outreach and education initiatives to promote awareness of water conservation and pollution prevention measures.

3. Current situation

- 3.1. Within Bridgend County Borough Council there are 3 officially designated beaches, namely Rest Bay, Sandy Bay (Coney Beach) and Trecco Bay.
- 3.2. As noted, the designated bathing water season runs from the 15th May to the 30th September. During the bathing season, NRW monitors bathing water quality and provides information about possible health risks arising from issues such as short-term pollution episodes. At the end of each year, NRW sends data on bathing water quality and information on management measures to Welsh Government, who then produce an annual report, with the latest report being that for the 2025 season².
- 3.3. Table 1 below provides a summary of the bathing water classifications for 2024 and 2025 for each of the designated bathing water beaches in Bridgend. It is evident that

² [NRW Bathing Water Report 2025](#)

all the designated bathing waters are classified as Excellent. Full details of the bathing water profiles are provided by NRW <https://environment.data.gov.uk/wales/bathing-waters/profiles/index.html> .

Table 1 - Summary of Bathing Waters in Bridgend 2024-2025

Designated Bathing Water	Classification 2024	Classification 2025
Rest Bay	Excellent	Excellent
Sandy Bay (Coney Beach)	Excellent	Excellent
Trecco Bay	Excellent	Excellent

- 3.4. In addition to the 3 designated beaches there are a further 4 beaches within Bridgend, namely Newton Beach, Pink Bay, Town Beach (No Swimming permitted) and Sker Beach. As these beaches are not fully designated under the Bathing Water Regulations, there are no water quality tests undertaken during the bathing water season and therefore no published water quality data.
- 3.5. In addition to the beaches situated in Bridgend, Ogmore by Sea is on the boundary with the Vale of Glamorgan, and this beach is influenced by the catchment area of the River Ogmore.
- 3.6. The River Ogmore catchment rises at the Ogwr Fawr at Craig Ogwr north of Nantymoel joined by the Ogwr Fach branch at Blackmill. Upstream of the town of Bridgend the major tributaries of the Afon Llynfi and Afon Garw join the Ogmore from the North. South of Bridgend near the ruins of Ogmore castle the Ogmore is met by the Eweny river, a major tributary flowing from Pencoed to the Northeast. Land use in the catchment, is mixed and typical of South Wales. The large urban conurbations of Bridgend, Maesteg and Pencoed are surrounded by more rural areas, with some agriculture spread across the catchment and forestry lining the tops and sides of the valleys.
- 3.7. Unfortunately since being designated as a Bathing Water in 2023, Ogmore by Sea has obtained Poor bathing classification.
- 3.8. Owing to the classification of this beach as Poor, Regulation 13 of the Bathing Waters Regulations 2013, requires advice against bathing at this beach and requires the responsible Local Authority to take local authority management measures as it considers adequate, with a view to preventing bathers' exposure to pollution. Signage has therefore been installed on Ogmore by Sea by the Vale of Glamorgan Council detailing this. However, the beach remains open for people to enjoy and there is no prohibition on use of the beach.
- 3.9. In addition to requirements of Regulation 13 for signage to be installed, Regulation 13 also imposes a duty on the appropriate agency, in this case NRW to:

- i. Take or cause to be taken appropriate agency management measures at the bathing water to prevent, reduce or eliminate (as appropriate) the causes of pollution;*
- ii. Take, or cause to be taken appropriate agency management measures at the bathing water as it considers adequate with a view to preventing bathers' exposure to pollution;*
- iii. Notify the local authority that controls the bathing water; and*
- iv. Identify the reasons why the bathing water failed to achieve a classification of "sufficient"*

- 3.10. NRW is working to fully establish sources of pollution around Ogmores By Sea beach and its catchment, and this work is being done in partnership with Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils. Inspections are carried out jointly by NRW and the Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) Environmental Health team before the bathing water season starts in May. Usually these visits are done along with the DCWW.
- 3.11. Since 2024 additional monitoring has been carried out to better understand the causes of poor water quality at Ogmores By Sea. This has included the installation of continuous water quality monitors (sondes) on the River Ogmores and River Ewenny and the collection of investigatory chemical and bacteriological samples to coincide with bathing water monitoring.
- 3.12. NRW also monitor DCWW's progress on their obligations under the current water industry investment period (AMP8) to investigate and model the potential impact on bathing water quality from water company discharges.
- 3.13. This is part of a National Environment Programme driver to better understand the impact of their assets on bathing water quality and what future investment might be required to meet bathing water standards.
- 3.14. In addition to the above, NRW have now established the **South Central Bathing Waters Project** to further investigate the poor water quality classification at Ogmores by Sea. This project will provide an opportunity to develop a catchment wide framework for managing and improving water quality.
- 3.15. Following the current evidence gathering and scoping phase, NRW aim to develop a full business case by spring 2027, outlining the requirements for an implementation phase and setting out a comprehensive project plan. NRW will of course take advantage of opportunities to improve water quality as the project develops.
- 3.16. NRW's ambition is to create an integrated approach to catchment resilience. Whilst the immediate priority is addressing bathing water quality, this project aims to bring together wider environmental improvements such as water quality, resilient soils,

biodiversity and flood risk management in order to provide the best opportunity of addressing the many complex issues with the Ogmore river catchment. The project will seek to develop a whole-catchment plan that blends traditional engineering with nature-based solutions, driving climate resilience while supporting economic growth and community well-being.

- 3.17. Furthermore DCWW has committed to develop a coastal model for Ogmore. This commitment is reflected in DCWW's next business plan and development of the project has already begun. The model will provide an evidence platform for NRW, DCWW and the Council.
- 3.18. DCWW have also recently completed further Capital Works to upgrade the Pen-y-bont Wastewater Treatment Works site. This work has resulted in an additional hybrid tank storage tank being brought to provide an additional 4,600m³ of storage capacity during storm events.

Next Steps

- 3.19. As stated earlier in this report the Council is committed to working with partner agencies in NRW and DCWW as part of their statutory requirements to investigate and assess the causes of the poor bathing water classification at Ogmore By Sea and impacts on the River Ogmore catchment areas.
- 3.20. The Council is keen to continue to work with local user groups as well as local Members in making these improvements to ensure an open and transparent approach is taken. We will ensure that regular meetings take place with the groups to discuss progress.
- 3.21. Officers will report back regularly to the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress.

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

- 4.1 This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

- 5.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires the Council to underpin decision making by contributing to the seven well-being goals of the Act, following the five ways of working, and consequently undertaking actions that will have a positive

impact on people living in the future as well as those living today. Consequently, the Council seeks to work in the following ways:

- Looking to the long term;
- Taking an integrated approach;
- Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions affecting them;
- Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions; and
- Acting to prevent problems from occurring or getting worse.

5.2 It is clear that the by working in partnership with NRW and DCWW the Council is taking a collaborative approach to addressing the Water Quality issues that have been identified.

5.3 Furthermore, the ambition to improve and enhance the bathing water quality and wider water quality issues in the Ogmores Catchment will ensure that pollution issues are addressed to ensure that future generations can enjoy and have access to the highest standards of bathing waters.

5.4 The work to address bathing and wider water quality issues supports this Council's Well Being Objective in responding to the climate and nature emergency. Additionally this work will contribute to the objective to support people to live healthy and happy lives by improving the water quality within rivers and beaches in the County Borough.

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

6.1. Bathing water quality reporting is highly perceptible to climatic changes, in particular, increased periods of heavy rainfall and with our changing climate, we must be prepared to deal with impacts of longer, heavier bouts of rain on a regular basis. Climate change has the potential to impact coastal ecosystems in multiple ways, altering human exposure to water-related contaminants that can cause illness.

6.2. As such it will be imperative to reduce the impacts of stormwater flows in order to reduce the potential pollution impacts on bathing waters. Implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage solutions will therefore play a vital role in helping to reduce releases of stormwater now and in the future to reduce the long-term impacts of climate change.

6.3. The commitment to work with NRW and DCWW as set out in this report will be vital to ensure that long term improvements and reduction in pollution can be implemented in order to ensure the protection and enhancement of water quality and bathing waters in Bridgend County Borough Council.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no Safeguarding or Corporate Parent Implications for this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial Implications for this report.

9. Recommendation(s)

9.1. It is recommended that the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the content of this report and the ongoing work, including the South Central Bathing Waters Project to assist in improving bathing waters and wider water quality improvements in the Ogmores Catchment area within Bridgend County Borough Council.

Background documents

None

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Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	15 JUNE 2026
Report Title:	AUDIT WALES REPORT BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES
Responsible Officer:	JONATHAN PARSONS – GROUP MANAGER PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July and August 2025 Wales Audit undertook a study of the Planning and Development Service at Bridgend and examined whether the Council supports the service to deliver value for money in the use of its resources. • The audit focused on the Development Control team and the Strategic Planning Policy Team within the Council’s Planning and Development Service. • Building Control, Strategic Transportation, Highway Development Control and Highway Estate Development are also functions within the wider Planning and Development service, but were not included within this audit. • Wales Audit noted the Service’s performance but did not examine the reasons for its performance or make judgements on it. • Wales Audit did not look at the decisions of individual planning applications. • This report provides a summary of the findings of the audit and the proposed management response

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit to the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee the Audit Wales report on the Planning & Development Service at Bridgend together with the management response and an update on progress. A copy of the report and the management response form is attached as Appendix 1.

2. Background

- 2.1 Audit Wales undertakes a programme of work during the year to help the Auditor General discharge his duties under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004. The Auditor General's functions include auditing accounts and undertaking local performance audit work at a broad range of public bodies, alongside conducting a programme of national value for money examinations and studies. The Auditor General also assesses the extent to which public bodies are complying with the sustainable development principle when setting and taking steps to meet their well-being objectives.
- 2.2 Audit Wales carried out its audit of the Planning & Development Service (the Service) in Bridgend during July and August 2025 and published their report, 'Planning Development Service – Bridgend County Borough Council' in December 2025. The audit noted the Service's performance but did not examine the reasons for its performance or make judgements on performance and did not look at the decisions of individual planning applications.

3. Current situation/ proposal

- 3.1 The Planning & Development Services Group comprise of the statutory town & country planning functions – development control & strategic planning as well as building control, strategic transportation, highway development control and highway estate development. However, for the purposes of the report, the audit focused on development control and strategic planning functions.
- 3.2 The report indicated that Planning Services can play a key role in supporting councils to deliver their well-being objectives. The service is responsible for the Local Development Plan (LDP) and its policies that set out what kind of development is suitable in different parts of the County Borough. This informs other Council services, developers, communities, and residents what development can happen and where. The report highlights that the Service together with the Council's Development Control Committee decide individual planning applications and these vary from major developments, such as new school buildings, housing and industrial estates, to house extensions, or changes of use of buildings. As part of the determination process the service must balance the need for new development with the importance of protecting the environment and local amenities. The service also works to maintain the natural and built heritage and the environment. It also has enforcement powers to act against any development that takes place without the required permission.
- 3.4 The main issues identified in the report are summarised as follows and outlined below in more detail.

- The Council has limited recognition and understanding of the important role the Planning & Development service has in supporting its priorities.
- The report identified weaknesses in the management of resources and risk to support the service.
- The service lacks a service plan and there is limited understanding and oversight of the service's performance.
- The Council has comprehensive arrangements supporting its Development Control committee.

- 3.5 It was indicated that the Service is represented on different Council programme boards, which helps ensure that major projects receive the necessary professional planning advice. However, it would appear that other Council services often engage with the Service too late, which means that proposals may be at an advanced stage before consulting the service. If the Service subsequently finds that planning developments are not in line with planning guidelines or the RLDP, it can delay progress or impact on meeting funding deadlines and may mean resources have been allocated to projects that do not meet land use planning policies or requirements. This may be due to a lack of understanding as to the role of the Service.
- 3.6 The report identified that following changes to the Council's Corporate Plan in April 2025 there is no direct reference to the Service. Given the major planning developments underway within the County Borough, Audit Wales queried why the service does not have a higher profile in the Corporate Plan particularly as many of the aims within the Council's Wellbeing Objectives and its RLDP overlap. These include redevelopment, new developments, regeneration and placemaking. These cannot be achieved without the Service, yet the important role it plays is absent.
- 3.7 With regards to resourcing, the report highlighted that the Service is facing a range of challenges, which pose a risk to its resilience in meeting its demands. Also, the Service has not met its income targets for the last two years. The current funding arrangement for the Service is based on 70% of fee income (mainly from planning applications) and 30% of base budget funding. The report commented that this formula does not appear to be based on robust modelling and financial planning making the Service reliant on fluctuating planning fee income impacted by external factors outside of the Council's control. This arrangement does not provide stability for the Service and makes it difficult for it to plan for the medium to long term.
- 3.8 It was acknowledged that the Service has submitted reports setting out its challenges, workloads and resourcing needs to the Corporate and Cabinet Management Board (CCMB) in October 2020, December 2022, November 2024, and April 2025. These reports clearly stated the potential impact on the service's ability to support delivery of the Council's major projects and its competing demands. In 2022, the service presented the CCMB with a proposed new staff structure with an increased budget requirement of £646,000. The service did not

receive a permanent budget increase but instead received a one-off amount of £365,000 from ear marked reserves (EMR). The use of EMR is a short-term funding solution and does not support the service in the medium to long term and at the time of audit the reserves had run out.

- 3.9 The report recognised that Service's annual budget does not provide a true reflection of the costs of delivering the service. It does not include the cost of using agency staff, even though the service has used agency staff for at least three years. The total amount spent on agency staff between 2022-23 to 2024-25 is £208,311. At the end of June 2025, the service had spent £35,104. At the time of audit, no value for money assessment had been undertaken on the use of agency staff.
- 3.10 The report also referred the Council's proposal to set up a S106 and infrastructure delivery team. It is estimated that the RLDP could generate approximately £116 million in Section 106 (S106) monies over its term. S106 income can help fund community infrastructure projects, such as parks and community facilities. Having a dedicated team demonstrate that the Council recognises the importance of overseeing this income and need to mitigate the potential for any underspends.
- 3.11 The report highlighted that the service does not have a risk register setting out its current and future risks and how it manages and mitigates these risks. There are no arrangements for the recording and oversight of service risks once such significant and long-standing risk is the capacity to support delivery of the Council's regeneration programme and its statutory responsibilities. For example, the RLDP is expected to attract more developers to the Borough with an anticipated increase in major planning applications which can help the Council achieve wider social and economic benefits. However, there is no risk management arrangement for the Council to assure itself it has capacity within the service to respond to this increase in workload,
- 3.12 At a corporate level the report identified an overall lack of awareness of the requirement for a service plan as set out in its Performance Management Framework (PMF). These plans should inform Directorate Business Plans and the Corporate Plan and whilst there is a high-level annual Communities Business Plan, there is a complete lack of service planning. In the absence of a service plan, there is no clarity on service priorities, performance, and risks. There is no plan as to how the Service will set out how it will deliver its responsibilities. Furthermore, there is a corresponding lack of evidence as to how the Council monitors compliance with its service planning in its PMF.
- 3.13 In terms of performance there is limited awareness of the Service's performance. Whilst data is submitted every quarter to the Welsh Government for inclusion into national performance indicators. the Service does not analyse this data nor is there oversight outside of the Service to understand its performance. The report indicated that the Service focuses on making the right decisions rather than the timeliness of making decisions. The report highlighted that for the two-year period between April 2023 to March 2025, the service consistently performed well below the Wales average for the percentage of planning applications determined within statutory and agreed timescales. However, aside from quarter 1 2024-25 (April to June 2024) and quarter 4 2024-25 (January to March 2025), the service performed significantly better than the Wales average over the two-year period for the average time in days to determine planning applications. In this area, the service is performing better

than many other Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the time taken to make decisions.

3.14 In its report Audit Wales has made four recommendations to the Council which focus on resource management, service planning, risk and performance management as outlined below.

- **Recommendation 1 Resource management**

The Council should demonstrate it understands the resource requirements of the Planning and Development service based on its demands and capacity to help inform resourcing decisions.

- **Recommendation 2 Risk management**

The Council should ensure the Service identifies, manages, and monitors its risks to help the Council understand how service risks may impact delivery of the service's responsibilities and the Council's priorities set out in its Corporate Plan.

- **Recommendation 3 Service planning arrangements**

The Council should comply with its Performance Management Framework and ensure the Planning and Development Service has a service plan.

- **Recommendation 4 Performance monitoring and reporting**

The Council should ensure it manages, monitors, and reports the activity and performance of the Planning and Development Service. This should be supported with up-to-date performance information to help improve the Council's understanding of the service's performance.

3.15 Following the feedback from Wales Audit the Council has proposed a further EMR to provide a short-term resourcing solution. This will allow recruitment of vacant posts and develop a revised structure including additional back office and technical roles to support the planning function and free up other officers. Work is now underway on developing a revised structure with new added roles.

3.16 An 'equalisation' fund has been set up to ensure that any income surplus is ring fenced to the Service. Also, longer term income will be modelled to allow realistic fee targets to be agreed and the establishment a sustainable funding model for the Service going forward. The Service will also be supported to maximise its use of resources through business process reengineering and the emerging use of artificial intelligence.

3.17 The Service will set up and maintain a service risk register outlining current and predicted work streams together with resource requirements cross referend to the Council's wider aims. A Service Plan will be developed outlining the functions, responsibilities, aims and targets for the Service. The plan will also incorporate the risk register and will be updated annually and reported to the Development Control Committee and Corporate Management Team to ensure that the risks are identified and shared with senior management, members and other services. The report will

include statistical data as well as commentary and updates on the risk register and targets set in the Service Plan.

- 3.18 It is proposed to develop the above by Autumn 2026 and align with other statutory reporting deadlines such as the Annual Performance Report (APR) and the RLDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) both of which are submitted to Welsh Government,
- 3.19 A full copy of the Audit Wales Report together with the completed Management Response Form is attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.20 The Audit Wales report was presented to the Governance & Audit Committee on the 29th January and the Development Control Committee on the 5th February 2028. The links to the relevant papers for these meetings are below.

<https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s37078/GAC%20Audit%20Wales%20Reports.pdf>

<https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s37151/Wales%20Audit%20Reporta.ppx.pdf>

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

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

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

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

6. Climate Change 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 There are no safeguarding or corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

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

9. Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 That the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the report.

Background documents

None

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Planning and Development service

Bridgend County Borough Council

November 2025

About us

We have prepared and published this report under Section 17(2)(d) of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and Section 15 of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

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Audit snapshot

What we looked at

- 1 We looked at whether Bridgend County Borough Council (the Council) supports the Planning and Development Service (the service) to deliver value for money in the use of its resources.
- 2 This audit focussed on the Development Control team and the Strategic Planning Policy Team in the Council's Planning and Development Service. Building Control, Strategic Transportation and Highway Development Control are services within the Planning and Development service, but we did not include these within this audit.
- 3 We note the Service's performance but did not examine the reasons for its performance or make judgements on it.
- 4 We did not look at the decisions of individual planning applications.
- 5 We undertook this audit between July and August 2025.
- 6 In January 2025, the Welsh Government closed its consultation on 'promoting a resilient and high performing planning service'. In summary, the Welsh Government consulted on:
 - increasing planning application fees;
 - changing the performance management framework;
 - Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) skills retention, bursaries, and apprenticeships; and
 - improving resilience and resources with Corporate Joint Committees including extending the Local Development Plan Review period.
- 7 At the time of this audit, the Welsh Government had not formally introduced changes following this consultation. This audit, therefore, reflects the service's arrangements before any Welsh Government changes.

Why this is important

- 8 A Planning Service can play a key role in supporting councils to deliver their well-being objectives. The service writes a Local Development Plan (LDP) and policies that set out what kind of development is suitable in different parts of the Borough. The LDP lets other Council services as well as developers, communities, and residents know what kind of development can happen and where.
- 9 The service and the Council's Development Control Committee (the Committee) decide individual planning applications. These applications vary from major developments, such as new school buildings, housing and industrial estates, to house extensions, or changes of use to buildings. When deciding whether to approve them, they balance the need for new housing, businesses, and infrastructure with the importance of protecting the environment and local amenities.
- 10 The service works to maintain the natural and built heritage and the environment. It also has enforcement powers to act against any development that takes place without the required permission.

What we have found

- 11 The Council has limited recognition and understanding of the important role the service has in supporting its priorities. There are weaknesses in the management of resources and risk to support the service. The service lacks a service plan and there is limited understanding and oversight of the service's performance. The Council has comprehensive arrangements supporting its Development Control committee.

What we recommend

- 12 We made four recommendations to the Council which focus on resource management, service planning, risk and performance management.

Key facts and figures

- During 2024-25, the Service received 707 planning applications. It determined 594 with 58 applications withdrawn.

- In April 2025, the Service had a backlog of 279 planning applications. This increased from a backlog of 224 planning applications from the previous year.

- At the time of this audit, the Development Control (planning) officers and agency staff had a combined total of 400 planning applications to determine. This averaged 50 planning applications each.

- The Development Control Team Leaders, Building and Development Control Manager and Group Manager also have planning applications to determine.

The Service has an income target from planning application fees:

- The 2023-24 income target was £832,092. The service achieved £408,028.
- The 2024-25 income target was £760,266. The service achieved £481,450.
- The 2025-26 income target is £952,060. At the end of June 2025, the service had received £353,448.

The Service has spent the following on agency staff:

- £28,366 in 2022-23
- £88,431 in 2023-24
- £91,514 in 2024-25

The Council is the first Local Planning Authority (LPA) since the COVID-19 pandemic to approve a Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).

Our findings

The Council has limited recognition and understanding of the important role the Planning and Development service has in supporting its priorities

- 14 Senior officers from the service are involved in different programme boards, which helps ensure that major projects receive professional planning advice early. However, we were often told that Council services engage with the service too late. This means that planning developments may be at an advanced stage before consulting the service. If the service finds that planning developments are not in line with planning guidelines or the RLDP, it can delay progress. It could impact on meeting funding deadlines and may mean resources have been allocated to projects that do not meet planning policies. Delays cause frustration and may be due to a lack of understanding as to the role of the service and why early engagement is important.
- 15 The Council's Corporate Plan does not refer to the service following changes to the plan in April 2025. Considering there are major planning developments underway in the Borough, it is surprising the service does not have a higher profile in the Corporate Plan. Many of the aims within the Council's Wellbeing Objectives and its RLDP, for example, include redeveloping sites, building new ones, regeneration and placemaking. These cannot be achieved without the service, yet their important role is absent.

