

Date of Meeting	Item	Members wished to make the following comments and conclusions:	Response/Comments
25-Jan-2018	Corporate Plan	Subsequent to the Committee's consideration of the report and draft Corporate Plan Members made the following comments for amendment and inclusion:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a brief history of what the Authority had achieved and not managed to achieve over the past year in relation to the Corporate Plan be provided in the introduction;</li> </ul>	This comment has been considered and acted upon. The Introduction of the Plan has been re-written and now includes a reference to the Council's Annual Report that highlights how we performed in the previous year. A hyperlink to the Annual Report has been created. In addition, a section titled "How have we done so far" has been added, under each priority, to highlight what the Authority had achieved or not managed to achieve over the past year.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a greater link be made in the Corporate Plan to the County Borough's environment and community services. The Committee linked this in with the views of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 on the draft budget proposals; that the corporate priorities need to take account of the public element and realign community services as a corporate priority;</li> </ul>	This comment has been considered. Most community services are core businesses, and are included in the Communities Directorate Business Plan. To determine or change corporate priorities involves a long process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the mention of 'redeveloping the Rhiw Car Park' under Priority One be updated to state that it has been done – possibly including this also in the history as a successful achievement;</li> </ul>	This comments has been considered and acted upon. The description of the "Successful Economy Programme" under priority one has been updated and "the redevelopment of the Rhiw Car park on time and on budget" has now been included in "How have we done so far" as an achievement.		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan needs to be more explicit as to the current situation of the Authority in relation to the position of austerity, how the budget has been decreased and how the authority plans to engage the smaller communities in order to still be able to achieve aims. This also need to incorporate how also there are challenges resulting from recent legislation;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been acted upon. The Introduction of the Plan has been re-written to make it “more explicit” about the challenging situation the Council faces in relation to the position of austerity and the impact of recent legislation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan needs to reflect other local communities both in its achievements and plans going forward with particular reference to Pencoed and which is the fourth town in the Authority;</li> </ul>	<p>This comments has been considered and acted upon. Pencoed has now been included in both the achievement section and the forward planning section. For example, the Urdd Eisteddfod in Pencoed is included as one of the achievements for priority one and the consultation on the relocation of Pencoed Primary School as an achievement for priority three. To lobby for the Pencoed rail corssing forms part of the "Successful Economy Programme" under priority one, and is included in the corporate commitment under "to create successful town centres". Pencoed is also added to the success measure of "the number of vacant premises in town centres".</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All acronyms to be expanded upon to assist with public understanding;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been acted upon. All acronyms have been explained.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to the percentage of care leavers who are in education, training or employment, a more achievable target should be put forward as the jump from to 70% appears a very large jump from what was achieved in 2016-17;</li> </ul>	<p>Based on current performance, the target has been reviewed and amended for 2018-19 : a)60% and b) 55%</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to the measuring the percentage of economically active 16-64 year olds, it was proposed that a further measure be included to consider those who are still economically active 65+ to give us a greater understanding of our economy;</li> </ul>	<p>This proposal has been considered, and a preliminary research has been undertaken which suggests that data for the proposed indicator is currently not robust. Further exploration into data is needed. It is therefore suggested that this is for future consideration/development.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the target for the percentage of pupils achieving 3 A*-A grades at A level be addressed as there appears to be a significant jump for 2017-18 but then a decline for 2018-19, which doesn't also reflect the comments in the rationale regarding the target confirming an improving position;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been addressed. The target for 2018-19 has been amended to 10.5%, which is an improvement on the 2017-18 actual of 9.5%. The rationale for this target has also been amended.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That clarification be provided within the plan over what the percentage refers to in relation to the gap in educational attainment between pupils 15+ entitled to free school meals and those who are not;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been acted upon. A provisional target for 2018-19 has now been provided and as well as clarification for the target setting in the rationale box.