

Date of Meeting	Item	Members wished to make the following recommendations	Response/Comments
24-Jan-2019	Community Asset Transfer	It was noted by members that the guidance from Welsh Government on CAT was not statutory, therefore members asked that officers write to WG to ascertain if there has been any negative feedback from Authorities that have moved away from the best practice model.	The Corporate Landlord (CL) team are aware that WG were proposing to update their "Best Practice Guide" since its original publication. The team will clarify the current position in relation to any suggested amendments they are recommending, particularly in light of the increased number of CAT's to enable continued service delivery. The CL team will raise with WG at a Welsh CAT meeting next week.
		Members were in favour of officers moving away from suggested Welsh Government best practice as detailed in para 4.32 of the report to streamline the CAT process to avoid closure of assets and to allow groups to take over the running of the assets in a timelier manner.	Noted
		Members recommended that before progressing a CAT to a stage where costs are incurred such as undertaking a condition survey of a building that the viability of the group/ community being able to progress a CAT is explored prior to costs being incurred.	As part of the Council's Asset Management Plan, the Corporate Landlord team are commissioning the first phase of the replacement condition surveys which include Pavilions and Community Centres. These surveys will be able to be provided to interested groups at the start of the process. If the condition survey or works proposed by the group require additional surveys, then the costs associated with these can be considered after the viability of the group has been assessed.
		Members recommended that officers work with other third party organisations to put together guidance on what support / grants are available to potential interested parties to support them through the CAT process so groups are fully informed of what funding streams and non-financial support are available to them	The CAT Officer periodically provides funding details to community groups that have expressed an interest in undertaking a community asset transfer. Funding opportunities are also provided by the Business Adviser assigned to assist groups under the CAT Business Support contract. Interested groups can also seek guidance and advice from their Sports Governing bodies.
		Members asked that officers fully explore the option of a not for profit organisation being established such as Awen, to undertake a transfer of the assets in the Borough and give them the best possible chance of remaining open and successful after the transfer had taken place and achieve the savings in the MTFs. Members asked to explore if other Local Authorities had undertaken this.	The Council will continue to explore all options regarding assets available under community asset transfer. However, the poor condition of assets limits alternative management arrangements particularly relating to sports pavilions. One of the key benefits for Awen / Halo transfers was the ability for "Not for Profit" organisations to benefit from rates reductions, which is not applicable to the majority pavilions & community centre as these are exempt.
		Members requested to receive the following further information	
		Members asked for the CAT figures of NPTCBC that had been undertaken, including how many had been transferred and how many have remained open and successful after the transfer had taken place.	This information has been requested from NPTCBC.
		Members requested a full up to date list of assets to be made available to all members so they could see what assets were available to be transferred	The updated List of CAT Priority 1 Asset will be made available following its approval by Cabinet.
		Members asked for a breakdown of the projected figures on the cost of the CAT programme against the savings which could be potentially returned if all CATs are successful. Members ask that this include the officer time and resources on processing CAT.	Figures will be provided once the Cabinet has taken a decision on the introduction of full cost recovery for the hire of sports pavilions and playing fields when the public consultation has been completed.
Members asked to receive further guidance on how the potential of closing assets where a CAT is not undertaken complies with the Future Generations and Wellbeing Act	The Council is committed to promoting sustainable development and to discharge our duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The proposals being made by the CAT Task & Finish Group are aimed at streamlining processes to enable community asset transfers to be fast tracked, wherever possible, and to reduce the burden placed upon T&CCs and community groups. The proposals seeks to take into consideration the long-term sustainability of sports facilities in the County Borough of Bridgend and recognises the importance of such facilities in delivering a healthier Wales and the role these facilities have in a Wales of cohesive communities. In light of increasing pressures on the Council's budgets, taking an integrated approach to the way the Council operates these kinds of facilities will be vital. Under the CAT programme community groups and particularly sports clubs will be involved in the development of collaborative working opportunities to ensure the long-term sustainability of the facilities and the Council's ability to fund other services. The approach adopted by the Council aligns to Welsh Government guidance.		