There are weaknesses in the management of resource and risk to support the Planning and Development service

Resource management

- 16 The service is facing a range of resourcing challenges, which poses a risk to its resilience to meet all its demands. The service has not met its income targets in the last two years. The service submitted reports setting out its challenges, workloads and resourcing needs to the Corporate and Cabinet Management Board (CCMB) in October 2020, December 2022, November 2024, and April 2025. These reports clearly state the potential impact on the service's ability to support delivery of the Council's major projects and its competing demands.
- 17 The current funding arrangement for the service is based on 70% of fee income from planning applications and 30% of base budget funding. We have not seen that this is based on robust modelling and financial planning. This makes the service reliant on planning fee income which fluctuates and can be impacted by external factors outside of the Council's control. This arrangement does not provide stability for the service and makes it difficult for it to plan over the medium and long term.
- 18 In 2022, the service presented the CCMB with a proposed new staff structure with an increased budget of £646,000. The service did not receive a permanent budget increase but instead received a one-off amount of £365,000 from ear marked reserves. The use of ear marked reserves is a short-term solution and does not support the service in the medium to long term. These reserves have now run out. At the time of this audit, the service was preparing to submit a growth bid to increase the base budget for 2026-27 as part of the Council's annual budget setting process.

- 19 The service's annual budget does not provide a true reflection of the costs of delivering the service. It does not include the cost of using agency staff, even though the service has used agency staff for at least three years. The total amount spent on agency staff between 2022-23 to 2024-25 is £208,311. At the end of June 2025, the service had spent £35,104. At the time of this audit, no value for money assessment had been undertaken on the use of agency staff.
- 20 The Council estimates it could generate approximately £116 million in Section 106 (S106) monies over the term of its RLDP.¹ This money can help fund community infrastructure projects, such as parks and community facilities. To manage and monitor the allocation of S106 monies, in early 2025, the Council approved setting up a S106 and Infrastructure Delivery team. This shows the Council recognises the importance of having a dedicated resource to oversee this money and mitigate the potential for any underspends of S106 money.

Risk management

- 21 The service does not have a service risk register setting out its current and future risks and how it manages and mitigates these. As a result, there are no arrangements for the recording and oversight of service risks and no way to assess risk scores or escalate relevant risks to the Directorate Risk Register.
- 22 We were told a significant and long-standing risk for the service is its capacity to support delivery of the Council's regeneration programme and its statutory responsibilities. For example, the Council's RLDP is expected to attract more developers to the Borough with an anticipated increase in major planning applications. These planning applications can help the Council achieve wider social and economic benefits. However, there is no risk management arrangement for the Council to assure itself it has capacity in the service to respond to this increase in interest.

¹ An S106 agreement (S106) is a legally binding private contract between a developer (or a number of interested parties) and a Local Planning Authority (LPA) that operates alongside a statutory planning permission.

The service lacks a service plan and there is limited understanding and oversight of the service's performance

Service planning

- 23 There is a lack of awareness of the corporate requirement to have a service plan. The Council clearly sets out in its Performance Management Framework (PMF) that services should have a service plan. These should inform Directorate Business Plans and the Corporate Plan. While there is a high-level annual Communities Business Plan, there is a complete lack of service planning within the service.
- 24 Without a service plan, the service is not providing clarity on its priorities, performance, and risks. Nor does the service set out how it will deliver its responsibilities. The Council does not support services to meet this corporate requirement by providing a service plan template. We found no evidence the Council monitors compliance with its service planning requirements in its PMF. We set out in **Appendix 3** some of the significant advantages of having a service plan.

Oversight of performance

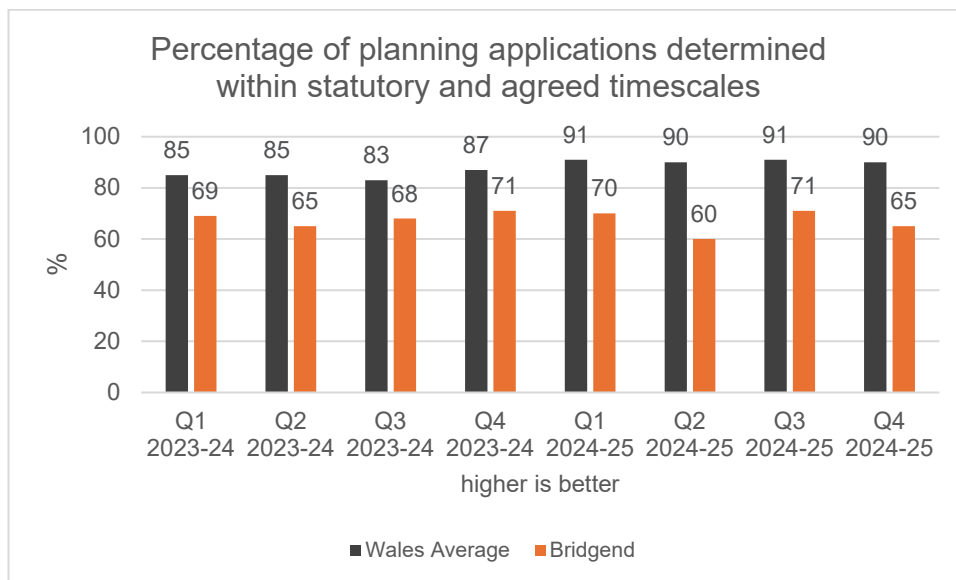
- 25 There is limited awareness of the service's performance. Every quarter, the service sends the Welsh Government its performance for several national indicators.² However, the service does not analyse this data nor is there oversight outside of the service to understand its performance.
- 26 We consistently heard the narrative that the service focuses on making the right decisions rather than the timeliness of making decisions. We were told the service is underperforming on timeliness of decision making, however, not all the performance data supports this.
- 27 There are two main national indicators set by the Welsh Government for monitoring the timeliness of decision making:

² [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#)

- percentage of planning applications determined in statutory and agreed timescales; and
- the average time taken to determine all applications in days.

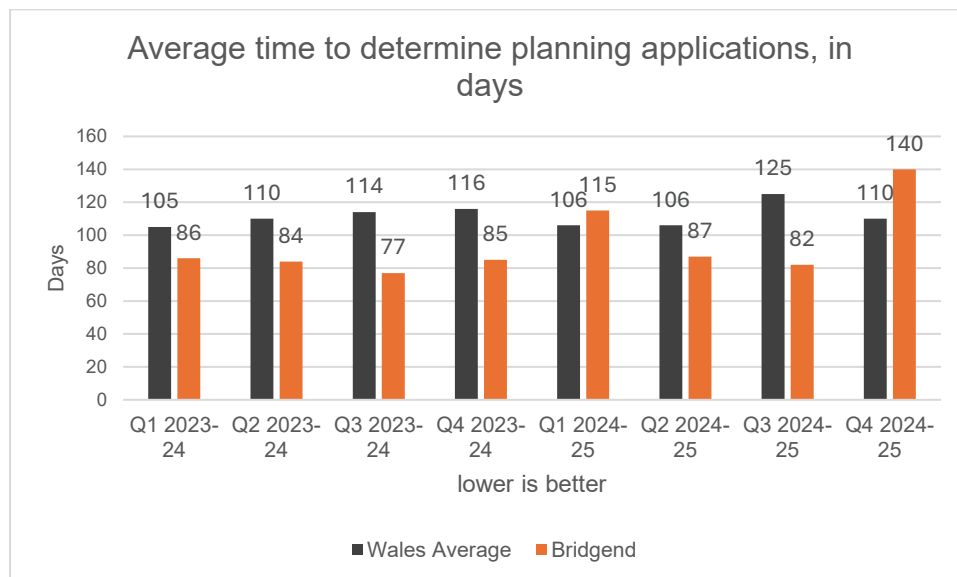
28 As shown in **Exhibit 1**, for the two-year period between April 2023 to March 2025, the service consistently performed well below the Wales average for the percentage of planning applications determined within statutory and agreed timescales.

Exhibit 1: percentage of planning applications determined within statutory and agreed timescales



Source: Welsh Government, [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#), July 2025

29 However, as shown in **Exhibit 2**, aside from quarter 1 2024-25 (April to June 2024) and quarter 4 2024-25 (January to March 2025), the service performed significantly better than the Wales average over the two-year period for the average time in days to determine planning applications. Therefore, the service is performing better than a lot of Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the time taken to make decisions.

Exhibit 2: average time to determine planning applications, in days.

Source: Welsh Government, [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#), July 2025

30 We found limited evidence of any public committee receiving information on the service's performance, risks, and activity in at least the last two years. As a result, there is insufficient awareness, oversight and scrutiny of the service even though it is an essential enabler for the delivery of the Council's ambitions.

The Council has comprehensive arrangements supporting its Development Control committee

31 The Council has a comprehensive Planning Code of Practice which guides members on the Development Control Committee procedures and arrangements. It last reviewed this document in May 2022, and is in the process of reviewing it again to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

- 32 Development Control Committee members receive regular support to help them understand their roles and responsibilities, and changes to planning policies. There is a good induction into the Committee and the service holds regular briefings and training for all members. This constant support can help all members understand the role of a committee member, the role and purpose of the committee as well as changes to local and national planning policies.

Recommendations

R1 Resource management

The Council should demonstrate it understands the resource requirements of the Planning and Development service based on its demands and capacity to help inform resourcing decisions. **(Paragraph 16)**

R2 Risk management

The Council should ensure the service identifies, manages, and monitors its risks to help the Council understand how service risks may impact delivery of the service's responsibilities and the Council's priorities set out in its Corporate Plan. **(Paragraph 21)**

R3 Service planning arrangements

The Council should comply with its Performance Management Framework and ensure the Planning and Development service has a service plan. **(Paragraph 22)**

R4 Performance monitoring and reporting

The Council should ensure it manages, monitors, and reports the activity and performance of the Planning and Development Service. This should be supported with up-to-date performance information to help improve the Council's understanding of the service's performance. (**Paragraph 31**)

Appendices

1 About our work

Scope of the audit

This audit focussed on the Development Control team and the Strategic Planning Policy Team in the Council's Planning and Development Service.

We looked at:

- whether the Council can demonstrate the service is a key enabler to support delivery of its well-being objectives;
- the planning and management of the resourcing of the service;
- whether there are clear roles and responsibilities in the service; and
- whether the Council manages the performance of the service.

We note the service's performance (**Appendix 2**) but did not examine the reasons for its performance or make judgements on it.

We did not look at the decisions of individual planning applications.

We undertook this audit between July and August 2025.

Audit questions and criteria

Questions

This audit sought to answer the following questions:

- Can the Council demonstrate the Planning and Development Service is a key enabler to support delivery of its well-being objectives?
- Does the Council have arrangements to plan and manage the resources of its Planning and Development Service?
- Does the Planning and Development Service have clearly defined roles and responsibilities to underpin operational delivery?

- Does the Council manage the performance of the Planning and Development Service?

Criteria

We assessed whether:

- the Council is clear on the role and function of the service;
- the Council has aims and objectives for the service;
- it is clear how the service contributes towards delivering the Council's priorities;
- officers from the service attend corporate or strategic groups for Council major developments and are well connected to other Council services to provide support and advice;
- the service has a business plan (or equivalent);
- the Council understands the service's risks, challenges, resource (finance and staff) requirements including demand and capacity;
- the Council has assessed its capacity and resource needs to deliver its commitments in its current Local Development Plan 2018-2033 and next iteration of this Plan;
- the Council has committee procedural arrangements for its Development Control Committee and regularly reviews these;
- the Development Control Committee members and the staff in the service staff receive appropriate induction, training and support;
- the Council has arrangements for the reporting and scrutinising of the service's performance;
- the Council can demonstrate how it responds to service challenges and opportunities; and
- the Council benchmarks the performance of the service to compare it to other planning services.

The development of the audit questions and criteria has been informed by our cumulative knowledge of our reviews at other Local Planning Authorities.

Methods

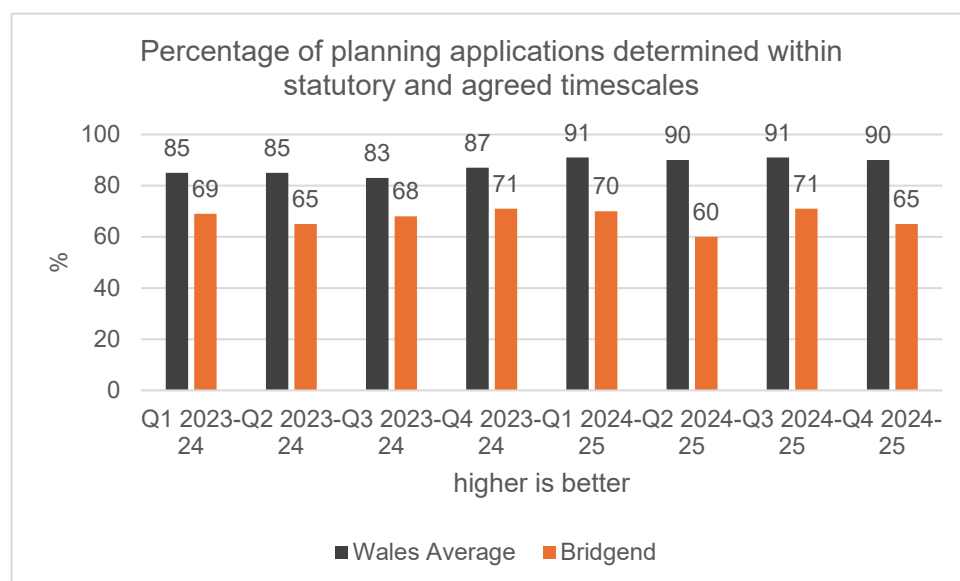
We read documents, watched Development Control Committee meetings, and interviewed officers and members.

2 Planning and Development Service Performance

Every quarter, Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) report performance data to the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government publicly reports three performance indicators. Publication of this information allows for comparisons of the performance of the service. We reviewed the data published by the Welsh Government from the period April 2023 to March 2025. At the time of this audit, the Welsh Government had not published performance data from April 2025 onwards.

Below is the performance of the service compared to the other LPAs.

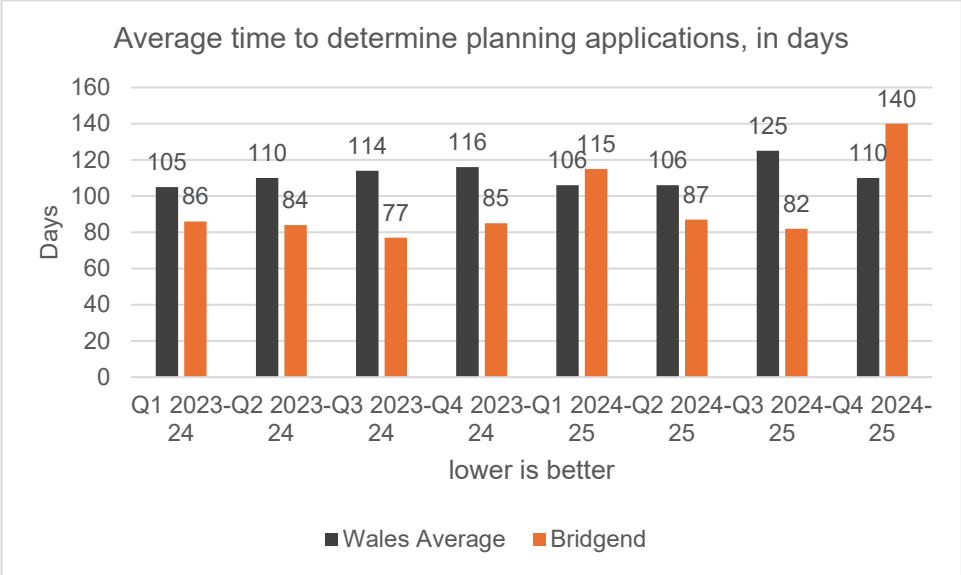
Exhibit 1: percentage of planning applications determined within statutory and agreed timescales



Source: Welsh Government, [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#), July 2025

For the two-year period between April 2023 to March 2025, the service consistently performed well below the Wales average for the percentage of planning applications determined within statutory and agreed timescales.

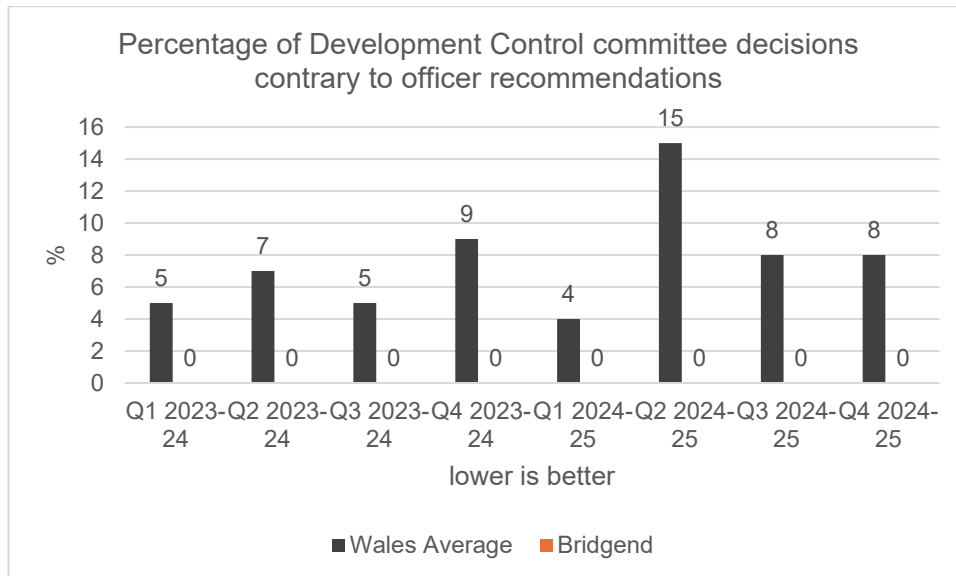
Exhibit 2: average time to determine planning applications, in days



Source: Welsh Government, [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#), July 2025

Aside from quarter 1 2024-25 (April to June 2024) and quarter 4 2024-25 (January to March 2025), the service performed significantly better than the Wales average over the two-year period for the average time in days to determine planning applications.

Exhibit 3: percentage of Planning Committee decisions contrary to officer recommendations

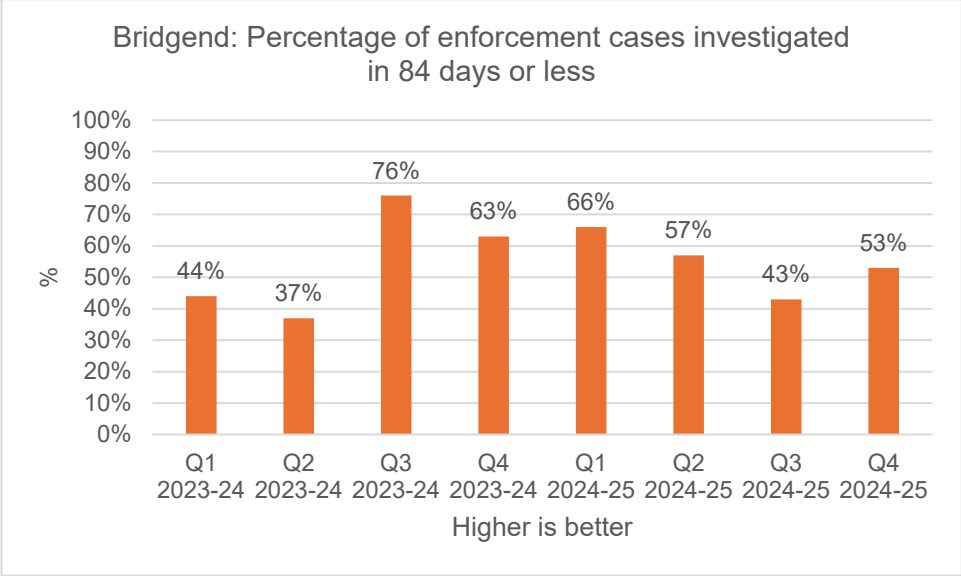


Source: Welsh Government, [Development management quarterly surveys | GOV.WALES](#), July 2025

For the two-year period between April 2023 to March 2025, the Development Control committee did not made any decisions contrary to officer recommendations.

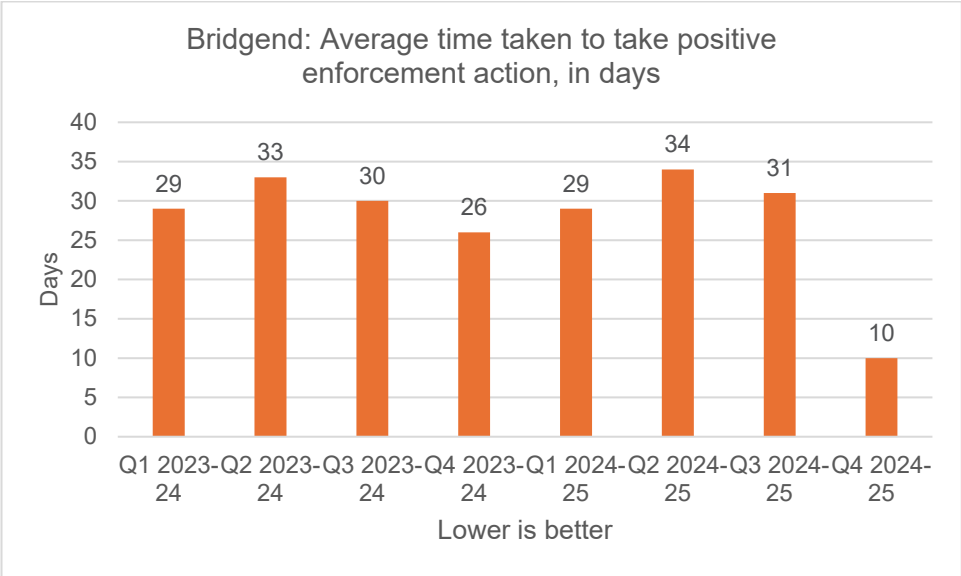
We also reviewed the Council's quarterly performance returns to the Welsh Government for the period April 2023 to March 2025. While the service reports this information to the Welsh Government, the Welsh Government does not publicly report this information. Therefore, we are unable to present comparable performance information for **Exhibits 4 to 6** with other LPAs.

