

Date of Meeting	Item	Members wished to make the following comments:	Response/Comments
		Members thanked Officers for their attendance at the meeting and congratulated them and their colleagues on their continued efforts in attracting events to Bridgend County Borough such as the Urdd Eistedfodd, the Senior Open Golf and the Elvis Festival in Porthcawl.	Noted
		Members were concerned that there were many overgrown trees, branches and hedges in the Borough obscuring road signs, directional signs and road warning signs that warn motorists of road dangers ahead making for potentially hazardous driving conditions for the public	Noted, explained at the meeting that work had to be prioritised in view of limited resources but that safety was the number one criteria
		Members remained concerned that BCBC were not actively prosecuting people who drop litter and fly tip their rubbish. Members appreciated that Officers were instead focussing on anti-litter campaigns but urged officers to use their powers and prosecute repeat offenders which they thought would also act as a deterrent for future offending	There is a proposal approved by Cabinet to procure an external company to take on this role in due course
		Members encouraged the update of the Destination Management Plan to fulfil Welsh Government requirement in terms of accessing funding opportunities	An initial 'light' review is proposed as much of the Destination Management Plan is still relevant
		Members encouraged joint working with other Local Authorities to promote tourism opportunities and were pleased to hear of BCBC's collaboration with Visit Wales on tourism projects and asked that Officers continue this work to promote the heritage of Bridgend County Borough.	Noted

13-Sep-2017

Developing Bridgend as a place to live, work and visit

<p>Members were concerned that subject to budget reductions over recent years, there was now only one member of staff that worked on tourism for BCBC. Members stated that they felt this was a service that should be invested in to make Bridgend a better place to work, live and visit and improve the economic prosperity of the Borough.</p>	<p>Noted - this point potentially could be made as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy approval process but would of course require that savings were made elsewhere instead</p>
<p>Members wished to make the following recommendations</p>	
<p>That officers explore with colleagues in the IT department, the development of an app for the public to use, to easily report incidents such as bins needing to be emptied in specific areas, therefore allowing officers to be more effective and take a targeted approach with budgets being reduced.</p>	<p>This is already in scope as part of the Council's Digitisation Programme over the coming years</p>
<p>The numbering of all public bins for ease of reporting when they need to be emptied and to easily identify trends</p>	<p>This option will be investigated and considered</p>
<p>That officers work collaboratively with Town and Community Councils to promote the Comfort Scheme to businesses and make the public aware of which businesses are signed up to the scheme. Members also recommended working on communications with Town and Community Councils to take over the running of public conveniences under the Community Asset Transfer Scheme to enable them to stay open.</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement already happening with many of the relevant Town and Community Councils re: CAT of public toilets. Public toilet strategy being formulated after initial public consultation exercise. The reinvigoration of the Comfort Scheme is potentially likely to be part of that strategy.</p>
<p>A full review of the grass cutting contract for Highways services to ensure the service we are receiving is of the standard set out in the contract. They recommended Officers explore the costs of bringing the service back in house on a like for like basis to ensure the Authority were receiving a quality service.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No scope/ capacity currently for a 'full review' · Monitoring does take place to ensure performance meets contractual standards · When contracts are due to end periodically the option of bringing services back in house will be considered but on a like for like basis the option was previously more expensive overall

<p>A review of the Biodiversity Value in open spaces and highway grass verges as Members were concerned at the introduction of a more relaxed regime of maintenance to roundabouts and believed that the meadow effect had resulted in non-native flowers and plants being introduced and it was questionable whether it had improved biodiversity value.</p>	<p>The use of mixed seed varieties of flowering plants, sourced from overseas is now common practice amongst Councils. This increases nectar and pollen sources for pollinators. It has been well received by the public at large. The Council is of course able to end this practice, and allow those areas that are currently seeded to either revert to natural conditions or to be cut as part of the Council's current highway grassed verge cutting regime, as outlined to scrutiny at the meeting.</p>
<p>that no further cuts are made to this Directorate. Members were concerned that the Directorate had taken unproportioned budget reductions when compared with other Directorates. Members were extremely concerned that further cuts would result in the deterioration of public facing services and some services not being able to function at all.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Further Information Requested</p>	
<p>Members requested to receive data of incidents of fly tipping in the Borough from December 2016 to date</p>	<p>Attached</p>
<p>Members asked to receive data on the enforcement action that had been taken by BCBC officers for incidents of fly tipping and littering, including how many incidents of each had been prosecuted in the last year and if they had comparable data with other Local Authorities.</p>	<p>Attached</p>
<p>Members requested to receive information on the success of the Bridgend Bites and Social Media pages for Bridgend Council including how the information is promoted to the public, the response from the public, and traffic visiting the site</p>	<p>Noted</p>

		<p>Members requested the following further information to be included in the Waste report to their next Committee meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information on the work of the education and enforcement officers that were recruited. More specifically relating to the education side of their work. Where have they been? How have they engaged with the public? Have they visited any homes? How many officers are there? When is enforcement going to start? 2. Use of vehicles to collect waste and recycling. Do we now have sufficient amount of vehicles? Members were concerned that transit vans were being used for the collection of purple bags and asked for the rationale for this? 3. Information on the Household Waste recycling centres. How has the change in contract impacted on the centres and the staff that work there. Members were concerned at the reported increase in wait times reported by their constituents at the centres. Has there been any increase of staff at these centres? Are the public generally complying with the new way in which the centres work? i.e separating and sorting their waste. 4. How are the areas where communal waste is collected being managed? How are they complying with the new restrictions? Are they generally compliant? What problems are being reported? Members were particularly concerned with Wildmill area. 	<p>These questions will be addressed as part of the Waste Scrutiny report to be presented to Members in due course</p>
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