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the 2% increase on total annual expenditure by tourists be amended to take into account recent inflation and possibly be reviewed to be a bit more ambitious;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been considered. While the target remains the same, the rationale for the target has been updated to clarify why, that is, to track the Visit Wales national target for increase in visit numbers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to the number visitors to town centres, the rationale needs to be clearer as to why there is a 0% change target for 2018-19, which Officers explained was due to the footfall in Porthcawl decreasing over the past year;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been addressed. The rationale has been amended to explain why the target for Porthcawl is set at 0% change, that is, the data is showing a small decline in footfall. It is not clear at this moment what is driving the reduction or what measures will be taken to reverse the trend. This will be the focus of work for 2018-19.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to Business start ups, it was proposed that the target be revisited once the actual for 2017-18 is known to try and show a strive for improvement and also a greater explanation be provided in the rationale, particularly if the target is not increased significantly;</li> </ul>	<p>This proposal has been considered. The actual figure for 2017 has been gathered and added to the corporate plan. However, due to the nature of the indicator, the outcome of which can be influenced by many external factors, the target is only indicative, to monitor the general level of entrepreneurship in the county borough. The rationale has been amended to reflect this.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification be provided in the plan as to whether the figure provided for business start ups includes those that have been funded through the Special Regeneration Fund and if not that consideration be given to include a separate line in the Corporate Plan to illustrate these as a success indicator;</li> </ul>	<p>Clarification has been provided in the rationale, and the target includes those supported by the special regeneration fund.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That some detail be provided as to where these business start ups and active businesses are in the county borough;</li> </ul>	<p>The comment has been considered. However, the council's business support services are available on an equal basis across the whole county borough. Inevitably, support to businesses tends to follow the geographical spread as the county's industrial sites and premises.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That clarification be provided in the plan as to who the indicator refers to in relation to 'the number of people who have been diverted from mainstream services to help them remain independent for as long as possible';</li> </ul>	<p>Clarification has been provided in the Plan, in the rationale. The indicator measures the whole of all adult social care. Target is based on current performance. It is recognised that numbers will plateau.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to the indicator for ‘the percentage of private dwellings that have been vacant for more than 6 months that have been returned to occupation...’, it is proposed that the target needs a greater explanation in the rationale as it is not clear as to why its target remains the same as the previous year;</li> </ul>	<p>A greater explanation has been provided in the rationale, which reads, "The target remains challenging. Priority is being given to create a cross directorate response to the challenge of empty properties within the county borough and a cross directorate project team is in operation."</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the rationale be reworded for the indicator on the percentage of people presenting as homeless to whom the local authority has a legal responsibility to secure accommodation, as it is not clear how the target can be reduced when Welsh Government funding is reduced;</li> </ul>	<p>The rationale has been reworded as follows: "A lower target demonstrates the focus on the prevention and relief of homelessness which has seen the number of final duty cases reduce significantly. This year-on-year reduction in the target is positive and shows that early help and intervention prevents people reaching a more critical stage of homelessness."</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a further indicator be provided to monitor how many carers of adults who were offered an assessment or review actually took up the offer;</li> </ul>	<p>Consideration is being given to an additional indicator to “monitor how many carers of adults who were offered an assessment or review actually took up the offer”. Once developed, the indicator will be added to the Corporate Plan and the performance management system.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That clarification be provided in the plan as to whether the 45% referred to for the percentage of employees completing e-learning modules is in relation to the total workforce;</li> </ul>	<p>Clarification has been provided in the rationale, as follows: "The target is based on the anticipated number of employees required to complete mandatory training modules. The percentage is of the total workforce and therefore should reduce as staff are trained."