Exhibit 4: percentage of enforcement cases investigated in 84 days or less



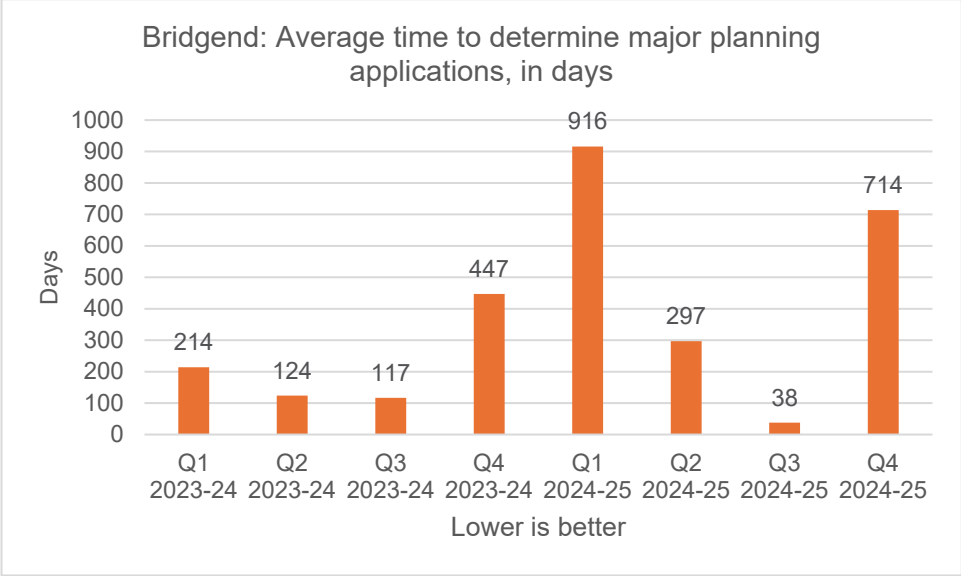
Source: Bridgend County Borough Council, **Development Management Quarterly Surveys**

Exhibit 5: average time taken to take positive enforcement action, in days



Source: Bridgend County Borough Council, **Development Management Quarterly Surveys**

Exhibit 6: average time to determine major planning applications, in days



Source: Bridgend County Borough Council, **Development Management Quarterly Surveys**

3 Service Plan benefits

There are several advantages to having a service plan. It can:

- reflect the range of the service's activity and contributions to the Council;
- help the Director and Cabinet Member identify actions and performance measures that support the Communities Business Plan and corporate priorities;
- state the service's performance aspirations;
- include the service's improvement actions;
- include key challenges, priorities and actions;
- identify service risks and mitigating actions;
- provide a structure for an induction into the service;
- inform future staffing resource needs; and
- provide a structure for performance monitoring and reporting.

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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg.

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Management response form



Audit Wales use only

Audited body	Bridgend County Borough Council
Audit name	Planning and Development service
Issue date	November 2025

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
R1	<p>Resource management</p> <p>The Council should demonstrate it understands the resource requirements of the Planning and Development service based on its demands and capacity to help inform resourcing decisions.</p>	<p>A Ear Marked Reservice fund (EMR) is proposed to provide a short term resourcing solution to allow recruitment of vacant posts and develop a revised structure including additional back office and technical roles to support the planning function and free up other officers.</p>	<p>Mid-January 2026 for EMR Qtr 4 25/26 for equalisation fund and agree fee targets for 26/27</p>	<p>Group Manager Planning & Development Services in association with Finance Team</p>	

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
		<p>Introduce an equalisation fund to ensure that any income surplus is ring fenced to the Planning & Development Service.</p> <p>Model fee income and agree targets to establish a long-term funding model for the service</p> <p>The service will also be supported to maximise its use of resources through business process reengineering and through the emerging use of AI.</p>			

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
R2	<p>Risk management</p> <p>The Council should ensure the service identifies, manages, and monitors its risks to help the Council understand how service risks may impact delivery of the service's responsibilities and the Council's priorities set out in its Corporate Plan.</p>	<p>Set up and maintain a service risk register outlining current and predicted work streams together with resource requirements cross referend to the Council's wider aims.</p> <p>The risk register will form part of a wider service plan (see below) to be updated annually and reported to the Development Control Committee and Corporate Management Board to ensure that the risks are identified and shared with senior management, members and other services.</p>	January – March 2026	Group Manager Planning & Development Services	

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
R3	<p>Service planning arrangements</p> <p>The Council should comply with its Performance Management Framework and ensure the Planning and Development service has a service plan.</p>	<p>A Service Plan will be developed outlining the functions, responsibilities, aims and targets for the Service. The plan will also incorporate a risk register and will be informed by an annual self-evaluation.</p>	<p>January – March 2026</p>	<p>Group Manager Planning & Development Services</p>	
R4	<p>Performance monitoring and reporting</p> <p>The Council should ensure it manages, monitors, and reports the activity and performance of the Planning and Development Service. This should be supported with</p>	<p>Re-introduce the planning performance framework and report annually to the Development Control Committee. The report will be prepared alongside the RLDP Annual Monitoring Report and Annual Performance Report.</p>	<p>Report to be compiled and complete by Autumn 2026</p>	<p>Group Manager Planning & Development Services</p>	

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
	up-to-date performance information to help improve the Council's understanding of the service's performance.	The report will include statistical data as well as commentary and updates on the risk register and targets set in the Service Plan			

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Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	15 JUNE 2026
Report Title:	CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPION NOMINATION
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CHIEF OFFICER - LEGAL, REGULATORY AND ELECTORAL SERVICES
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 permanent 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:-**

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.

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:	15 JUNE 2026
Report Title:	INFORMATION REPORT – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE QUARTER 3 2025-26
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, REGULATORY AND ELECTORAL SERVICES
Responsible Officer:	MERYL LAWRENCE SENIOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER - SCRUTINY
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	<p>To provide for information within the remit of this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report that was reported to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) on 16 March 2026 (Appendix A). - the Corporate Performance Dashboard for Quarter 3 2025-26 (Appendix 1). - The Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2025-26 (Appendix 2).

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide for information, within the remit of this Committee, the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 reported to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) on 16 March 2026, for Members' information.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the reporting of the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 to COSC for the monitoring of the quarterly performance, the report, performance dashboard and updated Regulatory Tracker for Quarter 3 are being reported to the subsequent meeting of the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees, for information on the performance within the respective remit of each Committee.

- 2.2 In a report to Governance and Audit Committee (GAC) in November 2022, Audit Wales highlighted the requirement for the Council to improve arrangements dealing with recommendations from regulator reports. In response a 'regulatory tracker' was developed which is considered at GAC twice yearly. In July 2023, GAC recommended that the regulatory tracker be included on all other Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes for the Committees to be aware of progress. This has now been integrated into the quarterly performance monitoring process.
- 2.3 Therefore the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report to COSC is attached at **Appendix A** with the following appendices to that report attached as:
Appendix 1 - the Corporate Performance Dashboard for Quarter 3 2025-26
Appendix 2 - the Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2025-26
- 2.4 The background to this report is set out in Section 2 of **Appendix A** – Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report to COSC on 16 March 2026.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 Details of the scale for scoring the Council's performance, summary of progress on Corporate Commitments, comparison with the previous quarter, overall performance on Performance Indicators (PIs) by Wellbeing Objective, PI trends and measuring performance against the five ways of working are set out in Section 3 of **Appendix A** – the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report to COSC on 16 March 2026.
- 3.2 In place of the previous 4 Directorate dashboards, a single performance dashboard (**Appendix 1**) has been developed for the Council's performance against its Corporate Plan based upon the Wellbeing Objectives, as requested by COSC, together with greater detail on the individual commitments and PIs along with improved explanatory comments.
- 3.3 Updates on current open Regulator Reports/Audits are collected as part of the corporate quarterly performance data collection. The Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2025-26 is included as **Appendix 2**.

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

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

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

5.1 This report assists in measuring and monitoring progress made against the following of the Council's 4 Wellbeing Objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

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

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

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

6.1 There are no climate change or nature implications from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

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

8. Financial Implications

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

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Committee is recommended to note the content of the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report (**Appendix A**), the Corporate Performance Dashboard Quarter 3 2025-26 (**Appendix 1**) and the Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2025-26 (**Appendix 2**) within the remit of this Committee and have regard to the dashboard and the tracker when considering the Committee's Forward Work Programme report.

Background documents

None

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Meeting of:	CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	16 MARCH 2026
Report Title:	CORPORATE PERFORMANCE QUARTER 3 2025-26
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CORPORATE DIRECTOR – FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE & PERFORMANCE
Responsible Officer:	KATE PASK POLICY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	Monitoring performance against the Corporate Plan forms part of the Council’s Performance Management Framework.
Executive Summary:	This report provides – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an overview of performance against wellbeing objectives in the Corporate Plan 2023-28 at quarter 3 2025-26. • analysis of performance on the commitments and performance indicators in the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP) 2025-26. • an update on the performance against our current regulator recommendations (Regulatory Tracker).

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of Council performance against the Corporate Plan at quarter 3 (Q3) of 2025-26. This is the third year of the 5-year Corporate Plan 2023-28 and the second monitoring report on the 2025-26 Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP). This report also contains analysis of performance against regulator recommendations.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 1 March 2023 Council agreed the Corporate Plan 2023-28. In April 2025 Council agreed the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2025-26 which set out aims, commitments, and performance indicators to help measure the Council’s progress on its priorities. The new delivery plan is more focussed than in the previous two years following a robust review, aligning with the current corporate priorities and resources. The key changes made were:
- Wellbeing Objectives (WBOs) were reduced from seven to four with some merged / subsumed into others. The four that remain focus on –
 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
 - Aims reduced from 41 to 21.

- Performance Indicators (PIs) (that measure the ‘business as usual’) reduced from 108 to 65.
- The Ways of Working measures, previously a standalone part of the Corporate Plan, have now been integrated into the WBOs.
- Commitments (that measure our initiatives or projects) reduced from 80 to 61.

2.2 Each Directorate produced a business plan, adding milestones against each commitment. These plans can be viewed via the staff intranet.

2.3 Data quality and accuracy templates have been completed for each PI to clearly define what the PI is measuring and scope of data included/excluded, calculation/verification methods, and responsible officers.

2.4 As part of the Performance Management Framework, monitoring of the CPDP is carried out quarterly through four directorate performance dashboards which are scrutinised by Directorate Management Teams. A single performance dashboard is reported quarterly to both Cabinet and Corporate Management Team (CCMT) and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC) at quarters 2, 3 and 4 to help them scrutinise progress.

2.5 The regulatory tracker, established in 2023 has been integrated into the quarterly performance monitoring process.

3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 The Q3 performance dashboard (**Appendix 1**) provides BRAYG (Blue, Red, Amber, Yellow, Green) judgements on progress against the CPDP 2025-26 for our 61 commitments and outlines key activities and achievements during Q3, and next steps where appropriate. It also provides verified Q3 values where available and supporting comments for the 65 PIs. The simple scale used to score performance is set out in our Performance Management Framework and summarised in Tables 1 and 2 below.

3.2 Summary of progress on Corporate Commitments

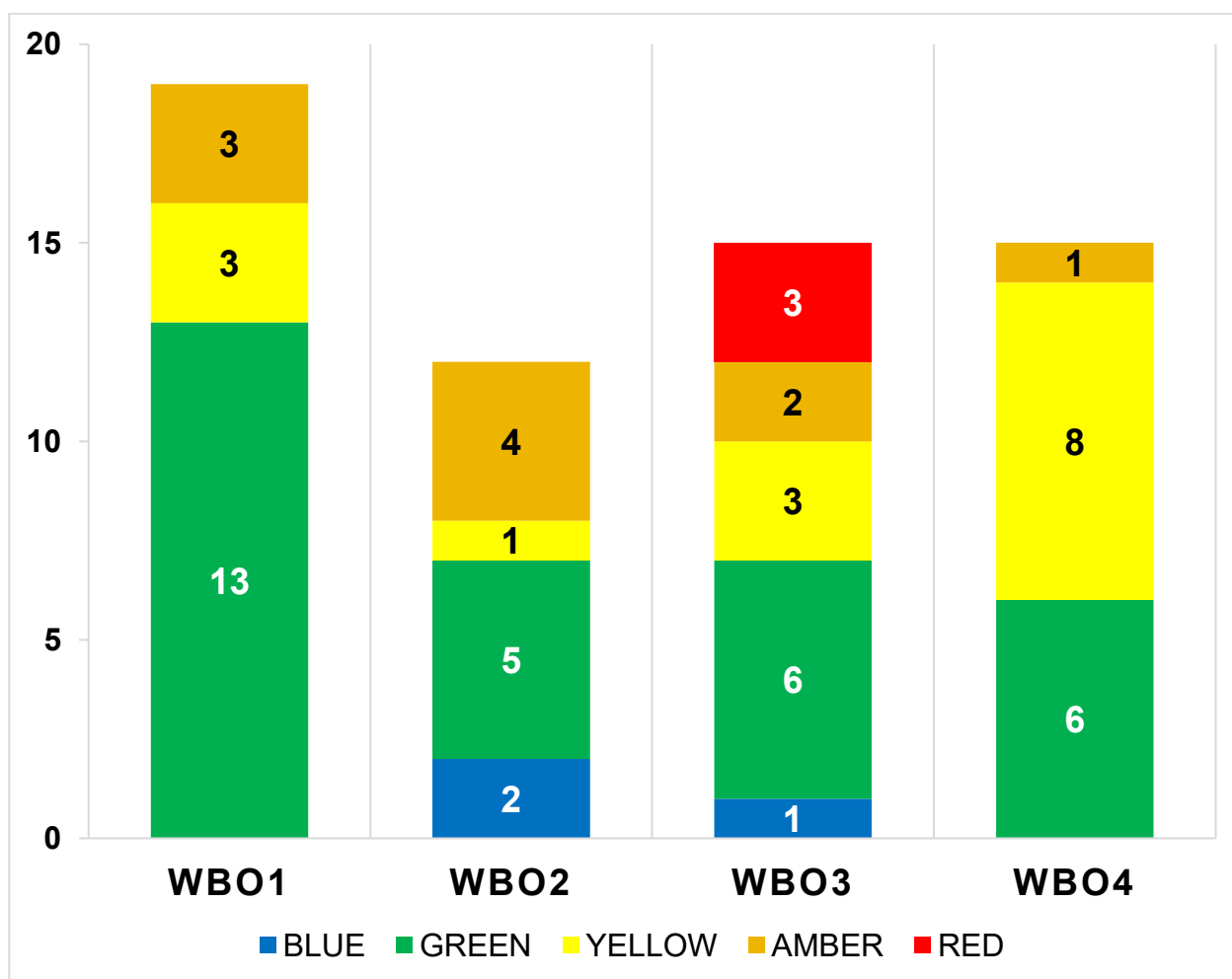
Table 1 shows the performance judgements for the 61 commitments at Q3 2025-26, with Chart 1 on the next page breaking this down further to show performance for each WBO.

Table 1

Status	Meaning of this status	Performance at Q2		Performance at Q3	
		Number	%	Number	%
COMPLETE (BLUE)	Project is completed	0	-	3	4.92
EXCELLENT (GREEN)	As planned (within timescales, on budget, achieving outcomes)	23	37.70%	30	49.18
GOOD (YELLOW)	Minor issues. One of the following applies - deadlines show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases	19	31.15%	15	24.59
ADEQUATE (AMBER)	Issues. More than one of the following applies - deadlines	14	22.95%	10	16.39

	show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases				
UNSATISFACTORY (RED)	Significant issues – deadlines breached, project over budget, risk score up to critical or worse	5	8.20%	3	4.92
	Total	61	100%	61	100%

Chart 1 - Overall Performance on Commitments by Wellbeing Objective



3.3 **Summary of Performance Indicators**

At Q3 we can evaluate performance on 36 quarterly PIs, the remaining 29 are annual and will be reported at Q4 only.

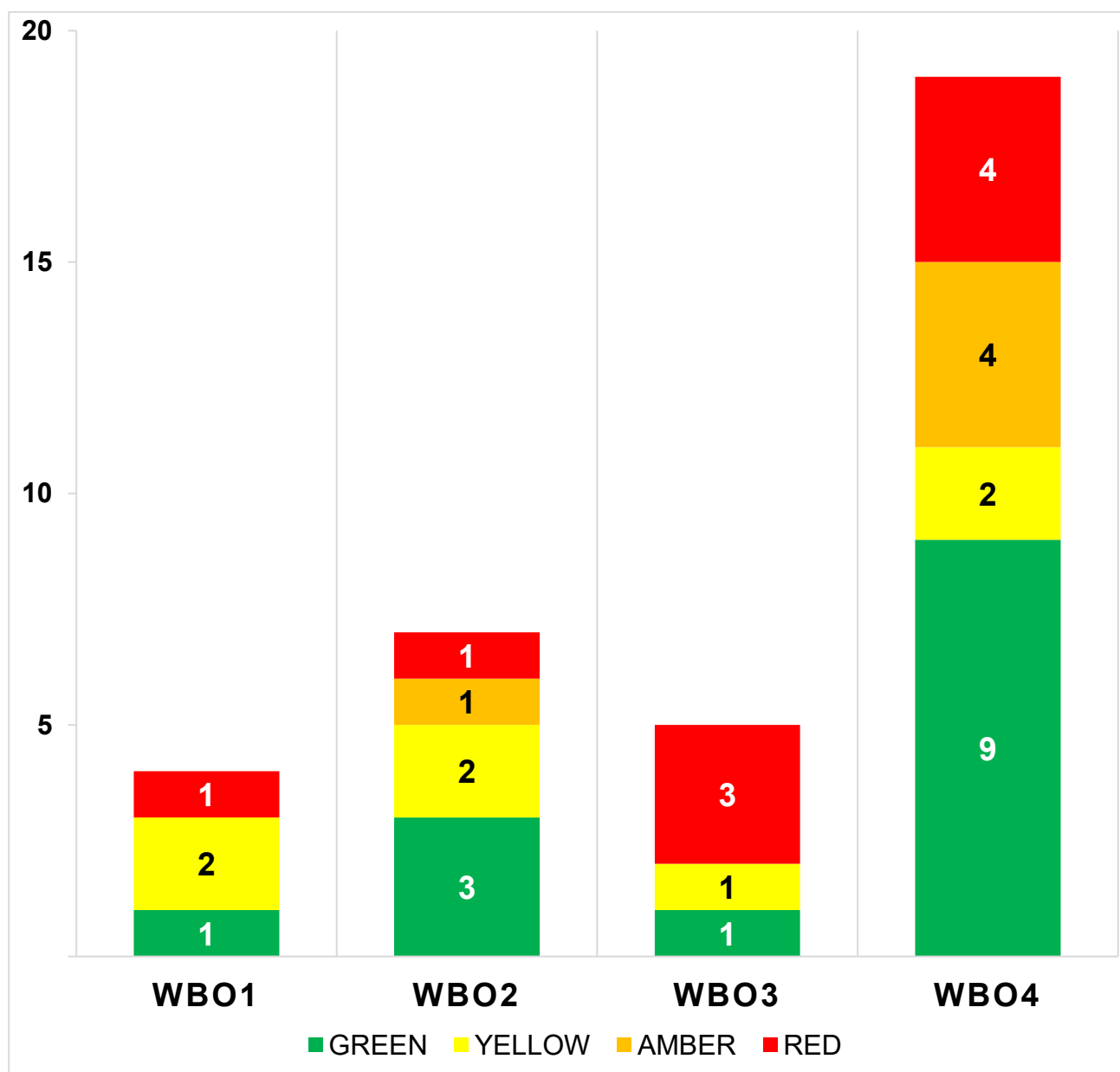
3.4 All of the 36 quarterly PIs have verified Q3 values, however only 35 could be compared against their target to award a RAYG (Red, Amber, Yellow, Green) status. One PI has not been provided with a target for 2025-26 and the data is monitoring trend progress only. Further details of this PI (sickness absence) are provided in paragraphs 3.7 and 3.8.

3.5 Table 2 below shows overall performance for PIs at Q3, and Chart 2 on the next page shows performance for each WBO.

Table 2

Status	Meaning of this status	Performance at Q2		Performance Q3	
		Number	%	Number	%
EXCELLENT (GREEN)	On target <u>and</u> improved or is at maximum	19	54.3%	14	40%
GOOD (YELLOW)	On target	4	11.4%	7	20%
ADEQUATE (AMBER)	Off target (within 10% of target)	4	11.4%	5	14.29%
UNSATISFACTORY (RED)	Off target (target missed by 10%+)	8	22.9%	9	25.71%
	Total	35	100%	35	100%

Chart 2 - Overall Performance on Performance Indicators by Wellbeing Objective

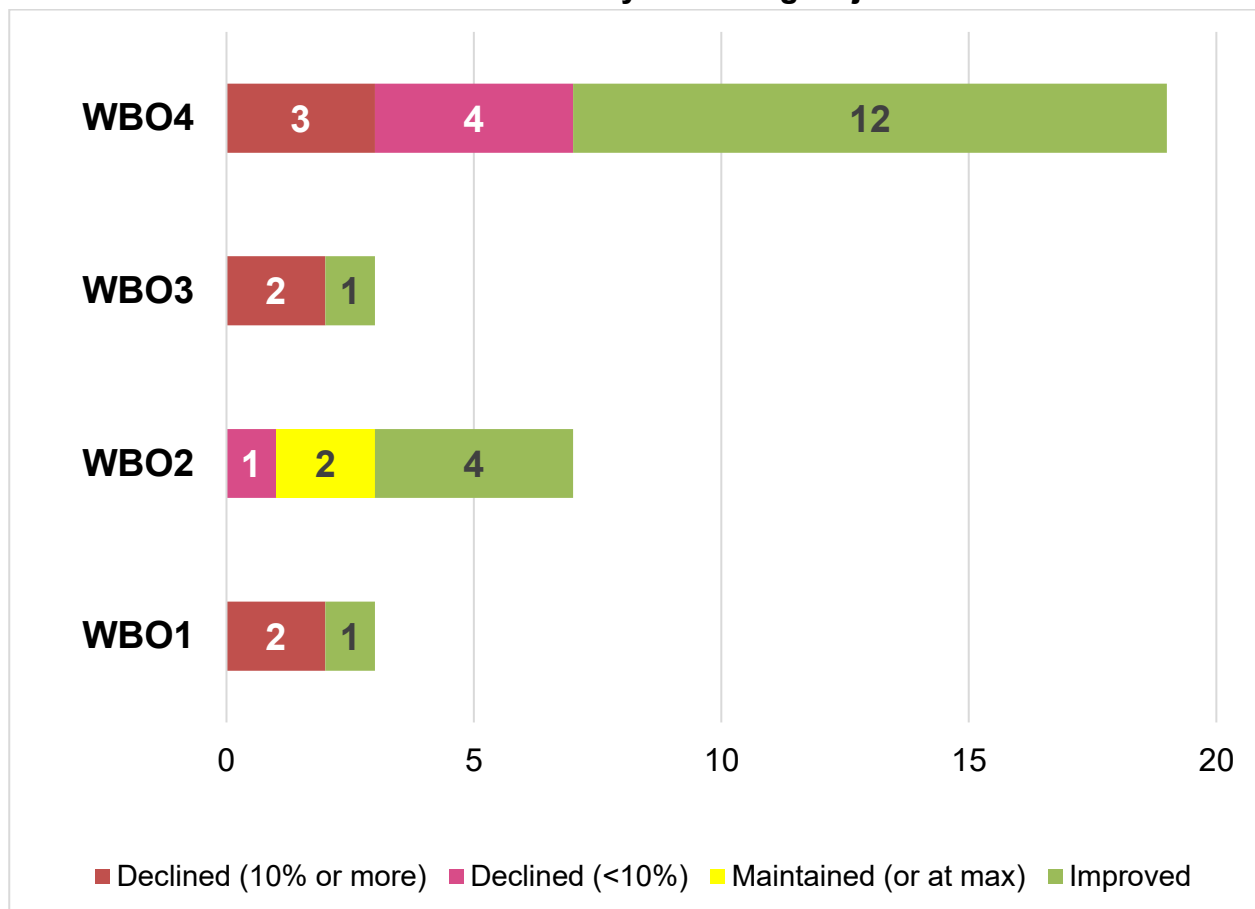


3.6 Trend data allows us to compare our Q3 values with the same period last year (Q3 2024-25). Comparable data for Q3 is available for 32 of the 36 quarterly PIs. Of the remaining four, two indicators do not have comparable verified data for Q3 last year because they are new, and two PIs are “trend not applicable” due to the way the targets are profiled. Trend analysis for Q3 performance is set out in Table 3 below, and Chart 3 on the next page, the trend analysis for each WBO.

