

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

27 NOVEMBER 2018

### REPORT OF SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3

#### COLLABORATION WITH TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

##### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to initiate debate with Town and Community Councils (TCCs) and gauge appetite for collaborative working with Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

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

- 2.1 The report assists in the achievement to the following priorities in the Corporate Plan:

- 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 It has been highlighted that BCBC should work closer in partnership with TCCs in a bid to maintain community services that are at risk of future budget cuts and to ensure the best services and outcomes for the citizens of Bridgend.

##### 4. Current Situation / Proposal

- 4.1 On 22 October 2018 Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 received a report (attached at Appendix A) detailing the outcome of the Independent Review Panel in relation to TCCs and the impact the implementation of the recommendations would have on BCBC.
- 4.2 Several comments and recommendations were made by Members at the above Committee meeting (attached at Appendix B) which included the suggestion for the submission of the report and along with the outcomes of the meeting to the Town and Community Council Forum.
- 4.3 From the presentation of the attached appendices, the Committee hopes to gauge appetite for collaborative working from TCCs and discuss how to strengthen current working relationships between Councils.

4.4 In addition to TCCs working with BCBC, Members recommended that TCCs work collaboratively with other TCCs to enhance their viability to maintain services that otherwise may not continue to be funded by BCBC. Members also suggested that procuring services jointly could ensure increased value for money for residents of Bridgend.

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

5.1 There are no effects on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

## **7. Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015**

7.1 The Act places a legal duty on public bodies to work together to improve the well-being of Wales. It also places specific well-being duties on certain TCCs depending on their annual turnover.

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 There are no financial implications attached to this report.

## **9. Recommendation**

9.1 That the Town and Community Council Forum note the recommendations proposed by Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 (attached at **Appendix B**).

**Kelly Watson**

**Head of Legal and Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer**

**Contact Officer:** Gail Jewell  
Scrutiny Officer

**Telephone:** (01656) 643695

**E-mail:** [gail.jewell@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:gail.jewell@bridgend.gov.uk)

**Postal Address** Democratic Services – Scrutiny,  
Bridgend County Borough Council,  
Civic Offices,  
Angel Street,  
BRIDGEND,  
CF31 4WB.