

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

24 OCTOBER 2018

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

#### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Council's Annual Report 2017-18 (**Appendix A**) for Council to consider and approve.

#### 2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives /Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate priorities:-

1. **Supporting a successful economy** – taking steps to make the county a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county.
2. **Helping people to be more self-reliant** – taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 Under section 15 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and in accordance with the related statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government, the authority must publish its assessment of performance for the previous financial year before 31 October.
- 3.2 In March 2017, the Council published its Corporate Plan 2016-20, reviewed for 2017-18. The Plan sets out its vision, that is, always to act as 'One Council working together to improve lives', and its three corporate improvement priorities, also known as well-being objectives, as set out in 2.1. The Plan also reiterates the well-being objectives for 2018-19.
- 3.3 The Plan defined 38 commitments to deliver the three well-being objectives and identified 53 outcome-focused indicators for the financial year 2017-18.
- 3.4 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) identified how it would best use its resources to support the achievement of the well-being objectives and statutory duties, including the management of financial pressures and risks over the next four years.

#### **4. Current situation / proposal**

- 4.1 The Annual Report, prepared under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, evaluates how well the Council did in 2017-18 in delivering its commitments and planned outcomes for the financial year, using its success measures and other evidence. Wherever performance was short of its target, explanations are provided.
- 4.2 Overall, the Council performed well in 2017-18. Of the 37 commitments taken forward, the Council carried out to completion 29 (nearly 79%), with a further 6 (16%) that were mostly completed. The Council was short of meeting the target set for just two commitments, namely Improving outcomes for vulnerable children in relation to the slower pace of putting in place supported internships for young people with Additional Learning Needs and progress was slower in progressing the Good to Great Strategy for the more able and talented young people. Though these were not fully achieved, some progress was made and work continues on delivering on these.
- 4.3 The Corporate Plan identified 53 indicators to measure success and 51 indicators have been collected for the year. Of those with a target, the Council met or exceeded the target for nearly 69%, with further 10% missing the target marginally. Detailed information about the Council's performance against its commitments and targets is included in **Appendix A**.
- 4.4 In 2017-18, the Welsh Local Government Association defined and collected 26 indicators, the Public Accountability Measures (PAMs), for Local Authorities. At the time of writing this report, the suites of indicators for waste and for social services were not yet available, so a full comparison of how we did nationally cannot be made. A summary of the Council's performance nationally is included in **Appendix A** in the 'How do we compare?' section, with the whole set of these indicators available on the 'Mylocalcouncil' website.
- 4.5 The Annual Report also provides a summary of budgets for the year, regulators' findings, themes that underpin our work and an overview of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 4.6 This is an important document as it provides citizens and stakeholders with detailed information about the Council's performance against its well-being objectives and outcomes. It also includes national comparable measures to give a full picture of how we performed across a range of services.
- 4.7 Once approved, the Annual Report will be published on the Council's website and shared with stakeholders. Hard copies of the report will be produced and placed in the Council's public libraries.

#### **5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules**

- 5.1 The Annual Report provides an assessment of progress on the Corporate Plan 2016-20 reviewed for 2017-18, which forms part of the corporate policy framework.

#### **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 The Annual Report provides information on the Council's performance and has no negative equality implications.

#### **7. Well-being Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

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

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 The Annual Report has no financial implications.

## **9. Recommendation**

9.1 That subject to any amendments by Cabinet on 23 October, that Council approves the Annual Report 2017-18 (**Appendix A**).

**Darren Mepham**  
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## **Background documents**

- Corporate Plan 2016-20 reviewed 201718
- The Auditor General's Annual Improvement Report (September 2018)