Table 3

Performance Indicators Trend Definition		Trend at Q2		Trend at Q3	
		Number	%	Number	%
↑	Performance has improved	20	62.5%	18	56.25%
↔	Performance maintained (includes those at maximum)	3	9.375%	2	6.25%
↙	Declined performance (by less than 10%)	6	18.75%	5	15.6%
↓	Declined performance (by 10% or more)	3	9.375%	7	21.9%
Total		32	100%	32	100%

Chart 3 – Performance Indicator Trend by Wellbeing Objective



Summary of Sickness Absence Performance

- 3.7 There is no target set for sickness absence for 2025-26, though the focus continues to be on trying to reduce sickness across the organisation. Staff wellbeing measures are in place and sickness continues to be closely monitored.
- 3.8 The cumulative days lost per full time equivalent (FTE) employee at Q3 2025-26 is 9.82 days, a 2.96% decrease compared to the 10.12 days reported at Q3 last year. This demonstrates an improving trend that is mirrored within directorate and schools' data with the exception of the Chief Executive's Directorate and Education, Early Years and Young People Directorate. The proportion of days lost that are classified as short-term absences (7 days or less) has decreased slightly from 23% in 2024-25 to 21% in 2025-26. The most common reason for absence continues to be Stress/Anxiety/Depression (not work related).

3.9 Summary of Performance against MTFS Savings Targets

At Q3 £6.468 million (77%) of the £8.379 million proposed budget reductions set out in the MTFS for 2025-26 have been achieved, with £7.473 million (89%) forecast as likely to be achieved by year end. A breakdown of the most significant budget reduction proposals unlikely to be achieved in full is included in **Appendix 1**, and additional financial information is provided in the Budget Monitoring 2025-26 Quarter 3 Revenue Forecast report presented to Cabinet on 3 February 2026.

3.10 Summary of Performance against Regulator Recommendations

Updates on current open Regulator Reports/Audits are collected as part of the corporate quarterly performance data collection. The Regulatory Tracker updated for Q3 2025-26 is included as **Appendix 2**. Summary of current reports and their BRAYG status judgements is provided in Table 4. A more detailed analysis will be provided to the Governance and Audit Committee in a report on 21 May 2026.

Table 4

Audit/Inspection	Recommendations					
	Total	Blue	Green	Yellow	Amber	Red
Audit Wales, Arrangements for Commissioning Services (June 2025)	3	-	-	3	-	-
Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Improvement Check Children's Social Care Services (June 2025)	16	2	8	4	2	-
CIW Inspection Report on Foster Wales Bridgend (June 2025)	5	-	-	5	-	-
Audit Wales, Setting of Well-being Objectives	3	2	1	-	-	-
CIW Inspection of Golygfa'r Dolydd (September 2024)	5	4	-	1	-	-
Audit Wales, Digital Strategy Review	3	1	-	-	2	-
CIW Improvement Check Visit to Children's Social Care Services (Nov 2022)	10	8	2	-	-	-
Transformational Leadership Programme Board, Baseline Governance Review CTM RPB	7	4	-	3	-	-
Audit Wales, Review of Arrangements to Become a 'Digital Council'	3	2	-	-	1	-
Total	55	23	11	16	5	0

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

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

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

5.1 This report assists in measuring and monitoring progress made against the following corporate well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that form the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-28:-

- THRIVING - A prosperous place with thriving communities
- EMPOWERING - Supporting our most vulnerable
- ACHIEVING - Enabling people to meet their potential
- MODERNISING - Creating modern, seamless public services

5.2 The 5 ways of working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act have also been considered in the development of the Council's wellbeing objectives. The ways of driving and measuring them is also contained in the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2025-26.

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

6.1 There are no specific implications of this report on climate change or nature. However, some of the measures and projects included within the Corporate Plan 2023-28 and annual delivery plan for 2025-26 have been developed to help assess the Council's performance in areas including climate change and nature.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no specific implications from this report on safeguarding or corporate parenting. However, some of the measures and projects included within the Corporate Plan 2023-28 and annual delivery plan for 2025-26 have been developed to help assess the Council's performance in areas including safeguarding and corporate parenting.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 The Committee is recommended to note the Council's performance at quarter 3 2025-26.

Background documents

None

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Corporate Performance Dashboard

Quarter 3 2025-26



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







KEY:**How will we mark or score ourselves**

We have one simple scale for how we mark or score the council's performance. Because overall judgements, commitments and performance indicators are measured differently, the colours or judgements have different descriptions depending on which type of performance you are reviewing.

	What does this Status mean?		
	Overall / self-assessment performance	Commitments, projects or improvement plans	Performance Indicators
COMPLETE (BLUE)	Not applicable	Project is completed	Not applicable
EXCELLENT (GREEN)	Very strong, sustained performance and practice	As planned - within timescales, on budget, achieving outcomes	On target and performance has improved / is at maximum
GOOD (YELLOW)	Strong features, minor aspects may need improvement	Minor issues. One of the following applies - deadlines show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases	On target
ADEQUATE (AMBER)	Needs improvement. Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects need improvement	Issues – More than one of the following applies - deadlines show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases	Off target (within 10% of target)
UNSATISFACTORY (RED)	Needs urgent improvement. Weaknesses outweigh strengths	Significant issues – deadlines breached, project over budget, risk score up to critical or worse	Off target (target missed by 10%+)

For performance indicators, we will also show trends in performance so you can see how we are doing compared with the same period last year.

Trend	Meaning
	Improved performance
	Maintained performance (includes those at maximum)
	Declined performance (by less than 10%)
	Declined performance (by 10% or more)

Trend	Performance Indicator types
CP	Corporate Plan Indicator

	Directorate Responsible
ALL	All Directorates
CEX	Chief Executives Directorate
COMM	Communities Directorate
EEYYP	Education, Early Years, and Young People Directorate
SSWB	Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate

THRIVING
A prosperous place with thriving communities



EMPOWERING
Supporting our most vulnerable



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County Borough Council

TEAM BRIDGEND

Our priorities for 2025/26

ACHIEVING
Enabling people to meet their potential



MODERNISING
Creating modern, seamless public services



WBO1: A prosperous place with thriving communities

WBO1.1: Moving towards net zero carbon, and improving our energy efficiency

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Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CED57 CP WBO1.1	Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) pollution in the air (micrograms per m3) (CEX SRS) Lower Preferred	43.60	40						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DCO20.01 CP WBO1.1	Annual Gas Consumption across the Authority – kWh (COMM) Lower Preferred	21,122,938 kwh	20,000,000 kwh						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DCO20.02 CP WBO1.1	Annual Electricity Consumption across the Authority – kWh (COMM) Lower Preferred	15,019,064 kwh	14,000,000 kwh						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DCO23.05 CP WBO1.1	Reduction in emissions (across our buildings, fleet & equipment, streetlighting, business travel, commuting, homeworking, waste, procured goods and services) (COMM) Higher Preferred	1%	5%						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.1.1	Invest in energy efficiency improvements to the Council's estate and assets. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Work has continued on established programmes of work to install energy efficiency measures across the Council's estate including LED lighting, building insulation, solar PV systems, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The Energy Manager has an ongoing programme of work in relation to monitoring and responding to key opportunities. The Decarbonisation Programme team is writing a business case for an invest to save programme of energy efficiency works via Salix loan finance. This will consider Refit as a potential contracting mechanism. BCBC has been awarded £109k of grant funding to purchase electric vans (as replacements for diesel vehicles) and to install more electric vehicle charging infrastructure at Waterton and Bryncethin Depots.	
WBO1.1.2	Implement our Air Quality Action Plan and monitor its effectiveness in improving air quality along Park Street (CEX SRS)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Action Plan has been implemented with Measure 18 still retained and will be reviewed in 2026, dependent on 2025 results. We are continuing to monitor the air quality in Park Street but still awaiting results for November and December to assess full results for 2025. Shared Regulatory Services successfully obtained Welsh Government (WG) Funding for two indicative Realtime monitors which were installed as of November 2025. Data will be reviewed accordingly following stabilisation and QA assurances. The Air Quality Annual Progress Report was approved by Cabinet in November 2025.	

WBO1.2: Protect landscapes and open spaces

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DCO23.06 CP WBO1.2	Number of blue flag beaches (COMM) Higher Preferred	3	3						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DCO23.07 CP WBO1.2	Number of green flag parks and green spaces (COMM) Higher Preferred	2	2						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.2.1	Deliver projects such as woodland enhancement, develop and protect our natural environment in partnership with our communities and key stakeholders as part of our Bridgend Biodiversity Plan (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Following the success of Bridgend's Nature Fest in 2025, planning has started for the 2026 Nature Fest, with an internal workshop held to discuss lessons learnt and improve the event. The One Common Connection Project is up and running; landowner agreements have been signed and submitted, and approval in place for works to be undertaken. A successful community engagement event was held for residents to find out more about the project. There continues to be challenges with some landowner agreements, and other sites are also being considered for mitigation activities to support the project. The Duty plan is being reviewed and contract awarded for the 2025-2028 plan which is due for completion before year-end. Internal review meetings have been held to ensure departments recognise their contribution, and a larger internal stakeholder group was facilitated by Nature Positive. The Climate Change Response Team has continued with increasing tree cover across the County Borough with new tree planting scheme due for completion by the end of March 2026. Discussion have taken place to explore funding options to improve pathways at Craig y Parcau.	

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WBO1.3: Promote the conditions for economic growth and prosperity

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DCO23.03 CP WBO1.3	Number of businesses receiving support through Shared Prosperity Funding (COMM) Higher Preferred	37	15	25	11	28	33	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: This is the final year of the funding so will attempt to maximise the benefits locally where possible with reduced funding available. Performance: The annual target has already been achieved in Q3 but is lower than the same period last year as we have allocated all of the current available SPF funding.
DCO23.04 CP WBO1.3	Number of business start-ups assisted (COMM) Higher Preferred	94	30						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.3.1	Develop funding bids enhance the economy and stimulate new job opportunities (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Following announcement of Local Growth Fund, work has been completed to strategically align current UKSPF activity to LGF activity, where suitable. A working estimate of funding allocation is £5,979,651 (70% capital and 30% revenue). In addition, work has been completed on proposed delivery of the DWP Connect to Work project, with Cardiff Council proposed as the regional lead. A working estimate of funding allocation is £4,055,200. All deadlines have been met to date in preparation for delivery in April 2026. Liaison with Industrial Communities Alliance, UK Government, WG and WLGA was undertaken to lobby the proposed way forward for the Local Growth Fund. An alignment exercise, led by RCT as regional lead, was undertaken and Bridgend County information was supplied within the deadlines set.	A response from UK Government and WG is expected in Q4.
WBO1.3.2	Invest in business start-ups in the County Borough by providing both professional and grant support, supporting key growth sectors like research and development, finance and the green economy (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: By the end of Q3 a total of 38 start up grants have been awarded, and the team had delivered a total of 27 business development grants and 3 business feasibility grants. The pop-up shop operating in Maesteg Market has now ended. The initiative attracted 86 expressions of interest and has accommodated twelve start-ups, bringing vibrancy and footfall to Maesteg Market. We have procured a further update to the Social Enterprise work carried out in the last financial year. An additional pop-up space has been developed in partnership with the Ospreys in Bridgend Town centre.	
WBO1.3.3	Invest an additional £7.75m of Shared Prosperity Funding in projects in the County Borough by 2026, with third sector partners, including in people and skills, supporting local businesses, and developing communities and place (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: As at the end of quarter 3, all projects are reporting full projected spend for the year. The team has delivered total of 27 business development grants and 3 business feasibility grants.	
WBO1.3.4	Improve sustainable and active travel choices, to increase connectivity and	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Work has commenced on the A48 Active Travel scheme, due for completion March 2026. Develop funding Bids submitted to Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) for progression to WG in December 2025. Funding bids	A report will be brought to Cabinet early in the

greener travel choices in line with our strategic transport projects (COMM)		for active travel projects for financial year 2026-27 have been developed and submitted to CCR in December 2025 ready for agreement with WG later in the year. Strategic Transport priorities for 2026-27 are being developed in preparation for agreement with Cabinet in March 2026.	spring outlining the work on current projects and agreeing objectives
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WBO1.4: Regenerate our town centres and Valleys

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DCO23.01 CP WBO1.4	Number of commercial properties assisted through the enhancement grant scheme (COMM) Higher Preferred	7	4						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.4.1	Deliver a Transforming Towns programme of investment across our town centres in partnership with Welsh Government over the next two years to improve the economic sustainability of our town centres (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The Transforming Towns Placemaking Programme has been fully allocated for this financial year in order to ensure the grant is used to its full capacity. The grants encompass private developers and external partners and BCBC led projects. Conversations will continue with new applicants in order to ensure that there is a strong pipeline of projects to take up any financial capacity which is created, this has been done in consultation with Welsh Government. The Placemaking strategies for Maesteg and Porthcawl are being utilised to ensure that grant and funding opportunities are being directed to support potential projects where possible.	
WBO1.4.2	Continue to deliver a commercial property enhancement grant for all valley high streets, to bring vacant properties back into use and improve local centres. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Commercial property grant is supported by the Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) and will run until March 2026. 8 Grants have been awarded for 2025-26 and applicants are worked with on a 1:1 basis. The availability of commercial property grants continues to be marketed, with some feasibility finance available for projects in the Valley areas, each applicant and project provided with officer support to develop and deliver. A Local Member Forum has been established to ensure closer dialogue and ensure all opportunities are considered at a local level.	
WBO1.4.3	Redevelop the Ewenny Road site, including new and affordable homes, an enterprise hub, open space and green infrastructure, in partnership with the adjoining landowner. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The development of the Ewenny Road Site is continuing. A sale to a housing developer has been agreed and planning application for the site is currently being considered. Remediation works at the Ewenny Road Site is due to be completed in January 2026. A sale has been agreed for the land - sales will be completed by March 2026. A reserved matters application has been made as is being considered by the planning authority.	

WBO1.5: Reduce, reuse or recycle as much waste as possible

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
PAM/010 CP WBO1.5	Percentage of streets that are clean (COMM) Higher Preferred	99.35%	99%	89.68%	99%	86.51%	99.35%	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve Performance: A restructure of the department and significant absence of staff has resulted in incomplete surveys for several months. Some sickness within teams has also resulted in resources in some areas being reduced. These factors, along with a new team carrying out inspections of streets have resulted in lower figures, further monitoring of areas inspected to take place in coming months.
PAM/030 CP WBO1.5	Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted (COMM) Higher Preferred	70.93%	70%	65.91%	70%	72.73%	68.33%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To maintain the existing targets which remain challenging to achieve Performance: Provisional data

DCO20.05 CP WBO1.5	Percentage of Street cleansing waste prepared for recycling. (COMM) Higher Preferred	41.22%	40%	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4	
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Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.5.1	Bring our Waste Service in-house (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Good progress being made to bring the services in-house by revised transfer date of 4th July 2027. Monthly, workstream leads are providing updates to SLR who in turn along with project lead officers provide updates to the transition board. RAG status for individual task areas and milestones being monitored. Transition Board meetings underway, recent change of Chair to Communities Cabinet Member Councillor Haines.	

WBO1.6: Provide opportunities for culture, leisure, and play**Performance Indicators**

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period	
				Target	Actual				
SSWB83 CP WBO1.6	Number of active users across target population groups via health & wellbeing leisure membership provision (SSWB) Higher Preferred	New 25-26	700	1,013	525	1,632	New 25-26	No Trend	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to set future target. Performance: The participants supported are above the target of 700, Further work to ensure accuracy of data collected will be undertaken in Q4. The higher-than-anticipated uptake suggests that the provision is accessible and meeting local need, providing a solid basis for maintaining participation.
DCO23.10 CP WBO1.6	Number of play areas that have been refurbished (COMM) Higher Preferred	22	40	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					
SSWB67 CP WBO1.6	Participation in the national free swimming initiative for 16 and under (SSWB) Higher Preferred	23,208	20,000	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.6.1	Redevelop Porthcawl Grand Pavilion to increase the use of the new facilities and extend social and leisure facilities, in partnership with Awen Cultural Trust. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The Grand Pavilion Project is making good progress, with a main contractor on site and delivering over the next 18 months. The construction contract commenced in September 2025. A Programme Board has been established for some time to oversee the project. This is complemented by monthly contractor meetings and client-side project team meetings. Monitoring returns and claims are submitted in accordance with the funding requirements. Additional funding for this project continues to be sought. An Additional £650k was secured against the project from the Arts Council in January 2026.	
WBO1.6.2	Continue the children's play areas refurbishment programme and make sure inclusive play equipment is provided to allow opportunities for all. (COMM)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: The children's play areas are progressing well. On site meetings are scheduled with respective ward members to ensure visibility of worked for phase 6A and 6B, which is the last two phases and the expected timeframe. Additional capital will be required to complete these phases and Cabinet have proposed to add £1.8m to the capital budget to complete this programme, subject to full Council approval.	
WBO1.6.3	Enlarge the Food and Fun Programme for summer 2025 (EEYYP)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The Food and Fun 10-Year Celebratory Awards were held on Thursday 6 November. Bridgend County Borough Council achieved three awards. All schools have been approached around participation in the scheme for 2026. Four schools have confirmed participation and a further eleven have expressed an interest.	The Healthy Child Co-ordinator will continue to meet with interested schools to promote the benefits of the programme. The deadline for confirming participation to run a scheme in summer 2026 will be January 2026. The Agored Cymru Food and Nutrition training course will take place in January 2026 for all schools participating in Food and Fun.

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO1.6.4	Develop whole Council action plan and networks to support the submission of the Play Sufficiency Assessment to Welsh Government. (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Play Sufficiency action plan code designed with the development of clear action points. Action Plan awaiting sign-off from Cabinet. Draft Plan shared with Welsh Government in line with requested submission date.	Play Sufficiency Plan to be approved by cabinet. Engagement with key partners and people with lived experience will commence in Q4.
WBO1.6.5	Develop active wellbeing offer for targeted groups (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: This quarter, the active wellbeing offer continued to engage a wide range of targeted groups across the borough. The Super Agers programme supported 206 older adults through 77 wellbeing sessions, generating 1,092 attendances, with participation remaining strong despite staffing changes and minor timetable adjustments, highlighting ongoing demand for accessible local activities for those aged 50 and over. Over-60s swimming sessions welcomed 3,632 participants, while 746 children and young people aged 16 and under attended free swimming sessions, with both showing a seasonal dip over the Christmas period. Health referral pathways remained a key focus, with 491 new Halo referrals, 241 first appointments and 86 participants completing the 16-week programme, alongside strong completion rates for pulmonary rehabilitation and joint carer support. Targeted work with foster families, care leavers, young people involved in youth justice, residential settings and those with disabilities continued, with families encouraged to access wider Halo wellbeing opportunities to support more active, healthier lifestyles together.	The next phase will focus on making parts of the active wellbeing offer more sustainable and responsive to local need. Super Agers sessions at Aberkenfig and William Trigg will be supported to become community-led, creating capacity to expand provision into the west of Bridgend from April 2026, while work continues to develop an affordable and accessible swimming offer for those aged 60 and over. Follow-up of joint carer referrals will be improved to increase uptake, with pulmonary rehabilitation maintained across all Halo venues where demand allows. Alongside this, the free and low-cost swimming offer for children and young people will be refined to better support families, those with disabilities and others facing barriers to participation.
WBO1.6.6	Develop the Healthy Living Partnership Strategy (SSWB)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The service is continuing to work towards developing an overarching leisure strategy for Bridgend. Draft themes have been agreed with Sport Wales and Central South Partnership focusing on Bridgend priorities which will inform the overall strategy. Feasibility finding has been applied for to support a leisure capital programme to support long-term, evidence-based investment in the Council's leisure and wellbeing estate, including indoor and outdoor facilities. The development of the strategy will continue into 2026/27.	Secure feasibility funding to support a review of current assets and the development of a long-term leisure strategy for the county borough which will drive investment priorities.
WBO1.6.7	Develop the Libraries, Culture and Community hub Strategy (SSWB)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The service is continuing to work towards developing an overarching strategy for Libraries, and Culture services in Bridgend as well as a Community Hub Strategy. Initial public engagement has been undertaken, and data will be used to shape draft libraries, culture and community hub strategy. The development of the strategies will continue into 2026/27.	First Community Hub Strategic Board to take place in Q4. The meeting will bring together partners and provide strategic oversight and ensure alignment with organisational and regional priorities and support partnership development across sectors.
WBO1.6.8	Maintain performance against Welsh public library standards (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Bridgend Library Service is performing very well. Activities, events and formal training provisions are important strengths of the service. Bridgend meets all of the 13 core entitlements in full. Of the 5 quality indicators which have targets, Bridgend is achieving 4 in full and 1 in part. Bridgend has the highest per capita event attendance nationally and attendances have increased by 24% compared to 2023-24, and by 38% compared to 2022-23. The service is in the top quartile nationally for attendance at formal training per capita. Reported attendances have risen more than fourfold compared to 2023- 24. Bridgend performs strongly with regard to young people, being above the median for positive survey responses from this customer group.	Reprofile quarterly reporting timeline to align with corporate reporting timeline and expand to capture outreach books on wheels service.

