

Date of Meeting	Item	Members wished to make the following comments and conclusions:	Action	Response/Comments
21-Feb-2018	Budget Monitoring Quarter 3	<p>In addition to Members attendance at formal meetings being recorded and available for the public to view, the Committee recommended that the attendance of Chief Officers required at each overview and Scrutiny Committee should also be recorded and made available to the public on the Council's website.</p> <p>Members were disappointed that there was no representative from finance available to attend a Scrutiny meeting that related to a Budget monitoring item, therefore members were unable to get the answers they required on certain points in the report. The Committee further recommended that if the lead officer for a particular item is not available to attend then an appropriate representative should be sent in their place</p>	PAJ	<p>This comments was suggested because a finance officer was not present. Whilst not ideal, there was more than adequate support for the committee from the directors who were present. The proposal from scrutiny as drafted is not necessary or appropriate.</p>

<p>Members recommended an audit of vacancies across the whole Authority to include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many vacancies are there across the whole Authority?</li> <li>2. How long they have been vacant for?</li> <li>3. The reasons for them being vacant – budget related or difficulties recruiting?</li> <li>4. A breakdown of the vacancies within each Directorate so members are able to see exactly what posts are vacant</li> <li>5. The impact on the service area due to number of vacant posts</li> <li>6. Information from Trade Unions in relation to the direct impact on staff for each Directorate</li> </ol>	DM	<p>The committee discussed vacancies in the context of budget savings and were interested in the contribution that vacancies make to the budget. However the point was also made that vacancies one aspect of staffing information that has relevance to organisational effectiveness. Other factors that are significant are age profile, gender balance, rates of attrition, length of service. Full quarterly reports on workforce data can be made available to the committee so that it could consider the wider workforce implications of trend data</p>
<p>Members recommended that future budget monitoring items detail more information in relation to the underspends in each Directorate so members could see exactly what impact the underspends has to the service</p>	DM/JL	
<p>Members requested receive further information relating to the slippage of schemes and new approvals for the Capital Programme into 2018-19. The Chief Executive agreed to detail this in the next budget monitoring item to the Committee</p>	DM	<p>Will be detailed in the next budget monitoring item</p>

<p>Members recommended that a Community Safety Plan be established for Bridgend. It is proposed that the plan includes how the Authority are working collaboratively with external partners such as South Wales Police to secure grant funding in respect of Community Safety</p>	PAJ	<p>The community safety plan is being prepared with partners - principally the police and the police and crime commissioner in the first instance. The plan is intended to express how the CS partnership will prioritise community safety and community cohesion matters for the coming 12 months. It is further intended that the plan influences the deployment of core resource and not just grant funding which remains a small element of the overall resource available to partners to address community safety and community cohesion</p>
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<p>Members requested clarification on the £50,000 projected underspend relating to the tender of new play equipment and if this related to the revenue budget</p>	<p>MS</p>	<p>In relation to the play equipment we have not deemed the investment to be capital in nature as the definition of capital is as follows:-Play equipment except when it is replacement due to lack of regular maintenance (then it is revenue)</p> <p>The spend will be distributed in the following existing play areas and will only be the replacement of a couple of items per area maximum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Griffin Park.</li> <li>• Maesteg Welfare Park</li> <li>• Newbridge Fields</li> <li>• Pencoed Recreation Ground</li> <li>• Victoria Street, Pontycymer</li> <li>• Waun Llwyd, Nantymoel</li> <li>• Ynysawdre Swimming Pool</li> </ul>
<p>Members welcomed the LED replacement lighting throughout the Borough and recommended that this news is shared with the public as it was pleasing to hear of the potential future savings that this project could achieve</p>	<p>MS</p>	

Members recommended communicating with Town and Community Councils to see if there was interest in them subsidising the costs towards the replacement of the pillars/ lanterns for the streetlights as some were in desperate need of repair and replacement and members understood there was an appetite from some TCCs to contribute to get this completed more timely	MS	
Members requested information on the process for the replacement of street lighting within the Borough including the criteria used to prioritise the areas for replacement first	MS	
Members were pleased to hear that Education and Family support Directorate would be working in Partnership with the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate to explore options to rationalise home to school transport and encouraged the dual use of the mini buses, working in partnership with other Local Authorities and exploring the option of bringing the service back in house.	LH	
Members were concerned at the responsibility of schools managing their individual budgets and sought reassurance from Officers that schools were fully supported and that the relevant staff and governors received regular training to allow them to effectively manage their budgets	LH	

	<p>Members remained concerned at the projected overspend in the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate and asked that at their next meeting where the Social Services and Wellbeing Director was due to bring a report to the Committee on the Directorate Financial Plan that the report include detail on how savings will be realised against the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Services to Older People</li><li>2. Looked After Children</li><li>3. Care at Home for Adults with learning Disabilities</li></ol>	SC	Plan to be presented at the next Corporate Committee
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