</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the actual figure for budget reductions achieved for 2016-17 be provided within the plan;</li> </ul>	<p>The actual figure has been provided in the Plan, under "How have we done so far" of priority three.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the rationale relating to the percentage of Council Tax customers accessing on line services through 'my account' be more transparent in relation to the delay that has occurred in launching the system and hence why the target has remained the same;</li> </ul>	<p>This comment has been considered. A new, more appropriate indicator has been identified to replace the indicator concerned. The new indicator is: "The number of services that are available to the public online". The target set for 2018-19 is 5. To provide services digitally online requires significant business process re-engineering. The target is challenging but achievable.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That clarification be provided within the plan as to whether the number or percentage is being referred to for the interactions from citizens on the corporate social media accounts as there indicator states number yet the target states percentage. On the same indicator clarification was requested in relation to how many people a 5% increase would refer to;</li> </ul>	<p>Clarification has been provided, with the target (number) having been provided. The rationale has also been updated.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the target for CATs be reconsidered and increased given the fact that a recent report on CATs stated that at the moment there were 10 expressions of interest.</li> </ul>	<p>The target has been considered, and determined that the target remains the same. Whilst asset transfer to the community remains council policy, the Council is currently reviewing and rationalising the process in order to promote the level of engagement and better meet external circumstances, consequentially lowering the target for 2018-19.</p>

<p><b>Further Comments</b></p> <p>CATs</p> <p>The Committee expressed concern over the target for CATs and proposed that a major re-think of the process is required with an injection of life and leadership in order for it to succeed.</p>	<p>Discussions are ongoing with Cabinet regarding how the CAT process can be stimulated and given greater impetus , for example, a revised charging structure for pavilions and playing fields is proposed that will help promote CAT as an alternative way forward.</p>
<p>City Deal</p> <p>The Committee requested that any future focus by Scrutiny on the subject of City Deal include detailed consideration of the planned infrastructure that is required, in order for Bridgend to be properly linked for commuting purposes etc.</p>	<p>Infrastructure requirements to improve commuting opportunities within the County Borough and further afield are part of ongoing discussions for future phases of the Metro for South East Wales.</p>
<p>Further Information</p> <p>The committee requested that they receive the Tourism strategy for information.</p>	<p>The Destination Management plan is currently being reviewed and updated and will be forwarded on when this is complete.</p>

<p>How many people out of those who presented as homeless or potentially homeless did the Authority provide accommodation for in 2016-17 and 2017-18.</p>	<p>2016/17 (full year)</p> <p>The number of final duty homelessness acceptances 83</p> <p>The number of homelessness presentations 947</p> <p>The percentage of final duty homelessness acceptances   8.8%</p> <p>2017/18 (up to QTR3)</p> <p>The number of final duty homelessness acceptances 63</p> <p>The number of homelessness presentations 720</p> <p>The percentage of final duty homelessness acceptances   8.8%</p>
<p>How much social interaction with citizens on the corporate social media is instigated by the Authority rather than by the citizens themselves.</p>	<p>Unfortunately we don't record this data. We use the analytics that are provided within Facebook and Twitter and it doesn't report this type of information. It only provides statistical information on how many people have interacted with us and how e.g. via comments, likes and shares.</p>
<p>What the actual figure is for 17-18 in relation to sickness absence for the Authority.</p>	<p>As at Quarter 3, the average days lost due to sickness absence per FTE is 7.38. The cumulated total figure as at Qaurter 3 is 32656.84 days.</p>



<b>Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018-19 and 2021- 22 and Draft Budget Consultation Process</b>	<p>The Committee briefly discussed the budget process and the Committees Budget Research and Evaluation Panel (BREP) findings with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Interim Head of Finance Officer where the proposal was made for a brief BREP review to decide how to take things forward next year.</p> <p>Discussions were held around whether the BREP process should start earlier in the year to consider early development of the budget proposals with Cabinet and relevant Corporate Directors. The Leader agreed with the proposal and offered to invite BREP in at an early stage next financial year.</p>	<p>Agreed. Next year, BREP will be engaged in the process as early as possible.</p>
	<p>The Committee also agreed to present the findings and recommendations of BREP and the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees to Cabinet, separating out the relevant Budget recommendations</p>	<p>NA</p>