WBO2: Creating modern, seamless public services

WBO2.1: Improving how we engage with people, listening to views & acting on them

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CED70 CP WBO2.1	Percentage of Complaints closed within timescales (CEX) Higher Preferred	31.83%	80%	27.87%	80%	35.98%	25.66%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Baseline target. To be reviewed during the lifecycle of the Corporate Plan to reflect the corporate customer function. Performance: Target not met due to service areas not meeting deadlines. The Corporate Complaints team will continue their current process of sending reminders to service areas. A full report analysing current performance and barriers to meeting the target will be reviewed by Corporate Management Team in Q4.
CED59(a) CP WBO2.1	Level of engagement (Welsh / English) a) across consultations Higher Preferred	8,050	8,800	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					
CED59(b) CP WBO2.1	b) with corporate communications to residents, using the digital communications platform (CEX) Higher Preferred	1,203,706	1,000,000	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO2.1.1	Improve how we communicate and engage with residents, including children and young people to help us become more customer focused and responsive. (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: During this period the focus has been on promoting the council's budget to encourage engagement when the budget survey goes live in January 2026. The team has run a multi channelled campaign that has also included a toolkit for Councillors to use at their surgeries. The media protocol has been agreed with Cabinet and has been publicised to staff and members. The members' bulletin has been established and is subject to ongoing improvement with feedback from Cabinet Members. The approach for tackling inaccurate information has been agreed by Corporate Management Team (CMT), new assets are being developed. Launch of the new approach is proposed prior to March 2026. The team restructure has been effective since October 2025. The social media platform Orla has been procured, and onboarding is underway.	
WBO2.1.2	Improve the way we gather and use resident views (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Following refresh of Citizens Panel, members of panel were invited to join focus groups on setting the council's budget. This is the first time we will have used the panel to help inform budget deliberations. The data from the residents' survey has been reviewed and considered by Cabinet and Corporate Management Team (CCMT). The final report from the residents' survey will be available on the website in January on the new feedback page for consultation. The team is continuing to engage with Data Cymru on approach to the second survey which is scheduled for Autumn 2026.	
WBO2.1.3	Improve the way we gather and use staff views (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Corporate narrative was agreed and publicised to staff and members. New approach to staff survey agreed with CMT in October 2025. Preparations are underway to run the new staff survey which will start in March 2026 and run until May 2026. Video communications for staff commenced with a message from the Chief Executive at Christmas. Further videos have been scheduled for the first quarter of 2026. We are working towards the target the preparation of the new and improved bilingual intranet. This will be in place by July 2026.	
WBO2.1.4	Improve the way we handle and learn from corporate complaints and compliments (CEX)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The form and process is currently being tested by the project team following the development of the training documents. ICT have completed the reporting requirements for the dashboard, and it is currently being tested. Training is scheduled for the individual services with the go-live scheduled for April 2026.	Complete user testing, with training being rolled out to individual service users ahead of go-live
WBO2.1.5	Implement the strategic equality plan action plan (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Implementation underway and annual progress report to be presented to Equalities Cabinet Committee in February 2026. We are continuing to attend bi-monthly Corporate Equalities focus groups. We have provided regular updates to Cabinet Committee Equalities.	Following Cabinet Committee approval in February 2026, progress report will be published on the website.

WBO2.2: Offer more information and services online, and in local areas**Performance Indicators**

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PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CED5 CP WBO2.2	Percentage of first call resolutions Higher Preferred	72.67%	75.92%	73.92%	75.92%	75.61%	69.40%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target retained, to increase the number of calls resolved at the first point of contact Performance: Whilst this PI is slightly off target again for Q3, the customer service team continues to review performance with the relevant service area to identify areas where the Customer Advisors could be upskilled to deal with and resolve the calls at the first point of contact.
CED51 CP WBO2.2	Number of online transactions using the digital platform Higher Preferred	81,034	81,034	42,862	60,776	61,974	61,995	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To increase online transactions by customers to promote channel shift Performance: There are a number of online services and different target groups across multiple council departments feeding into this value. The slight decline in performance equates to a less than 1% decrease compared to the same period last year and cannot be attributed to any particular factor or service area underperforming. We continue to promote and monitor our online services and there are currently discussions to improve the options within citizen access to increase online usage

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO2.2.1	Continue to review the corporate front door to streamline, standardise, and enhance entry points into the council whilst improving the resolution at the first point of contact. (CEX)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: The new online self-referral form for Adult Social Care continues to be developed. Work is also underway to explore the development of a digital front door specifically for Social Services to help provide online information, advice and assistance to customers 24/7/365. The corporate Interactive Voice Response message (IVR) has been updated and is working in line with current service set ups.	

WBO2.3: Modernise and become a more efficient council**Performance Indicators**

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CHR002 (PAM/001) CP WBO2.3	Number of working days/shifts lost to sickness absence per full-time equivalent (FTE) BCBC employee (ALL/CEX) Lower Preferred	13.76 days	No target	5.89 days	No target	9.82 days	10.12 days	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To reduce sickness levels across the organisation Performance: Continued commitment to support the health and wellbeing of the workforce. Managers are encouraged to support members of staff when they are absent in line with the absence management policy and continue to promote the council's wellbeing services to all. (See page 25 for additional information by directorate and absence reason)
CORPB5 CP WBO2.3	Percentage of staff that have completed a Personal Review/Appraisal (excluding school staff) (ALL/CEX) Higher Preferred	68.42%	80%	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					
DCO16.8 CP WBO2.3	Number of Council owned assets transferred to the community for running (CATs) or transferred from a short-term agreement to a long-term agreement for running during the year (COMM) Higher Preferred	2	10	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO2.3.1	Approve and implement the new digital strategy (CEX)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The public consultation was undertaken between 2nd June and 13th July 2025. Following the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting in July 2025, a decision has been made to review the Strategy further to ensure our vision and aspirations around transformation are reflected.	Once the corporate vision has been agreed, the Digital Strategy will be reviewed and plan put in place to progress and implement.
WBO2.3.2	Continue to rationalise the corporate estate (COMM)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: All opportunities to maximise use of the current corporate estate are constantly under review and challenge, driven by service and stakeholder engagement. Focus on maximising use, co-habitation, mixed uses and community type uses now that the majority of true rationalisation and disposals complete. All portfolio's under constant review, with service engagement and close working relationships. All service areas focused on maximising asset usage. Number of underutilised assets is at a minimum with new and innovative ways of working exploring all opportunities to sweat each asset. Formal formation of the strategy set back due to Group Manager period of long-term sickness during 2025 and ongoing senior vacancies in the Corporate Landlord team. Third party consultant engaged to assist with the strategy with further resourcing issues under review. Strategy to be finalised and aligned to corporate and other strategies early in 2026/27.	The introduction of the new Integrated Works Management System (IWMS) will transform the way in which our assets managed and provide a landscape for strategic asset management planning. This IWMS is currently being procured and will embed in 2026/27.
WBO2.3.3	Invest in Community Asset Transfers and support clubs and Community Groups with equipment grants to improve and safeguard the facilities. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: An allocation was made in Q3 of £49.6k. The total of funding allocated to community groups undertaking CATs (as at end Q3) stands at £498k; £49.5k in committed funding was paid to community groups in Q3 2025/26 and a further £167k of grant monies received from Sport Wales. The total available CAT Capital fund at the end of Q3 stands at £310.7k.	

WBO2.4: Improve partnership working with partners, the third sector and Town and Community Councils

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CE62 CP WBO2.4	Percentage of Assia service users reporting increased feelings of safety at their exit evaluation (CEX) Higher Preferred	99.12%	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Safety planning, targeting hardening and safety measures carried out with all service users throughout support and before exiting the service Performance: On target, 1156 service user responses recorded Q1 to Q3
CE63 CP WBO2.4	Percentage of high-risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 48 hours (CEX) Higher Preferred	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↔	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Contact within 48 hours is identified best practice (in line with Leading Lights accreditation) Performance: On target – 655 received during Q1 to Q3.
CE64 CP WBO2.4	Percentage of medium risk domestic abuse victims / public protection notices received by the service contacted within 72 hours (CEX) Higher Preferred	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↔	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Contact within 72 hours is identified best practice (in line with Leading Lights accreditation) Performance: On target - 485 received during Q1 to Q3.
SSWB84 CP WBO2.4	Number of active referrals supported by Local Community Coordinators (SSWB) Higher Preferred	New 25-26	600	571	450	726	New 25-26	No Trend	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: New indicator. Baseline data to be recorded in order to set future target. Performance: On target. Q1 values have now been verified improving the Q2 accumulative value previously reported.
SSWB85 CP WBO2.4	Number of children and young adults supported during school holidays (SSWB) Higher Preferred	New 25-26	950	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO2.4.1	Develop a new regional agreement for working with frail older people between health boards and councils (SSWB)	BLUE (Completed)	Quarter 3: Agreement sealed by BCBC and returned to Regional Partnership Board in December 2025.	
WBO2.4.2	Complete the town and community council arrangements review (CEX)	BLUE (Completed)	Quarter 3: The Community Review was completed and submitted to Full Council. The recommendations were not approved by Full Council and therefore the Local Boundary Commission will now undertake a review when their timetable allows.	
WBO2.4.3	Work co-productively with our communities to develop their own solutions and become more resilient. (SSWB)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: The current children and family provision is over prescribed with 57 (1 x 37hrs + 1 x 20 hrs) hour post per week not able to cope with demand of referrals. Closer partnership working with Early Help within Children & Families Services and local community organisations to step up and step down to reduce/curtail the child and families waiting list (which is currently 1-3 months). Recruitment of additional Local Community Co-ordinator's to support the volume of demand in turn reducing the adults waiting list (which is 3-6 months depending on geographical area).	Exploring additional grant funding from the Central Grant team to support investment needed into local community coordination. Work productively with BAVO (community navigators), third sector partners, statutory services to align governance of referrals to ensure best use of resources. Ensuring the community prevention referral pathway is fit for purpose.

WBO3: Enabling people to meet their potential

WBO3.1: Provide an effective Childcare and Early Years Offer

Performance Indicators

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PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 2024-2025	Target 2025-2026	Q2 position 2025-2026 & RYAG	Q3 2025-2026 RYAG vs Target		Q3 2024-2025 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DEFS160 CP WBO3.1	Number of two-year-olds accessing childcare through the Flying Start programme (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	542	620	624	610	624	555	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: The target reflects the positive investment made in the Phase 2A and 2B expansions of the programme. Performance: The first capital project team meeting relating to the three proposed new early years settings was held in December 2025 and will take place monthly going forward. Feasibility work on the three projects is now underway. The expansion has already taken in Lower Super Output Areas that weren't intended to be reached until 2026-2027, and further expansion is planned for January 2026. By April 2026, we expect to be a year ahead of schedule on our Flying Start Expansion delivery plan. It is hoped that childminders in underserved areas of Bridgend will tender to provide Flying Start funded places and, after onboarding, this may allow up to expand into some areas where there is currently insufficient childcare. An analysis of low uptake of Flying Start places will take place, along with a renewed awareness campaign to ensure that parents in eligible areas know of their child's entitlement.

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.1.1	Provide effective leadership and management of maintained Early Years settings ensuring that outcomes in Care Inspectorate Wales inspections are at least 'good'. (EEYYP)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: A five-phase plan has been written and agreed, with the aim to re-establish consistent, sector-leading practice across all settings, over a two-year period. Implementation of this plan started on 19 December 2025. A partnership with Early Years Wales is currently being developed to support all maintained settings to achieve the Welsh Promise. Three of the maintained settings are working towards Llwybr Iaitth with the aim of offering a bilingual service. The leadership toolkit was used in all maintained early years settings in the autumn term. This exercise confirmed all settings are compliant with the National Minimum Standards and helped to identify training needs. A range of professional learning has taken place including leadership sessions for senior staff. Every setting benefitted from a joint support visit from their link Childcare Development Officer and Advisory Teacher, and individual feedback was provided outlining strengths and areas for development. The visits also informed a five-phase service improvement strategy, due to begin in January 2026.	
WBO3.1.2	Offer effective support and challenge to funded non-maintained Early Years settings ensuring that outcomes in joint inspections are at least 'good'. (EEYYP)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: One additional setting received a joint inspection during this period and received judgements of 'good' across all areas. Pre-market engagement took place in October and November 2025, with the tender opportunity going live on 31 December 2025, and is due to close on 9 January 2026. The 23 practitioners studying the year-long Froebelian Approach project have completed their third module. Many professional learning opportunities have been delivered, including sessions delivered by sector-leading consultant Kym Scott.	The quality framework will be published as part of the tender process.

WBO3.2: Provide safe, supportive schools with high quality teaching

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target	Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
DEFS155 CP WBO3.2	Percentage of schools that have self-evaluated themselves as 'green' as part of their annual safeguarding audit (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	93%	100%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
EDU010a CP WBO3.2	The percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the academic year, in primary schools (EEYYP) Lower Preferred	0.031%	0.030%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target	Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
EDU010b CP WBO3.2	The percentage of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions during the academic year, in secondary schools (EEYYP) Lower Preferred	0.152%	0.150%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
EDU016a (PAM/007) CP WBO3.2	Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	92.49%	94.0%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
EDU016b (PAM/008) CP WBO3.2	Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	87.31%	92.0%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
PAM032 CP WBO3.2	Average Capped 9 Score for pupils in Year 11 (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	357.40	360.00					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.2.1	Help schools achieve their improvement plans by analysing needs and offering training to address this, ensuring that all schools will be judged by Estyn as 'not requiring any follow-up' (EEYYP)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Following the national middle tier review there has been significant changes to the professional learning provision for schools. The national professional learning and leadership body, Dysgu has the remit for providing professional learning for national priorities. As this national body is being established, there have been no programmes of professional learning shared currently. Central South Consortium continue to offer an extensive programme of professional learning and bespoke support according to their revised remit for schools. Educate Against Islamophobia (EAI) provided an online professional learning session to schools on November 28, 2025. The session provided startling statistics and common Islamophobic narratives that permeate through society and concluded with an overview of practical strategies for addressing Islamophobia through both the formal and hidden curriculum within Welsh settings. Bryntirion Comprehensive School and Pencoed Comprehensive School presented a good practice session at Team Bridgend on December 15, 2025. A total of 83 governors attended the topical training sessions that were provided by the local authority on mandatory training modules.	It is hoped to receive a timeline for professional learning and support from the new national body, Dysgu in the near future confirming their support and professional learning for leadership and self-evaluation. The organisation is currently going through a transition year. Once a professional learning programme has been devised by Dysgu it will be shared with schools. Further mandatory professional learning for governors is scheduled for the spring and summer terms.
WBO3.2.2	Make additional digital learning training available to all school staff to improve teaching and learning in our schools (EEYYP)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The Lead Officer for Digital Learning has actively supported Pencoed Primary School in the trial integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to support staff professional development. This initiative is looking into specifically leveraging AI in supporting the school's implementation of the new professional standards. School digital readiness information was presented to Welsh Government on November 13, 2025, to aid in the planning and preparedness for the start of the digital examination rollout in summer 2026. Following an initial visit by the Lead Officer for Digital Learning to Mary Immaculate High School, Cardiff, to see their pilot gaming room (a Welsh Government-Esports-local authority pilot), subsequent positive discussions were held with Pencoed Comprehensive School and Yoyotech to scope out the first stages of an appropriate path for Esports development in secondary schools. A comprehensive report reviewing 'Digital Learning and Online Safety' was presented to the Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on November 24, 2025. The report outlined the current challenges surrounding online safety and detailed the collaborative mechanisms schools and the local authority use to support children and young people to navigate the digital world. The report was well received by the Committee, who showed particular interest in the strategic landscape of digital learning across Bridgend County Borough Council.	The Lead Officer for Digital Learning will be running a dedicated Artificial Intelligence (AI) INSET day for Pencoed Comprehensive School. The training will cover essential aspects of AI policy and promote safe, responsible use of the technology. Briefings will be held with all secondary and special schools to finalise arrangements for the Safer Internet Day (SID) 2026 at the Principality Stadium, Cardiff in February 2026. The event will feature professional learning sessions delivered by partners including Internet Matters, UK Safer Internet Centre, Common Sense Media, and Estyn.
WBO3.2.3	Improve the digital offer to young people, including youth led interactive website (EEYYP)	BLUE (Completed)	Quarter 3: We are continuing to use TikTok to promote our services, highlight what's available to young people, and share success stories from across the community. We are currently supporting the promotion of Brackla Skatepark, which has recently opened, have showcased our centres, and are encouraging friendly challenges with other Youth Services in Cardiff and RCT. We have developed and launched an online interactive bulletin board (that is, a 'Padlet') with the inclusion of an interactive map showcasing all statutory and third sector provision, and a meet the team page.	Moving forward, we will continue creating engaging content with young people and staff, ensuring our platform remains youth-led, creative, and inclusive.

WBO3.3: Provide Welsh medium education opportunities**Performance Indicators**

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target	Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
DEFS138 CP WBO3.3	Percentage of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	8.83%	8.85%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DEFS157 CP WBO3.3	Percentage of learners studying for assessed qualifications through the medium of Welsh at the end of Key Stage 4 (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	7.23%	7.20%					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4
DEFS158 CP WBO3.3	Number of learners studying for Welsh as a second language at AS Level and A Level (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	21	17					Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.3.1	Deliver the actions in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) (EEYYP)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: The new late immersion provision at Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sger, named Pont Iait, has been established. As at January 2026, nine pupils are in the late immersion provision and three pupils are transitioning to their registered school and are progressing well. An experienced teacher is on secondment as Leader of Pont Iait. Pont Iait's location at Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sger brings implications to school transport and costs as most pupils attend Ysgol Calon y Cymoedd. A Capital Grant application to Welsh Government has been made to re-locate Pont Iait to Ysgol Calon y Cymoedd. There has been an increase in the number of pupils studying Welsh AS and A Level from 16 in 2024-2025 to 29 in 2025-2026. An increase in part-time Nursery applications has been seen for Ysgol Cynwyd Sant with 16 applications refused as the Nursery was at capacity with full-time. An options paper is being presented to CMT to look at options to ensure that that children stay within Welsh-medium provisions. Three practitioners are on the two-term primary sabbatical course with the National Centre for Learning Welsh. The five teachers that attended the sabbatical course in 2024-2025 are receiving post-sabbatical support. Due to lack of Geographical Information System (GIS) support and current staffing constraints, there has been no further progress on reviewing Welsh-medium catchment areas.	

WBO3.4: Modernise school buildings**Commitments**

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.4.1	Enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry new-build school. (EEYYP)	RED (Unsatisfactory)	Quarter 3: An active travel route around the perimeter of the Ffordd Cadfan site has now been agreed with the adjacent developer (that is, Aldi) and Highways Department. The site layout drawings have been amended to reflect the change. Work is continuing finalising the technical assessments to inform the planning process. Delays on the pre-application consultation process have had a significant impact on the project timeline.	Informal consultation with Planning Department will be undertaken. Site clearance of vegetation under the supervision of the ecologist will begin in January 2026, and site investigation is planned for February 2026. Technical assessments will be completed, and we will begin pre-application consultation (PAC) ahead of submitting the planning application.
WBO3.4.2	Provide a new-build for Mynydd Cynffig Primary School (EEYYP)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: A tender process to appoint a quantity surveyor has concluded. A quantity surveyor will now be appointed and will begin work on the Bill of Quantities. The detailed design development has continued, and site clearance has been undertaken of the former Pwllgath allotment site. A further bat survey has been undertaken and a dormouse mitigation strategy developed.	The Development Control Committee will determine the outcome of the planning application. Ecology works will be undertaken once the necessary approvals are in place, and at the appropriate time.
WBO3.4.3	Enlarge Ysgol Ferch o'r Sger to a two form-entry new-build school. (EEYYP)	RED (Unsatisfactory)	Quarter 3: Valleys to Coast's Board agreed to proceed with the land swap agreement. However, the formal agreement is not yet in place. This is having a detrimental impact on the contract award and programme.	Corporate Landlord Department is working on this aspect of the scheme and understand the urgency. They are aiming to resolve this issue by the end of January 2026, so that the construction contract can be awarded.

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.4.4	Provide a new two-form entry English-medium school to replace the existing Afon Y Felin and Corneli Primary Schools. (EEYYP)	RED (Unsatisfactory)	Quarter 3: Valleys to Coast's Board agreed to proceed with the land swap agreement. However, the formal agreement is not yet in place. This is having a detrimental impact of the contract award and programme.	Corporate Landlord Department is working on this aspect of the scheme and understand the urgency. They are aiming to resolve this issue by the end of January 2026, so that the construction contract can be awarded.
WBO3.4.5	Relocate Heronsbridge School to a new-build 300-place school (EEYYP)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: Access to the Island Farm site to undertake a ground investigation has impacted on the design development programme. The design has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders. The layout of the school building has been finalised. Ecology surveys have concluded, and a scoping meeting has been held with Planning Department. Due to prior delays on the project, the request to Cabinet to modify the school opening date is now scheduled for January 2026.	The ground investigation will begin in January 2026. Informal consultation will be undertaken with Planning Department and the School Transport Advisory Group. The pre-application consultation ahead of submitting a planning application will begin. Cabinet approval will be sought to modify the school opening date to the beginning of the autumn term 2028, and subject to Cabinet's approval stakeholders will be advised accordingly.

WBO3.5: Be good parents to our care experienced children

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CH/052 CP WBO3.5	Percentage of care leavers who have experienced Homelessness during the year (SSWB) Lower Preferred	9.96%	10%	7.94%	7.5%	10.69%	6.44%	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To maintain performance Performance: The work in Q3 has focussed on workshops between Housing and Children and Family Services to develop common understanding of roles and responsibilities. This work will continue for the foreseeable future as the Joint Protocol between the two services is embedded with the intention of reducing the number of homeless presentations by care leavers. The WG guidance has been revised to exclude those not engaged and over the age of 21. Therefore, the number of care leavers has decreased when we compare this to previous years, as we were previously including care leavers up to the age of 25.
SSWB86 CP WBO3.5	Percentage of care leavers who have completed at least 3 consecutive months of employment, education or training in the 24 months since leaving care (SSWB) Higher Preferred	70%	65%	65.71%	65%	67.86%	68.75%	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To continue to improve performance Performance: Performance has been sustained and continues to be above target. There has however been a decrease as compared to Q1. Work remains ongoing to target support as part of Pathway Planning and supporting young people with their career/education goals. Even though performance is very slightly reduced in comparison to last year, we continue to be on track to hit our target at year end.

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.5.1	Work with partners to deliver improved outcomes for care experienced children through the delivery of actions in the corporate parenting action plan and informed by the views of our children and young people (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The Summit took place in Q3 with a children and young people aged 12+ joining us for some time to talk about their voice, education, future and wellbeing. The outcome of this will be shared with corporate parenting board in Q4. The aim of this will be to help shape 2026/27 work plan and service priorities for the LA and its partners. The authority continues to work with Tros Gynnal Plant to meet the advocacy needs of our care experienced young people and to promote their right to access advocacy services. Corporate parenting board will continue to meet Bi-monthly with a focus on aligning priorities with the voice of care experienced individuals. Work continues on improving our offer to care experienced young people and whether this fits in with the local authority strategy and we are offering what we espouse.	Finalise baseline data for Corporate Parenting board partners - agree workplan for 2026/27.
WBO3.5.2	Support the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Strategy in schools. (EFEYYP)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Welsh Government have commissioned Estyn to undertake a thematic review into the effectiveness of education provision for care-experienced learners in 2026. The findings will be used to identify and share effective practice across the sector. In order to review the effectiveness of the Pupil Development Grant (PDG), an evaluation has been sent to schools for response by the end of February 2026. Welsh Government have worked with the National Delivery Group for care experienced children and also a PDG for Children Looked After (CLA)	A response to the consultation will be published ahead of a final version of the guidance being published. Welsh Government are funding Adoption UK Cymru in this

			Task and Finish Group to develop guidance specifically for the PDG CLA. The guidance went out for informal consultation to our National Delivery Group and has been updated. We anticipate a final draft of the guidance will be completed early 2026. Welsh Government are producing guidance to support local authorities to maximise the PDG CLA funding. The formal consultation for the Personal Education Plan guidance has now closed and we are analysing the responses before making any appropriate changes to the guidance.	financial year to provide training for education practitioners to help them respond effectively to the social and emotional needs of care experienced learners.
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WBO3.6: Help people get the skills they need for work

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DEFS80 CP WBO3.6	Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme supported into education or training (COMM) Higher Preferred	678	219	41	164	96	554	Trend not applicable	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year therefore targets are not comparable and there has been a significant change in funding for 25/26 Performance: During Q1 we moved to a new case management system and were embedding a new staff structure in the team therefore no claims for outcomes were made, and the number reported is for Q2 and Q3 only. We are confident that with pipeline performance (that is outcomes we know we have achieved but, as the participant is still receiving support, they are not counted in claim) that we are able to meet the annual target by end of Q4.
DEFS82 CP WBO3.6	Number of participants in the Employability Bridgend programme going into employment (COMM) Higher Preferred	453	290	70	217	135	334	Trend not applicable	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target set to maximise use of funding secured for that year. Funding arrangements can vary from year to year therefore targets are not comparable and there has been a significant change in funding for 25/26 Performance: See DEFS80 comment above. This is a challenging target, and we have regular meetings to monitor performance and put in place mitigations to ensure that we will be able to meet the target by end of Q4.
PAM/046 CP WBO3.6	Percentage of Year 11 leavers from schools in the authority identified as not being in education, employment or training (NEET) in the Careers Wales Annual Destination Survey Statistics (EEYYP) Lower Preferred	1.9%	2.0%	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO3.6.1	Increase employment and training opportunities in the County Borough. (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Residents have continued to access basic skills, essential skills and vocational training as appropriate to the individual.	
WBO3.6.2	Employability Bridgend will work with funders and partners to deliver a comprehensive employability and skills programme (COMM)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: We have enrolled 235 residents of the county borough on to our programme this quarter and provided mentoring, training and support to both find work and sustain employment.	

WBO4: Supporting our most vulnerable

WBO4.1: Provide high-quality children's & adults social services / early help services

Performance Indicators

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PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CH/026 CP WBO4.1	Number of children on the child protection register (SSWB) Lower Preferred	75	120	77	120	81	94	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Sustain safe reduction in the Child Protection Register Performance: Child Protection registrations between 70 and 90 are considered safe and appropriate, any fluctuation outside of the range, audit activity will be undertaken to ensure threshold and decision making.
DEFS29 CP WBO4.1	Percentage of completed TAF (Team Around the Family) support plans that close with a successful outcome (SSWB) Higher Preferred	82%	87%	88%	87%	83%	80%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To continue to improve performance. Performance: Performance continues to be of a satisfactory standard and the slight dip in performance impacted upon by a small number of more complex cases. Ongoing management oversight will continue to be in place to prevent any further reductions.
SSWB39 (CH/039) CP WBO4.1	Number of Care Experienced Children (SSWB) Lower Preferred	333	325	337	332	320	340	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Continue to safely reduce the number of Care Experienced Children Performance: The number of children care-experienced continues to reduce in line with our reduction strategy. This is linked to better preventative support, improved use of S.76 and reduced applications for care orders. We anticipate that this trajectory will continue for the foreseeable future.
SSWB57 CP WBO4.1	Percentage of enquiries to the Adult Social Care front door which result in information and advice only (SSWB) Higher Preferred	84.58%	83%	82.51%	83%	79.66%	85.19%	↙	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: The model is being embedded and we will seek to continue to improve performance. Performance: During Q3 a new Service Manager and Consultant Social Worker have commenced in post. They have begun undertaking a review of practice at the Front Door which will seek to improve performance against this measure in Q4.
SSWB75 CP WBO4.1	Number of people recorded as delayed on the national pathway of care (SSWB) Lower Preferred	70	90	68	90	79	74	↙	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: This reflects the current population needs, taking in to account seasonal fluctuations in people's health. Performance: Performance in this area whilst below target continues to fluctuate, reflecting that there is only 48 hours from the point that a person is 'clinically optimised' to arrange discharges which are often complex in nature. There continues to be a strong focus on performance in this area with an improvement board in place.
SSWB78a CP WBO4.1	Timeliness of visits to a) children who are care experienced Higher Preferred	88.28%	87%	90.17%	87%	90.16%	87.99%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To continue to maintain performance Performance: Continued strong performance. This is positive as there have been some staffing challenges within the care-experienced children's team during this quarter.
SSWB78b CP WBO4.1	b) children on the child protection register (SSWB) Higher Preferred	89.27%	87%	91.63%	87%	90.91%	88.95%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To continue to maintain performance Performance: Excellent performance continues in this area.
SSWB87 CP WBO4.1	Percentage of reablement packages implemented with a positive outcome (SSWB) Higher Preferred	73.48%	69%	71.53%	69%	68.14%	71.97%	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: This reflects the current population needs, taking in to account seasonal fluctuations in people's health. Performance: The service is seeking to maximise the number of people who benefit from reablement which means there are more people with a complexity of need which reduces the percentage who benefit from a positive outcome in terms of reduction of hours or mitigation entirely of the need for support. The service will continue to be reviewed to ensure that it is operating as efficiently and effectively as possible and that staff have the right learning and development.

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.1.1	Support the wellbeing of unpaid carers, including young carers, to have a life beyond caring through delivery of the carer's action plan. (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: The strategic group supporting unpaid carers held three successful meetings and continues to strengthen wellbeing support across the Social Services Directorate. Tuvida has assisted 376 new adult carers, providing 4,458 with advice, signposting, and access to assessments. Young carers have also benefited, with 757 issued ID cards, Halo Memberships provided to 357 young carers and 847 family members, and engagement in schools and community initiatives. Partner organisations and Young Carer Ambassadors have worked together to provide volunteering, events, and opportunities that enhance support, helping carers and their families maintain wellbeing and access the services they need.	Three Listening Events across the borough in February will gather feedback to shape and ensure BCBC has fit for purpose support in place for unpaid carers. Improve the governance and oversight of the TuVida contract. Promotion of Young Carer ID Cards will continue in schools, alongside the Bear Who Cares book launch, Young Carers Action Day, and network events for secondary schools.
WBO4.1.2	Improve Children's Services by delivering the actions in our three-year strategic plan. (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Continued progress has been made in relation to the 3-year plan these include investment into internal residential provision, recruitment and retention, preventative services and our care experienced children for example.	As we move into a new business cycle. A new 3-year plan will be developed for launch in September.
WBO4.1.3	Improve adult social care by delivering the actions in our three-year strategic plan (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: We continue to monitor performance against the key objectives within our 3-year plan. We have commissioned an independent evaluation of our operating model for Adult Social Care. We have developed a focussed improvement plan for Learning Disability and in relation to delayed pathways of care. Placement Tracker is live and operational enabling Adult Social Care to forecast, project spend, and accurately monitor current spend. The programme for remodelling our day opportunities is established with four key workstreams.	Independent evaluation of the operating model to be undertaken. Focussed work to improve learning disability and delayed pathways of care to be concluded.
WBO4.1.4	Change the way our social workers work to build on people's strengths and reflect what matters to our most vulnerable citizens, the relationships they have and help them achieve their potential. (SSWB)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: In Q3 Children's teams gathered a number of individual stories from families and children in the service. A panel will be held January 2026 with leaders and decision makers to hear these stories and in turn reflect on our service delivery. In Q3 Adult Social Care QA activity continued across the service, with learning and themes cascaded within the Continuous Improvement Group. Group Managers reported on QA compliance within quarterly performance meetings. Alongside this Q4 will begin the Adult Social Care journey of Most Significant Change (MSC). Looking at implementing a framework and work towards holding an adult services MSC panel. First MSC panel will be held in Q4. Session for managers in relation to unpaid carers held in Q3 MSC stories will also be triangulated with casefile QAs to evidence a holistic view of cases and individual experiences.	MSC panel Q4. Begin implementing the MSC framework in ASC. Sharing outcome of the MSC panel with wider workforce and those who shared their stories. Continue with the oversight of the implementation model of the Signs Of Safety (SoS) model in Children and Family Services (CFS). Request further Regional Integrated Fund funding to support the Consultant Social Worker for SOS post in CFS. Hold series of Listening Events for Unpaid Carers and review QA programme for Adult Social Care
WBO4.1.5	Address the gaps in Adult Social Care provider services by implementing the priority commissioning areas identified in our commissioning strategies and detailed service reviews (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Planning Groups meet bi-monthly to oversee the progress against the priority areas identified in the relevant strategic plans. Following the development of an Accommodation-Based Service delivery plan, an independent consultant has been commissioned to undertake a sufficiency assessment and provide a direction of travel and 15-year capital programme for our internal and commissioned care home services.	Report going to Cabinet in February 2026, seeking approval to start consultation on proposed changes to the Shared Lives service, to grow and expand the service. Care home analysis and feasibility work being undertaken in Q4 with an independent specialist consultancy. Care at Home tender to be finalised, with a report to go to Cabinet in March 2026
WBO4.1.6	Address the gaps in Childrens and Family Services provider services and respond to the Eliminating Profit/Health & Social Care Bill by implementing the priority commissioning areas identified in the Placement Commissioning strategy (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Financial modelling has concluded and will form part of a Placement Commissioning Strategy to be considered by Cabinet in Q4. A business case to secure an additional residential home is in development. The Placements Commissioning Strategy is due to go to Cabinet March 2026, after which a Market Position Statement will be developed to engage the external market on gaps identified in the strategy and support further inhouse developments.	Present financial modelling to CMT for review and endorsement. Progress business case for additional residential home. Seek Cabinet approval of the Placements Commissioning Strategy. Develop and publish the Market Position Statement to engage the external market on identified gaps.
WBO4.1.7	Ensure that children and families can access support from the right service at the right time with the aim of preventing their needs from escalating. (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Work has been undertaken to explore an IT platform that would assist and improve access into Children and Family Services and Adult services. A proposal has been developed to secure funding for this platform and will need to be agreed corporately as an Invest to Save approach.	To submit invest to save proposal on IT portal to improve access to information and advice in Bridgend.

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.1.8	Employ and develop a well-motivated, well supported, qualified social care workforce in the Council and with partners. Fill vacancies in our social care services and reduce dependence on agency workers. (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: There is robust leadership of workforce in social care through the Social Services and Wellbeing (SSWB) Workforce Board. There is a significantly improved position in children's social work, however, agency numbers are higher than is optimal for social workers in adult services. An adult services workforce task and finish group has therefore been established, and a number of actions progressed including improving adult access to grow your own and review of skill mix.	The focus in Q4 will be to address high vacancy levels in the community learning disabilities service through reviewing the structure and reviewing skill mix.

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WBO4.2: Support people in poverty

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CED43 CP WBO4.2	Percentage of people supported through FASS (Financial Assistance and Support Service) where support has resulted in increased income through claims for additional/increased benefits and allowances (CEX) Higher Preferred	96%	85%	100%	85%	100%	96%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target retained. The 2024/25 target was increased in line with the re-commissioning of the service to improve outcomes for recipients of the service. The service will maintain these outcomes throughout the next year. Performance: The service held an open day during the period, where partner organisations attended to give clients the opportunity to meet all local support networks. Although this did not directly impact the increase of income, it did ensure clients were aware of all the support available to them.
CED44 CP WBO4.2	Percentage of people supported through FASS who have received advice and support in managing or reducing household debt (CEX) Higher Preferred	94%	85%	100%	85%	100%	90%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target retained. The 2024/25 target was increased in line with the re-commissioning of the service to improve outcomes for recipients of the service. The service will maintain these outcomes throughout the next year. Performance: 3 new team members who are also energy providers who will be able to strengthen support offered to clients facing fuel poverty. The service is expecting an increase in clients presenting with Council Tax debt and debt relating to the Christmas period in the coming weeks but are prepared to support these clients.

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.2.1	Support eligible residents to receive the financial help available to them. (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Various take-up campaigns are being undertaken. Pension credit: out of 107 households contacted in October 2025, 16 have now claimed (15%), with a combined award of over £61k per annum. Free School Meals (FSM): a small campaign was undertaken in November 2025 and targeted 143 household with comprehensive age children. From this campaign, 20 children are now receiving FSM bringing the total number of FSM awards from the 3 campaigns to 171. All campaigns also promoted the School Essentials Grant. It is still early for an evaluation of the NEST campaign, however, they have to date provided 193 households with either advice or signposting to other services, for example Care and Repair.	

WBO4.3: Support people with housing needs

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DOPS39 CP WBO4.3	Percentage of people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless, for whom the Local Authority has a final legal duty to secure suitable accommodation (CEX) Lower Preferred	26.4%	20%	23%	20%	23.6%	25.9%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target set to see reduction in the number who fall into the final legal duty category. This is where initial measures to relieve their homelessness within 56 days have failed. Performance: We are still seeing the impact of legislative changes to the Housing (Wales) Act and impact of Renting Homes Act. The demands on the service are not reducing, the numbers in temporary accommodation are the highest in recent times. There isn't enough housing to meet the demands of the service via social housing, and the private sector provides very limited options for our customers. The service is seeing more complex individuals present requiring specialist accommodation which is also in short supply. We're also seeing more people being made homeless from hospital requiring specially adapted accommodation which is in high demand and limited supply. Exit outcomes from Q1 to Q3 are 852 applications received for homelessness 201 final duties accepted.
PAM/012 (DOPS15) CP WBO4.3	Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless (CEX) Higher Preferred	31.2%	20%	42.9%	20%	36.3%	24.7%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target set at realistic level considering the legislative changes in terms of priority need which has a significant impact on number of households included in this measure Performance: Homeless prevention remains a challenge as there isn't enough available social housing or affordable privately rented accommodation to be able to prevent homelessness. The highest presenting need is being asked to leave by family/friends. These are most likely on the day emergency homeless presentations which have little chance of being prevented or, the timescale in which they are being asked to leave is very short. Complex support needs impact on the ability to prevent homelessness as this accommodation is in high demand. Exit outcomes from Q1 to Q3 are 182 threatened with homelessness 66 prevented.
PAM/015 (PSR002) CP WBO4.3	Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)(CEX) Lower Preferred	799 days	542 days	1,336 days	542 days	1,121 days	794 days	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target includes six months to approve grant award and a further twelve months to complete the DFG, this is based on the exponential demand on the service which has significantly increased the waiting time against the available capital to deliver the adaptations on an annual basis. Performance: A further 57 cases have been certified in Q3 with the oldest referral being from 2022/23. Average days have increased compared to same period last year, however legacy cases have come down significantly. Total cases certified during Q1 to Q3 is 167.
DOPS41 CP WBO4.3	Percentage of people who feel they are able to live more independently as a result of receiving a DFG in their home (CEX) Higher Preferred	99.3%	98%	100%	98%	98%	97%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Target retained. To continue to achieve a positive outcome for grant recipients in living more independently. Performance: 1 client reported dissatisfaction. Upon investigation, this was due to communication with the contractors. The service is making further enquiries.
CED60 CP WBO4.3	Number of additional affordable homes provided by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) across the County Borough (CEX) Higher Preferred	77	110						Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.3.1	Continue to improve our housing and homelessness service to reduce homelessness across the borough through implementation of the agreed action plan (CEX)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Progress continues to be made towards the actions set out in our current Housing Support Programme Strategy. A key action is to finalise an updated Social Housing Allocation Policy, work on which is nearly complete. A final version will be brought before Cabinet in March 2026. Progress also continues to be made in relation to further additions to our own stock of accommodation – a fourth House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) purchase is currently being progressed, whilst a fifth and sixth are being explored. In coming months work will commence on developing a new Housing Support Programme Strategy, which will set out strategic priorities and key actions for the next four years.	
WBO4.3.2	Continue to target those long-term empty properties that have the most detrimental impact on the community, focusing on the Top 20. (CEX)	GREEN (Excellent)	Quarter 3: Q3: We are continuing to target long term empty properties, focusing on the top 20. A further property has become occupied, making this two properties in the 20 properties now occupied this financial year. Four properties are being advertised for sale (two of these are now sold STC). Six properties remain under renovation. We are continuing with one enforced sale and one compulsory purchase order. The remainder are subject to ongoing informal action in line with our Strategy. Work also continues on properties outside the top 20 utilising the 5-stage escalation letter process and enforcement provisions. In Q3, BCBC submitted its 1st Compulsory Purchase Order under the Empty Homes Strategy to WG and is awaiting confirmation of the Order. The two WG funding applications submitted to WG in Q2 have been approved and received. These will support work in default and other enforcement action. The Bridgend CBC Empty Homes Strategy 2025-2030 was approved by Cabinet in Q3. The empty homes working group continues to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss long term empty properties and agree a coordinated approach to address priority empty properties.	

WBO4.4: Support children with additional learning needs

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 2024-2025	Target 2025-2026	Q2 position 2025-2026 & RYAG	Q3 2025-2026 RYAG vs Target		Q3 2024-2025 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
DEFS170 CP WBO4.4	Percentage of new local authority individual development plans (IDPs) delivered using the online IDP system (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	0%	100%	3%	75%	18%	0%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: While there have been some issues getting the online IDP system operating we are committed to transferring all IDPs to the new online system as soon as possible to comply with the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act. Performance: This is a non-statutory requirement and due to ongoing staffing pressures, we are unlikely to achieve the 100% target in the short term and will work towards a more structured approach to delivery over the next year. There are now 114 school maintained IDPs on the online system and 45 local authority maintained IDPs. However, while 8% of all local authority IDPs (most pre-date the online system) are using the online system, in Q3, 6 of 32 new local authority IDPs are online (18%) and all new local authority IDPs for early years children use the online system (100%).
DEFS171 CP WBO4.4	Number of pupils on the waiting lists for specialist provision (EEYYP) Lower Preferred	55	10	27	20	51	30	↓	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: Placing pupils in specialist provision at the earliest opportunity ensures that all of their educational needs are met. Throughout the year waiting lists may fluctuate as pupils can be added at any time. We aim to see a trend of decreasing numbers on the waiting list over time. This is the end-of-year target. Performance: Following a reduction in Q2, with provisions at capacity at the start of the new academic year, waiting lists have increased with 23 pupils awaiting placement at Ysgol Bryn Castell and 28 learners waiting to access the portfolio provision at The Bridge. This includes 12 learners waiting for a revolving door pupil referral unit (PRU) placement and 7 for the specialist Mental and Physical Health Recovery provision. Proposals have been submitted for consideration through an 'Invest to Save' model to build capacity within all Bridgend secondary schools to develop provision and intervention to maintain their learners with emotional, behaviour and social development difficulties.

DEFS172 CP WBO4.4	Percentage of year 9 pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) with a transition plan in place, that have had an annual review by 31 March of each current school year (EEYYP) Higher Preferred	74.3%	100%	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4	
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Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.4.1	Implement the online IDP (Individual Development Plan) system for local authority and school-based IDPs. (EEYYP)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: Schools are slowly implementing the IDP system with a small number now using it fully. All local authority IDPs created by local authority officers will be in the IDP system. There are currently 45 local authority IDPs and 114 school IDPs delivered via the online IDP system. The system is only accessible to officers, schools and some settings, but currently not parents.	We will continue working alongside Gwynedd to resolve issues within the system.
WBO4.4.2	Develop a five-year plan to meet increasing demand on support services, specialist provision and schools (EEYYP)	AMBER (Adequate)	Quarter 3: There is still no clarity on Post-16 funding going forward. We are continuing with current processes until we receive confirmation from Welsh Government. Two further schools have offered capacity to host additional Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE) provisions to meet capacity needs, and this is being considered through senior management via a proposal. This reduces staffing costs and provides more appropriate settings to meet pupil needs while working through the statutory process of establishing new learning resource centres.	Welsh Government to provide an update on future responsibilities for Post-16 funding.

WBO4.5: Safeguard and protect people at risk of harm

Performance Indicators

PI Ref, Type & Aim	PI Description and Preferred Outcome	Year End 24-25	Target 25-26	Q2 position 25-26 & RYAG	Q3 25-26 RYAG vs Target		Q3 24-25 (same period last year)	Direction vs same period last year	Performance this period
					Target	Actual			
CH/003 CP WBO4.5	Children's safeguarding referrals – decision making in 24 hours (SSWB) Higher Preferred	99.97%	99.5%	99.92%	99.5%	99.93%	99.95%	↙	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: To sustain high performance and ensure children are protected from harm and target takes account of occasional system glitches. Performance: Positive performance which is being sustained and we continue to meet our statutory safeguarding responsibilities.
SSWB63 CP WBO4.5	Average waiting time (in days) on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) waiting list (SSWB) Lower Preferred	10 days	24 days	24 days	24 days	26 days	24 days	↙	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: 2023/24 was not a typical year due to additional commissioned resources to reduce the backlog. Current performance stands at 24 days- so we would recommend that for this year. Performance: There has been a further increase in wait times due to a number of independent Best Interest Assessors not taking on work over Christmas and also some putting a hold on allocations. We have secured some further independent BIAs and allocations have now been made. The wait times will be monitored closely. We have also had a new starter in the team this week which will support allocations.
SSWB77 CP WBO4.5	Percentage of Adult safeguarding inquiries which receive initial response within 7 working days (SSWB) Higher Preferred	83.08%	85%	92.39%	85%	89.85%	77.09%	↑	Quarterly Indicator Target Setting: The 7 days response relates to the Local Authority and other key partners. We will continue to improve our own performance and those of our partners. Performance: There has been a slight decrease in the performance compared to Q2 due to sickness in the team and having to absorb the additional work. We will be looking for agency support due to a leaver in the team.
SSWB62 CP WBO4.5	Percentage of child protection investigations completed within required timescales (SSWB) Higher Preferred	84.40%	80%	Annual Indicator - To be reported at Q4					

Commitments

Code	Commitment	Status	Progress this period	Next Steps
WBO4.5.1	Work as One Council to effectively safeguard children and adults at risk (SSWB)	YELLOW (Good)	SSWB Quarter 3: New corporate safeguarding policy approved by Cabinet in October 2025. Task and Finish Group established to review the North Wales Child Practice Review and report on Bridgend position to Regional Safeguarding Board. EEYYP Quarter 3: The safeguarding audits have been completed, and an analysis will be completed by Q4. A review of the current core accountability and governance arrangements for safeguarding in Wales has commenced. There is an ongoing safeguarding in education review. This will serve as the second phase of the of the Safeguarding Governance Review, focusing specifically on education. Welsh Government has commissioned two stakeholder engagement projects to consider the policy and practice regarding children who go missing to consider whether any changes to the current Missing Children Practice Guide (a part of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures) would be beneficial. Delivery of training on the exploitation strategy and toolkit will take place in the January 2026 Designated Safeguarding Person Forum.	Report from Task and Finish Group into North Wales Child Practice Review to be Corporate Management Team.
WBO4.5.2	Identify children who are more likely to offend and provide them with support to reduce offending behaviour. (EEYYP)	YELLOW (Good)	Quarter 3: The referral pathway via MASH or Early Help is established and proving successful at bringing representatives from various departments, including Children's Services, the EEYYP Directorate, ASB Team, Exploitation Team and the Trauma Service, so that staff can discuss referrals from other sectors and provide support at the earliest opportunity. Our Q2 position remains with regard to establishing an early notification process to identify those children at risk of harm related or offending behaviour at the earliest point. Police restructure has delayed commencement of this work, but it is expected to resume in early 2026. The service submitted the three-year growth proposal earlier this year and is still awaiting feedback from the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services.	

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Performance against MTFS Targets

PI Ref & Type	PI Description	Annual target 25-26 £'000	Performance at Q3				Performance this period			
			Achieved Q3		Likely to be achieved by year end				Variance year end	
			£'000	%	£'000	%			£'000	%
DRE6.1.1	Percentage budget reductions achieved (Overall BCBC budget) Higher Preferred	8,379	6,468	77%	7,473	89%	906	11%	<p>Target Setting: To achieve all reductions outlined in the MTFS</p> <p>Performance: The most significant budget reduction proposals unlikely to be achieved in full are (> £100,000 shortfall):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EEYYP5 – Reduction in Strategy, Performance and Support Group (£121,000 shortfall). The consultation with staff on the restructure has now concluded with the new structure being implemented from the 5 January 2026. Saving will be made in full in 2026-27. • SCH1 – Efficiency saving against School Delegated Budgets – 1% in 2025-26 (£1.186 million). Whilst the saving is referenced as having been achieved due to the overall reduction in the Individual Schools Budget (ISB), as referenced in paragraph 3.3.1, the reduced budgets have resulted in total projected deficit balances for schools at year end of £5.593 million. Officers are working with schools to bring this overall deficit down. • SSW8 – Reduction in the provision of number of Supported Living Accommodation units (£190,000 shortfall). It has been determined that this savings proposal is no longer deliverable, and work is underway by the service to identify alternative budgets for this to be offset against. 	

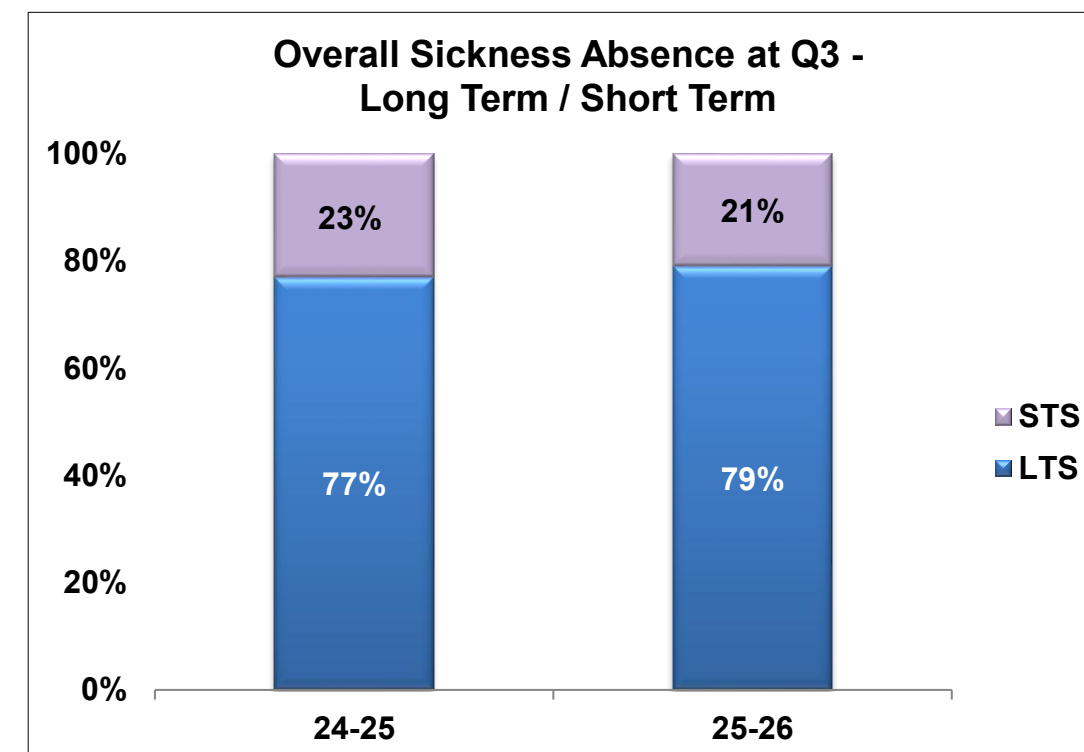
Additional Sickness Information

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Directorate	FTE 31.12.2025	QTR3 2024/25			QTR3 2025/26			Cumulative Days per FTE 2024/25	Cumulative Days per FTE 2025/26
		Number of FTE days lost	No. of Absences	Days per FTE	Number of FTE days lost	No. of Absences	Days per FTE		
Chief Executive Directorate	415.69	1555.08	125	3.77	1488.88	126	3.58	8.48	10.64
Communities Directorate	470.19	2167.33	180	4.46	1526.33	185	3.25	12.62	10.36
Education, Early Years and Young People Directorate	456.36	1643.83	316	3.52	1751.21	308	3.84	9.00	9.23
Schools	2131.84	7733.70	1475	3.59	8132.09	1355	3.81	8.73	8.50
Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate	1023.48	4548.16	422	4.49	4781.30	486	4.67	13.08	12.23
BCBC TOTAL	4497.55	17648.10	2518	3.89	17679.82	2460	3.93	10.12	9.82

Sickness Absence by Reason

Absence Reason	Number of FTE days lost					% of Cumulative days lost
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total		
Bereavement Related	1154.75	845.28	1057.88	3057.91	6.90%	
Cancer	433.44	369.14	421.99	1224.57	2.77%	
Chest & Respiratory	577.15	474.25	1352.00	2403.40	5.43%	
Eye/Ear/Throat/Nose/Mouth/Dental	656.39	538.63	1162.50	2357.52	5.32%	
Genitourinary / Gynaecological	257.35	249.24	668.09	1174.68	2.65%	
Heart / Blood Pressure / Circulation	461.68	556.56	422.49	1440.72	3.25%	
Infections	1006.44	711.25	1653.37	3371.06	7.61%	
MSD including Back & Neck	2289.36	2462.66	2310.53	7062.54	15.95%	
Neurological	720.16	543.61	577.84	1841.61	4.16%	
Other Mental illness	62.38	94.96	166.35	323.69	0.73%	
Pregnancy related	113.10	124.30	306.96	544.36	1.23%	
Stomach / Liver / Kidney / Digestion	1317.15	1023.00	2036.45	4376.60	9.88%	
Stress/Anxiety/Depression not work related	3163.10	2928.12	3685.07	9776.29	22.08%	
Stress/Anxiety/Depression work related	1723.23	1749.42	1858.31	5330.97	12.04%	
TOTALS	13935.67	12670.44	17679.82	44285.93		



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Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 1 Audit Wales, Arrangements for Commissioning Services (June 2025)	R1 Establish commissioning arrangements The Council should strengthen and formalise current practice, to assure itself that the decisions it makes to commission services are consistently shaped by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an understanding of the service to be commissioned and its intended outcomes (para 17); • setting out how it will assess and monitor the value for money of commissioned services over the short to longer term (para 18); • an appraisal of all the options to deliver the service from the perspective of economy, efficiency and effectiveness over the short to longer term (para 19); • planning over an appropriate timescale (para 20); • an understanding of long-term resource implications (para 21); • ensuring that wider impacts of the service are maximised (para 22); • working with the right people and partners to design and deliver the service (para 23); and • sharing lessons across the organisation (para 25) 	Chief Executive/CMB	Dec 2025	We have liaised with Audit Wales and they have not yet set a timetable for producing the National Report. Commissioning will play a pivotal role in the Transformation agenda and therefore processes will be reviewed and adapted as the Transformation Strategy develops. This will be an iterative process.	March 2027	YELLOW
	R2 Strengthen compliance with its commissioning arrangements To ensure that the Council's corporate approach to commissioning is consistently used across service areas, the Council should introduce arrangements to monitor compliance with its corporate approach to commissioning (para 25).	Chief Executive/CMB	Dec 2025	As above	March 2027	YELLOW
	R3 Introduce regular review of the Council's commissioning arrangements To ensure the Council identifies opportunities to improve value for money, it should routinely evaluate the effectiveness of its corporate commissioning arrangements across the organisation (para 25).	Chief Executive/CMB	March 2026	As above	March 2027	YELLOW

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 1 Improvement Check Children's Social Care Services (June 2025)	PE1 - Retain focus on implementing Signs of Safety model of practice, achieving consistent ways of working across all staff and teams: *Workforce Transformation workstream meets 6-weekly and governs SofS implementation including QA activity ensure that SofS is embedded across teams. *Consultant Social Worker will support specific teams to ensure SofS is embedded across all teams.(RIF funded). *SofS Champion event to be held to ensure full understanding of role and responsibility for each team *CIG to continue to be used as a practice forum to celebrate good practice and areas for development *Reflective Sessions involving partners to continue to be held.	Principal Officer Social Work Transformation	March 2026	The service plan for Signs of Safety embedding is fully underway. This plan is routinely reviewed with Group Managers and Principal Officers with each service area feeding into what is working well, any worries and the next steps.	n/a	GREEN
	Pr1 - Continue to develop services in line with the Family Support Commissioning Strategy; review the communication strategy to ensure staff and partners are clear about available services and referral pathways: *Implement the recommendations and actions contained within the Family Support Commissioning strategy. *Multi-Agency board to monitor implementation of the strategy	PO Family Support	March 2027	The Family Support Commissioning Strategy was taken to Corporate Management Board in July, with an agreed action to establish a multi-agency strategic board to oversee implementation of the recommendations. The first meeting of this board has now taken place, with representation from key statutory partners and the third sector, and focused on strengthening shared ownership and system-wide buy-in. The board will monitor delivery of the agreed action plan and act as a platform for developing more coordinated and centralised commissioning approaches across partners and the third sector. The next meeting is scheduled for February.	n/a	GREEN
	Pr2 - Continue to implement plans in the local authority commissioning strategy, to support timely improvements: *Implement the Eliminate Profit action plan to develop services to prevent children from becoming looked-after and those that need to exit care.	Commissioning and Sufficiency Lead	March 2027	The directorate is actively implementing the Removal of Profit action plan to support timely improvements in line with the local authority commissioning strategy. This includes mobilising services funded by the removal of profit, such as the Adolescent Crisis Team and enhanced foster carer support, scheduled to commence at the end of February 2026. Work is underway to develop and mobilise in-house residential homes (2 of 4 currently in progress) to increase placement sufficiency, alongside strengthening market oversight and sufficiency support to identify provider risks early. Foster carer incentives have been reviewed and rolled out, and invest-to-save proposals are being progressed to improve recruitment, retention, and overall capacity in foster care and residential provision.	n/a	AMBER

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 113	<p>Pr3 - Ensure that children are not placed in unregistered services and continue efforts to identify suitable, registered placements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To increase foster carer availability and capacity. *Increase internal residential provision capacity. *Ensure there are clear and timely plans for children's move on from care. *Use the re-modelling fostering board to monitor progress linked to the above actions 	Commissioning and Sufficiency Lead	June 2026	Processes are in place to utilise the emergency bed more effectively and to increase internal residential care capacity, ensuring timely access to safe placements. The implementation of new services, including the Adolescent Crisis Team and enhanced foster carer support, is progressing as planned, and currently no children are placed in unregistered services. Sufficiency, particularly in fostering, remains challenging, and ongoing work is focused on recruitment and retention of foster carers and the development of different fostering models to increase capacity.	n/a	AMBER
	<p>Pr4- Ensure the fostering service and CECT retain priority focus, to ensure improvements are made in a timely way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To continue to monitor performance, compliance, staff surveys, outcomes, staffing to prevent any impact on service delivery *IRO service to continue to monitor quality of care planning and escalate issues to TM's and GMs when required to do so. *PO Case Management and Transition to improve practice across CECT and Care leaving teams ensuring that SofS and care planning is evident in all teams 	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	June 2026	The Group Managers for case management and transition and provider services continue to monitor the performance of teams and follow up on practice issues. Joint workshops have been held to ensure positive working relationships which appear to be having an impact. This will continue to be monitored in coming months given the scrutiny around foster placements and high-cost residential placements.	n/a	YELLOW
	<p>W1 - Continue to embed consistent approaches to safeguarding children from exploitation. This should include continuing to explore opportunities for multi-agency training, reflection, and shared learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To implement the exploitation strategy and develop our exploitation service and then monitor the impact of the service on outcomes for children. *Multi-agency training to be delivered to teams via Regional Safeguarding board. *Exploitation Champions to continue to meet and promote the exploitation strategy and approaches to working with children and families. 	Group Manager Locality Hubs	June 2026	The regional exploitation strategy has been launched and an exploitation team is being developed within Edge of Care services. Training has been delivered to teams on the strategy. Next steps will involve the recruitment to the exploitation team and development of the practice model once staff are in post.	n/a	GREEN
	<p>W2 - Work with practitioners to develop and embed agreed standards for record keeping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Refresh record keeping guidance and ensure teams are implementing consistently via QA activity. *Training to be developed and delivered to teams to ensure consistency in recording. 	Principal Officer Social Work Transformation	June 2026	Understanding of the QA model has also supported managers to assess quality rather than just that of compliance. There is ongoing work to be done in relation to the reviewing of the recording guidance and policy. This will be in partnership with SCDWP and the Policy Officer.	n/a	YELLOW

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 114	<p>W3 - Continue to review the quality of assessments and plans and share learning to support practice improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Continue to implement the QA framework, MSC and service based audits to identify good practice and areas for development. *Reflective sessions to continue to be held across teams and partners. *CIG to continue to be a forum to promote good practice *Action learning sets to continue to be held across teams 	Principal Officer Social Work Transformation	June 2026	The QA framework is now well embedded into the local authority. Themes being identified are being fed back to teams and via training on areas for improvement. The most significant change model will continue to support this area.	n/a	BLUE
	<p>W4 - Subject to their age and level of understanding, children must be invited and supported to take part in meetings held in line with the WSP; and all meetings held in line with child protection processes should start with the child's story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To record and reflect that children are being invited to CP conferences and that SofS is being implemented consistently with the voice of the child evident throughout. *Implement SofS conferences for all CP conferences. *IRO team development to ensure child's story commences a CP conference 	Principal Officer Social Work Transformation	June 2026	Through the development of Signs of Safety Conferences, children are now always invited to meetings. However, up take on this from children is low at this moment. Ongoing work to encourage children's attendance will be undertaken via teams and the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service. This will also include partners promoting children's rights at their reviews from Tros Gynnal Plant.	n/a	GREEN
	<p>W5 - Ensure case conference record keeping is in line with the requirements of the WSP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To review the approach to minute taking and that notes are proportionate and reflect the strengths, risks and needs within families clearly. *Training to be provided to business support staff on expectations on minute taking. 	Group Manager Business Strategy, Performance and Improvement	June 2026	Training has been provided to Business Support to ensure minutes are of the expected standard and meet the requirements of the Wales Safeguarding procedures. Business Support staff have also received training on how to support the meetings via the Signs of Safety model. We have a process in place to ensure all minutes are authorised and agreed by the meeting chair to ensure they are an accurate record and any issues regarding the standard of minutes is fed back to the Business Support Team Manager by either the meeting chair or IRO Team Manager, so that additional training and support can be targeted as required.	n/a	BLUE
	<p>W6 - Continue to ensure improvements to the conference process are co-produced with people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To continue implement SofS conferences consistently and ensure that the voice of children and families are at the centre. *Increase the number of children participating in their CP conference through the child's social worker having early discussions with families regarding attendance. 	Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding	June 2026	The IRO Service has developed a feedback portal, and this will assist us in exploring the reasons why children and Young People aren't attending their conferences, we can then undertake targeted work to increase participation.	n/a	GREEN

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 115	<p>Pa1 - Continue to work with education partners to develop a shared understanding of roles and responsibilities: *To continue with attendance at Team Bridgend, Primary Federation and BASSH. *Continue with interface with EEYP directorate *SofS multi-agency training to commence with Education services by end of 2025</p>	Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding	June 2026	This work has continued and the next training for Signs of Safety for partner agencies is taking place in Q4.	n/a	GREEN
	<p>Pa2 - Continue to work with partners to implement threshold guidance in a timely and robust way: *To launch local threshold guidance and hold raising awareness sessions of the guidance with relevant partners. *Reflective sessions continue to be held with partners to develop shared understanding of thresholds. *SofS multi-agency training to delivered to all partners.</p>	Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding	June 2026	The threshold guidance was agreed at Policy Procedures Group this quarter a go live date is yet to be agreed. No date at this stage but expect it to be presented in Q4.	n/a	YELLOW
	<p>Pa3 - Continue to work with partners and seek feedback on specific areas of practice - exploitation, professional concerns, and the operational response to the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act 2020 - to ensure improvements are made in a timely way: *To review with partners in our multi-agency forums such as JOG progress related to exploitation, professional concern and any other areas of multi-agency practice. *Reflective sessions continue to be held with partners to develop shared understanding of thresholds. *SofS multi-agency training to delivered to all partners</p>	Deputy Head of Service	March 2026	We continue to meet regularly with partners via Joint Operational Group (JOG) and other interface meetings to discuss operational or strategic issues.	n/a	GREEN
	<p>Pa4 - Continue to work with partners to develop an agreed approach to multi-agency training and practice: *To review what multi-agency training is currently delivered and where opportunities present to enhance multi-agency sessions. *Develop joint training with Health, Education and SWP on best practice linked to children and family support</p>	Workforce Development Manager	March 2026	Safeguarding Group B training is offered to partners. An annual regional safeguarding board training programme is available to Safeguarding board partners. Principal Officer Social Work Transformation delivers Signs of Safety statutory agency briefings. Signs of Safety training for Designated Safeguarding Persons (Education) is scheduled during Q4	n/a	GREEN
	<p>Pa5- Work with regional partners to review EDT arrangements and promote improvements in a timely way: *To attend EDT management board and feed into service development. *Create an interface with EDT with the GM IAA/Safeguarding to discuss any operational issues.</p>	Group Manager Locality Hubs/ Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding	March 2026	Children's and Family services are represented at the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) management board and a monthly interface meeting has been created to discuss any potential working issues in a timely way. Additional investment has been agreed to provide more resilience into the service. The EDT management board is overseeing an improvement plan responding to the CIW finding (as referenced in Pa5).	n/a	YELLOW

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 10 IW Inspection Report on Foster Wales Bridgend June 2025	R1 - Matching processes do not always fully assess risks to children's emotional well-being or placement stability: * Revise and embed updated matching documentation and guidance; include rationale, risk matrix, and voices of children and carers in matching decisions.	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Nov 2025	The action plan following the June inspection continues to be implemented. Further progress has been made to strengthen matching processes, including more consistent management oversight of placement decisions and improved quality of risk documentation. The new recording tools are now being used more routinely, and early quality assurance activity is beginning to inform learning and consistency. Further time is required to evidence sustained impact across all placements. New Delivery Date - 30/06/2026	June 2026	YELLOW
	R2 -Inconsistent foster carer annual reviews — delays, missing feedback, lack of quality oversight: * Recruitment of deputy manager posts and other posts within both teams will enable more consistency of annual reviews. QA processes around annual reviews to be improved	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Nov 2025	The plan to ensure all annual reviews are completed within required timescales continues to be implemented. The deputy manager role is now providing more regular oversight, with improved tracking and monitoring of review completion. There is evidence of improved grip on timeliness; however, further work is required to fully address historic delays and to demonstrate sustained compliance. New Delivery Date - 30/06/2026	June 2026	YELLOW
	R3 - Carers not consistently provided with accessible, timely or planned training opportunities: Develop and roll out learning and development plans for all foster carers; improve communication and confirmation of training dates	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Oct 2025	Progress has been made in finalising the refreshed training offer as part of the service remodelling. The framework linking core and advanced learning to carer development pathways is nearing completion, and planning is underway for phased implementation. Interim arrangements continue to ensure access to mandatory training while the new programme is embedded. New Delivery Date - 30/06/2026	June 2026	YELLOW
	R4 - Training delivery does not promote reflection or relationship-building among carers: Ensure carer supervision and review templates prompt reflective discussion of learning, and embed opportunities to link training to real-life care experiences	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Oct 2025	Trauma-informed training commissioned through Eliminate funding has commenced, with early delivery of both one-to-one and group sessions for carers. Initial feedback has been positive and supports the service's shift toward more reflective and therapeutic practice. Delivery will continue throughout Q4, and further evaluation is required to evidence impact on practice. New Delivery Date - 30/09/2026	Sept 2026	YELLOW
	R5 - Exemptions not always meet legislative criteria or have clearly recorded rationale: Implement a revised exemptions decision-making template and embed a monthly audit of all exemptions to ensure compliance with legal criteria and robust rationale	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Oct 2025	Reviewed processes for managing exemptions are now being applied more consistently in practice. The deputy manager role continues to strengthen oversight, with improved monitoring and more timely review of exemptions. Further assurance work is underway to confirm consistency and compliance across all cases. New Delivery Date - 30/06/2026	June 2026	YELLOW
Audit Wales, Setting of Well-being Objectives (Oct 2024)	R1 The Council should ensure that it covers the full range of statutory requirements when developing its next well-being statement, including: • how it considers it has set well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle; and • how it proposes to ensure resources are allocated annually for the purpose of taking steps to meet its well-being objectives	Corporate Policy and Performance Manager	Jun-25	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	R2 The Council should build on its current approach to engagement by considering ways to: • draw on citizens' views to inform the development of the Well-being objectives at an early stage; and • ensure that it is involving the full diversity of the population	Corporate Policy and Performance Manager	Mar-28	This will form part of the approach to the development of the next Corporate Plan and wellbeing objectives in 2028	n/a	GREEN

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 117	R3 The Council should clearly set out in the corporate plan how it intends to work with partners to support the delivery of its well-being objectives	Corporate Policy and Performance Manager	Apr-25	Complete	n/a	BLUE
CIW Inspection of Golygfa'r Dolydd (Sept 2024)	AFI 18 - The service provider has not reviewed the provider assessment when timescales for children's stays have been extended, to ensure the service remains suitable. Childrens views have not been considered as part of the provider assessment.	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	AFI 21- Childrens views are not included in the planning and review of their care and support. Reviews of plans, do not consider the progress being made by children to achieve their personal outcomes.	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	AFI 43 - The service provider must ensure the premises, facilities and equipment are suitable for the service and meet children's needs.	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Sept 2025	This was identified as an area for improvement during the inspection carried out in November 2025. CIW provided clear guidance on the required improvements, which relate to the overall structure and layout of the building rather than safety or decorative matters. The key issue identified was the extent to which the environment feels like a home. While the building was designed for a specific purpose, the service now has clear direction on the changes required to meet this regulation, and work is progressing to address this. New delivery date 30/09/2026	Sept 2026	YELLOW
	AFI 6- The service provider has not ensured the service is provided with sufficient care, competence and skill, having regard to the statement of purpose.	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Sept 2025	This is no longer an area for improvement as it has been met at the inspection carried out on 03/11/2025	n/a	BLUE
	AFI 58- The service provider must have arrangements in place to ensure medicines are stored and administered safely.	Group Manager Placement and Provider Services	Sept 2025	This is no longer an area for improvement as it has been met at the inspection carried out on 03/11/2025	n/a	BLUE
Audit Wales, Digital Strategy Review (April 2024)	Strengthening the evidence base R1 To help ensure that its next digital strategy is well informed and that its resources are effectively targeted, the Council should draw on evidence from a wide range of sources, both internally and externally including: • involving stakeholders with an interest in the digital strategy as well as drawing on the views of stakeholders from existing sources; and • aligning its strategic approach to digital both across the Council and with partners to help identify opportunities to share resources, avoid duplication of effort and deliver multiple benefits.	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 118	Identifying resource implications R2 To help ensure that its next digital strategy is deliverable and achieving value for money the Council should identify the short, medium and long-term resource implications of delivering it together with any intended savings.	Head of Service	Aug-25	Development of the new Digital Strategy has paused whilst work is completed to determine the corporate vision and aspirations around transformation. This recommendation though will be picked up and considered at the future point when the delivery plan that will underpin the new Strategy is developed.	March 2027	AMBER
	Arrangements for monitoring value for money R3 To help ensure that the Council can effectively monitor and evaluate value for money from its strategic approach to digital it should strengthen its arrangements for monitoring the progress and impact of its digital strategy over the short, medium and long term.	Head of Service	Aug-25	A complete review will need to be undertaken to establish robust governance arrangements around the transformation agenda. This will address this recommendation to ensure an improved process is in place to monitor progress and impact over the short, medium and long term	March 2027	AMBER
CIW Improvement Check Children's Social Care Services (Nov 2022)	Pe9 - Continue to work towards ensuring a sufficient and sustainable workforce, with the capacity and capability to consistently meet statutory responsibilities	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	Pe10 - Continue to monitor the quality of social care records ensuring recording in relation to siblings, ethnicity, language, religion is strengthened, and a consistent approach taken	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	Pe11 - Ensure people consistently feel listened to and treated with dignity and respect	Head of Service	Sept 2023	Signs of Safety is becoming more embedded into practice, and the adoption of the most significant change (MSC) model is assisting us in gaining feedback from families in regards to their experiences of working with us. TGP Cymru continue to develop advocacy work and there continues to be plans to develop a parent advocacy network. Most Significant Change is progressing well across teams and we will be holding our first MSC panel to look at themes from families in regards to their experience of working with us.	March 2026	GREEN
	Pr6 - Continue to closely monitor the position of children's social services and early help services to ensure any indicators of risks to achieving and sustaining improvement and compliance with statutory responsibilities, and pressure/ gaps in service provision are quickly identified and the required action is taken	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	Pr7 - The local authority should ensure systems are in place to provide all staff, with up-to-date information regarding availability and accessibility of early help services and records relating to intervention of early help services	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	Pr8 - Ensure children are not placed in unregistered services and must continue its efforts to identify suitable, registered placements	Group Manager Commissioning	Continuous	We presently have no children placed in Operating Without Registration placements. This is a real success as there continues to be real challenges linked to placement sufficiency. We will be opening one of our new provisions in Spring 2027. This will assist in providing additional accommodation for our most vulnerable children.	March 2030	GREEN

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 119	Pi4 - Ensure clarity and consistency of thresholds for access to early help and statutory services. The local authority must prioritise this work to ensure children and families access the right support at the right time and ensure smooth access to services, and where required smooth transition between early help / preventative and statutory services	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	W6 - Performance indicators in relation to timeliness of meeting statutory requirements - maintain focus and scrutiny on ensuring compliance with all its statutory responsibilities	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	W7 - Implement and embed consistent practice regarding identifying and responding to child exploitation, progress work as a matter of urgency	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	W8 - Closely monitor contact arrangements for children and their families	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
Transformational Leadership Programme Board – Baseline governance Review – Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board (Aug 2022)	<p>R1 Strategic planning and applying the sustainable development principle Our work found opportunities for the TPLB to strengthen its planning arrangements and demonstrate how it is acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle (as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act). The principle should be integral to the TPLB's thinking and genuinely shaping what it does by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) taking a longer-term approach to its planning beyond five years, b) ensuring greater integration between the long-term plans of the four statutory bodies of the TPLB, and c) improving involvement of all members of the TPLB to ensure an increased voice for non-statutory partners and a better understanding of the purpose of the RPB more generally. 	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	2023-24	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	<p>R2 Governance Arrangements The Cross-Cutting Programme Board is yet to be established. It is intended to oversee the development and delivery of regional cross-cutting services and could have a role ensuring a more coherent and impactful integrated community model. The TPLB should establish the programme board to ensure that decision making arrangements are in place to help resolve cross-cutting issues and risks brought to the attention of the RPB</p>	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	2023-24	Close - action complete. The Integrated Leadership Board is in place. The Partnership Leadership Team is also acting as the programme board for the Integrated Community Care Services Programme.	March 2026	BLUE

Name of Audit / regulator	Recommendation / proposal for improvement	Responsible Officer	Initial Delivery Date	Action Update Q3 2025-26	Current Delivery Date	BRAYG Q3 25-26
Page 120	R3 Performance Management The outcomes and performance framework was still being finalised at the time of our review. The TPLB needs to finalise and implement the framework, ensuring it contains quantitative and qualitative measures that will enable the RPB to demonstrate outcomes and impact	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	R4 Risk Management Our work found areas of risk management that need to be improved, particularly in relation to regional workforce planning. The TPLB should strengthen regional risk management arrangements by improving the identification and prioritisation of shared risks and ensuring mitigating actions are robust and clearly articulated.	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	ongoing	A risk and impact assessment will be undertaken in early–mid 2026/27, which will consider both the service user and financial impacts any funding changes, alongside ongoing risks to the sustainability of commissioned services. It will also assess workforce and capacity impacts, supporting the identification of current and emerging gaps and inform targeted mitigation actions to support service continuity and resilience.	March 2026	YELLOW
	R5 Regional Commissioning Unit Our work found that the lack of capacity within the RCU was leading to some delays in progressing actions. The work of the RCU is crucial to the continuing success of the TPLB. The TPLB needs to consider how it can build capacity and maximise resources to support the TPLB and minimise overreliance on a small team.	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	2023-24	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	R6 Use of Resources Improving the health and social care outcomes of the region will require efficient and effective use of combined resources. Our work found that there had been some limited examples of pooled budgets and other arrangements for sharing resources. The TPLB needs to explore more innovative ways of sharing and pooling core resources across the region to maximise its impact and outcomes for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg population	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	2023-24	A Regional Partnership Agreement has been signed by the four statutory organisations in the region. It includes the pooled budgeting arrangement for the Community Resource Team in Bridgend and is the basis for explaining this approach to other services and geographical areas.	March 2026	YELLOW
	R7 Regional Workforce Planning Like many parts of the public sector, the region is experiencing significant workforce challenges. The TPLB needs to consider how it can facilitate a regional and strategic approach to addressing these challenges and to help it deliver its priorities.	Head of Regional Commissioning Unit	ongoing	Workforce is an active consideration within each of the regional programme areas. For example there is a dedicated workforce group supporting the Children's Board and a demand and capacity model is being put in place to support workforce planning for services supporting older people and people living with frailty. There are separate workforce planning arrangements outside of the RPB structures.	March 2026	YELLOW
Audit Wales, Review of Arrangements to Become a 'Digital Council' (June 2021)	P1 The Council could improve its digital strategy	Head of Service	Dec 2024	Draft Strategy was completed and the public consultation carried out during June/July 2025. An authority wide review has since started to determine corporate vision and aspirations around transformation with a view of developing the new digital strategy	Dec 2026	AMBER
	P2 The Council should strengthen some governance arrangements to deliver the strategy	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE
	P3 - The Council should consider improving communication with staff / members to evoke the culture necessary to change	n/a	n/a	Complete	n/a	BLUE

Meeting of:	COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	15 JUNE 2026
Report Title:	FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, REGULATORY AND ELECTORAL SERVICES
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:	<p>The Council’s Constitution requires each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to develop and implement a Forward Work Programme for the Committee.</p> <p>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.</p>

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) Present the Committee with the Draft 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 It also provides for the Committee 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 13 May 2026, 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 2027, 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 2027.
- 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.
- 3.7 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. Recommendations

9.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Consider and approve the Draft 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
Draft 2026-27 Forward Work Programme

Monday, 15 June 2026 at 4pm		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Bathing Water Quality Issues and Impacts of the River Ogmore	Representatives from Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and Natural Resources Wales to be invited.	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Leader of the Council; Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation; Cabinet Member(s) for Communities and Environment.</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Chief Executive; Chief Officer – Legal, Regulatory and Electoral Services</p> <p><u>External</u> Operational Manager - Enterprise and Specialist Services (SRS); Representatives from Natural Resources Wales and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. Representative from A Peace for Nature</p>
Audit Wales Report – Bridgend County Borough Council Planning and Development Service	Update on Recommendations	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Head of Public Realm; Group Manager Planning and Development Services.</p>

Monday, 13 July 2026 at 4pm		
Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Bridgend Town Centre Masterplan & Regeneration		<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Head of Public Realm; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration.</p>
Condition of the Highways and Status of Road Resurfacing Programme	Update on progress and budget: - Repairs and maintenance; - Road resurfacing and potholes; - Network management of utilities; and	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member(s) for Communities and Environment;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities;</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development of internal metrics for repairs and closing referrals. - To include information on the new Hotbox Teams, number of potholes filled and investment. 	Head of Operations – Communities; Group Manager – Highways and Infrastructure; Highways Network Manager.
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Monday, 12 October 2026 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Maesteg Town Hall TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact and outcomes - Outcome of survey re: use of venue <p>To include a walkaround the week before the meeting.</p> <p>Lessons learned to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reasons for the overall project cost; - Details of the challenges encountered that led to increased costs (within the overall envelope); and - An appraisal of what could have changed or been done differently. 	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Head of Public Realm; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration.</p> <p><u>External</u> Representatives from Awen</p>
Grand Pavillion TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Update <p>To include a walkaround the week before the meeting .</p>	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities; Head of Public Realm; Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration.</p>

Monday, 7 December 2026 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Local Lettings Policy – Porthcawl	Housing	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing; Group Manager – Housing and Homelessness Services.</p>

Fleet Services Review	Pre-Decision	<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member(s) for Communities and Environment;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director - Communities; Head of Operations - Communities; Group Manager - Highways and Infrastructure.</p>
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Monday, 15 February 2027 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
TBC		<p><u>Cabinet Member</u> Cabinet Member(s) for Communities and Environment;</p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director - Communities; Head of Operations - Communities; Group Manager - Highways and Infrastructure.</p>

Monday, 15 March 2027 at 4pm

Report Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
TBC		<p><u>Cabinet Member</u></p> <p><u>Officers</u> Corporate Director – Communities;</p>

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

- Cemeteries Review (June 2027)
- Street / Utility work including charges
- 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
- Housing (with Registered Social Landlord Invitees)
- A report on the CAT Programme to be added to the Forward Work Programme in 12-18 months to evaluate progress, including an update on the recommendations of an internal audit which took place in April 2025, set out in paragraph 2.1.6 of the report.
- Final UKSPF monitoring report, including a complete analysis of the successes and the lessons learned for future projects and to include:
 - details of how the public, businesses and community organisations were informed and supported to make full use of available funding, including how the Bridgend County Prosperity Co-Production Framework had informed decision-making about the UKSPF.

- detailed information regarding the feasibility studies funded by the UKSPF and how many have or will become viable projects.
- detailed evaluation of the sustainability of jobs created across the three themes as a result of UKSPF funding, to include the monitoring processes and the support offered by BCBC; and
- detailed information about the impact the cut in funding during the transition year had on projects in the community

Briefings:

Topic	Information Required / Committee's Role	Invitees
Highway Infrastructure	Including: - Repairs, maintenance and prioritisation process.	20 April 2026 and 24 June 2026
Future Waste Services	<i>And see also Referral from COSC / GAC below *</i>	All Member Briefing pre-Council - July 2026
Corporate Joint Committees Regional Responsibilities		All Member Briefing Date to be confirmed
Revised Social Housing Allocation Policy	The changes especially in respect of the bands and how properties will be allocated.	All Member Briefing Date to be arranged in line with final adoption of Policy

***Referral from Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 December 2025**

The Committee discussed the Corporate Complaints report presented to the previous meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee (GAC) on 27 November 2025 where concerns were raised regarding the number of complaints regarding waste contract, the majority of which were upheld. The Committee were given some reassurance by the Corporate Director and advised that GAC have requested further information but **requested** that the issue be referred to the Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information in the meantime. Potentially if Members wish this could be included in the Briefing on future waste services.

**Communities, Environment and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2025-2026**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
29 Sep 2025	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	<p>Members discussed the Council’s approach set out in the Local Investment Plan, to the United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), which had emphasised three themes - Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills. Whilst the Committee acknowledged that a lot of different projects across the County Borough had been funded, it was also expressed that the approach lacked a guiding thread, a clear and transparent account of how projects had been prioritised, and how the success and value of them were being measured. The Committee therefore recommended that the approach to future UKSPF successor funding projects should proactively and clearly set out the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The guiding strategic aims. b. Establish what the project is about and what it should deliver. 	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. The agreed objectives, targets and outputs. d. The criteria for awarding grants. e. The measures of success and value to be monitored. f. The approach to contingency planning. 			
29 Sep 2025	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	<p>The Committee requested that a final UKSPF monitoring report, including a complete analysis of the successes and the lessons learned for future projects for consideration by the Committee as soon as feasible and to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. details of how the public, businesses and community organisations were informed and supported to make full use of available funding, including how the Bridgend County Prosperity Co-Production Framework had informed decision-making about the UKSPF. b. detailed information regarding the feasibility studies funded by the UKSPF and how many have or will become viable projects. 	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		<p>c. detailed evaluation of the sustainability of jobs created across the three themes as a result of UKSPF funding, to include the monitoring processes and the support offered by BCBC; and</p> <p>d. detailed information about the impact the cut in funding during the transition year had on projects in the community.</p>			
29 Sep 2025	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	<p>The Committee noted that there was a lack of clarity about what the successor to UKSPF would be like and how it would work and requested that once known, Members receive information about it, including details of the proposals to engage with communities through the Council’s partnership structures about the criteria for applying for funding.</p>	<p>Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability</p>	<p>ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.</p>	<p>Follow link here.</p>
29 Sep 2025	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	<p>The Committee requested more information about the assistance that could be provided to organisations to apply for alternative sources of funding, once UKSPF funding comes to an end.</p>	<p>Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural</p>	<p>ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.</p>	<p>Follow link here.</p>

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
			Resources & Sustainability		
29 Sep 2025	Social Housing Allocation Policy	<p>The Committee expressed concern that there were approximately 3300 people on the housing register and there was an urgent need to address the fundamental mismatch between the demand for and the supply of available housing, particularly social housing, in the County Borough. The Committee therefore recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Communities ‘deep dive’, consider potential ideas to address the shortfall in the supply of housing, and; b. That the Strategy and Action Plans be updated setting out the steps being taken to urgently address this position. 	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change/ Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
29 Sep 2025	Social Housing Allocation Policy	The Committee requested that an All-Member Briefing session be provided regarding the revised Social Housing Allocation Policy and how it will change, especially in respect of the bandings and how properties will be allocated.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change/ Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
29 Sep 2025	Social Housing Allocation Policy	The Committee requested additional information regarding the impact of the Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary Plan on the draft Social Housing Allocation Policy.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change/ Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
29 Sep 2025	Social Housing Allocation Policy	The Committee requested additional information about both the statutory and non-statutory review processes, including the number, the outcomes, and the steps taken to ensure fairness and the consistent application of policy.	Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change/ Strategic Housing Commissioning Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
3 Nov 2025	Net Zero Strategy	The Committee discussed that 71% of the Council's emissions came from the supply chain and recommended that consideration be given to additional resource being allocated to seeking technical expertise to develop a low carbon and local supply chain.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Decarbonisation Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
3 Nov 2025	Net Zero Strategy	The Committee expressed concern regarding the unlikelihood of meeting the 2030 Net Zero target given the funding for the identified	Scrutiny/ Chair	ACTIONED – Reported to Cabinet 3 February 2026,	Follow link here

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		cost of £109 Million for implementation that would be needed and recommended that Cabinet reconsider its commitment to the 2030 target, request the Welsh Government (WG) to review their target for Net Zero and provide guidance on how to proceed.			
3 Nov 2025	Net Zero Strategy	The Committee expressed concern about the consultation questionnaire in Appendix 3, in particular that the first question provided responders with the option to ‘Strongly Disagree’ or ‘Disagree’ and recommended that it be reworded and that a question regarding the level of understanding and awareness of Net Zero in the wider community be included.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Decarbonisation Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
3 Nov 2025	Net Zero Strategy	The Committee requested a copy of any correspondence with WLGA or WG in respect of the following recommendations from its 7 April 2025 meeting: <i>“The Committee discussed the challenges of the Authority achieving Net Zero Carbon 2030 and recommended that</i>	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Decarbonisation Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		<p><i>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.”</i></p>			
3 Nov 2025	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	<p>The Committee discussed the disparity between the availability, capacity and speed of electric vehicle (EV) chargers in Bridgend supermarkets compared to the town centre and recommended that the strategy, which is to be developed following the consultation, focusses on the need to install affordable EV chargers with greater charging capacity in the town centre, and</p>	<p>Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager</p>	<p>ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.</p>	<p>Follow link here.</p>

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		especially in Rhiw car park, as a matter of urgency.			
3 Nov 2025	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	The Committee recommended that consideration be given to exploring the feasibility: a. of developing large-scale EV charging stations to be located on industrial estates; and b. the commercial viability of developing a commercial service to provide EV chargers of our own, possibly involving a third-party supplier which could be a source of revenue for the Local Authority.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
3 Nov 2025	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	The Committee recommended that energy providers are consulted to understand the potential challenges with grid capacity across the Borough if there is a substantial increase in the number of EV chargers, in homes, businesses, town centres and industrial estates.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
3 Nov 2025	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	<p>The Committee recommended that the consultation needed to address a number of issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The demand for and affordability of electric cars across communities. This could provide valuable data to inform priorities for the roll out of infrastructure as part of a future EV strategy. - The need to consult schools directly across the Borough on the possible use of schools as locations for EV chargers. - The questionnaire needed to provide respondents with an opportunity to supply basic location data (e.g. postcode) to help inform the development of the EV strategy, and especially the potential challenges of rolling out EV charging capacity across the County Borough. 	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
3 Nov 2025	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	The Committee requested the number and capacity of EV charging points in supermarkets in the Borough.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager –	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
			Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager		
3 Nov 25	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	The Committee queried whether reference to the development of EV infrastructure as part of Section 106 of residential developments in the Local Development Plan is a requirement or a request and requested details regarding the powers available to the Local Authority to ensure the efficient installation of EV charging infrastructure in future.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Interim Head of Operations - Community Services/ Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability/ Climate Change Response Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
8 Dec 2025	Porthcawl Regeneration	The Committee expressed concern regarding the sufficiency of GPs and capacity of the Medical Centre to meet increased demand for the provision of health care in Porthcawl following the projected increase to the numbers of residential properties from the proposed development, and recommended that a letter be sent from the Committee to Cwm Taf Morgannwg	Scrutiny	ACTIONED – Response and information circulated on 8 June 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		University Health Board setting out these concerns and the need for close collaboration, communication, and partnership between the Welsh Government, the Council and Health Board, to ensure the smooth delivery of sufficient medical service provision in Porthcawl.			
8 Dec 2025	Porthcawl Regeneration	The Committee requested that the presentation made by the Corporate Director – Communities at the start of the meeting be circulated to Members of the Committee.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration/ Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
8 Dec 2025	Porthcawl Regeneration	The Committee requested that details of the traffic modelling report associated with the development be circulated to Members of the Committee.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration/ Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .
8 Dec 2025	Porthcawl Regeneration	The Committee discussed clarity regarding the legal status of Griffin Park and requested that the Corporate Director – Communities prepare a written paper for Members including details of	Corporate Director – Communities/ Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration/ Porthcawl	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .

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Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome	Response
		charitable status and any historic covenants associated with that land together with a link to the report and decision of the Call-In of the Cabinet Decision: Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration: Appropriation of Land at Griffin Park and Sandy Bay, which was considered by Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 on 3 November 2022.	Regeneration Programme Manager		
8 Dec 2025	Porthcawl Regeneration	Given the potential future report to Cabinet upon upfront financing of the public realm works of the development, the Committee requested that it include a range of possible options in addition to borrowing and requested the opportunity to consider the report for pre-decision or to receive a Member Briefing beforehand.	Corporate Director – Communities/ Group Manager – Strategic Regeneration/ Porthcawl Regeneration Programme Manager	ACTIONED – response and information circulated on 16 February 2026.	Follow link here .